



Why Language Matters

General Objectives:

- Recognize that the stigma of drug addiction is associated with negative perceptions and can be a barrier to treatment.
- Identify that 'stigma' can be defined as a label with an associated stereotype that elicits a negative response.
- Recognize that unclear or inaccurate language regarding mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders may interfere with proper delivery of care.
- Understand that the use of non-stigmatizing language may facilitate discussion of these conditions with co-workers and patients who may have these conditions.
- Learn that OhioPHP's monitoring program can confidently advocate that a licensed healthcare practitioner is safe to resume caring for patients.

Description:

Many, if not most, patients diagnosed with a mental health condition or substance use disorder are frequently stigmatized by the public and by their healthcare providers. The use of non-stigmatizing language regarding mental health and substance use disorders can have a very positive impact on patients suffering from these common conditions. These patients are more likely to engage in and complete treatment for behavioral health diagnoses if they are spoken to and treated as any other patient being treated for a medical condition. This presentation will review language to avoid and preferred language in clinical settings to ensure accuracy in care and a non-stigmatizing approach.

Timed Agenda:

0:00-5:00 | Introduction and Overview
5:00-15:00 | Understanding Stigma
15:00-25:00 | The Power of Language in Addressing Stigma
25:00-35:00 | Practical Application: Non-Stigmatizing Language
35:00-45:00 | OhioPHP's Monitoring Program
55:00-60:00 | Conclusion and Takeaways