

Healthcare Provider Substance Use Stigma Assessment Template

[Note: This survey is a template assessment that is designed for online dissemination. It could be adapted into a phone survey or pencil-and-paper survey with some changes. Information in bold is meant to provide guidance to participants. Information provided in italics and brackets is meant to provide further context to the implementor and would not be seen by the participant.]

[The scales used in this template assessment are from the [Healthcare Provider Substance Use Stigma Measures Toolkit](#) and the [Public Stigma of Substance Use Measures Toolkit](#) which contain additional information for interpretation of assessment results. A [complementary toolkit for data collection and data analysis](#) is also available.

The measures included in this template assessment do not directly match the original measures. Minor edits were made to ensure language was as non-stigmatizing as possible while maintaining the integrity of the question. Response scales are on a 4-point Likert scale that excludes the neutral option to require respondents to form an opinion.

This template assessment should be used to describe the overall degree or magnitude of substance use related stigma among healthcare provider populations. Unless otherwise noted, participant responses to all questions in each stigma scale should be summed. The sum score can then be used to characterize the level of stigma among the sample of healthcare providers. For example, questions 29-33 are from a scale developed by Stone et al. to assess opioid related attitude and beliefs. The responses to questions 29-33 can be added together to create a summed score. In this case, a higher score would indicate that the responding individual has higher levels of stigmatizing attitudes and beliefs.

Additional notes for analysis, including reverse-coding, are included under questions in italics and square brackets.]

Thank you for your interest in completing this survey to help us better understand what people in your community think about substance use, people who use drugs, and related topics. Follow the instructions below to answer each set of questions. Please remember to answer the questions honestly, and that there is no right or wrong answer. By taking this survey, you agree that the information you provide can be used by [Local Health Department Name]. Your responses will remain anonymous and confidential.

This survey is to be completed by professional healthcare providers or providers in training. It is intended to be completed only by individuals who provide or will provide professional clinical or behavioral health services to patients/clients.

First, we will ask you a few questions about yourself and who you are.

1. What is your position title?
 - Doctor
 - Nurse Practitioner
 - Registered Nurse
 - Physician Assistant
 - Social Worker
 - Peer Recovery Specialist
 - Pharmacist
 - Other (please specify): _____

2. What is your gender identity?
 - Female
 - Male
 - Transgender Male
 - Transgender Female
 - Nonbinary/Genderqueer
 - Other (please specify): _____

3. Which of the following age ranges do you fall into?
 - 18-24 years old
 - 25-34 years old
 - 35-44 years old
 - 45-54 years old

- 55-64 years old
- 65 or more years old

4. Have you ever completed any specialized training or courses on addiction and/or overdose prevention?

- Yes, during school
- Yes, during training/residency
- Yes, during CEU course
- No

5. How often do you directly interact with people who use drugs (PWUD)?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Rarely

6. In your life, have you had friends or family members whose substance use has negatively impacted their lives?

- Yes
- No

These questions are about your confidence in identifying and treating substance use disorders.

7. How **confident** are you in your knowledge of substance use disorders?

Not at all confident				Somewhat confident				Extremely confident	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

8. How **confident** are you in your ability to screen patients for substance use disorder?

Not at all confident				Somewhat confident				Extremely confident	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

9. How **confident** are you in your ability to provide counseling and initial treatment to patients with substance use disorder?

Not at all confident				Somewhat confident				Extremely confident	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

10. How **confident** are you that your counseling and other treatment will make a difference for your patients with substance use disorder?

Not at all confident				Somewhat confident				Extremely confident	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

These questions are about your impression of your role, impact, and the efficacy of treating patients who use drugs.

11. I am able to respond to people who have drug related issues as competently as I respond to people with other issues.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree

12. I have a responsibility to ask clients questions about alcohol and other drug related issues.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

13. Most people with drug related issues are not interested in addressing them.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

14. Someone with drug related issues who has returned to use several times probably cannot be successfully treated.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

15. The care of other patients suffers because of time and resources spent on patients with drug related issues.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

16. My feelings of disapproval for people who use drugs get in the way of my ability to empathize with them.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

17. I can make a great difference in the lives of my patients who use drugs.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

18. Patients with drug related issues have a special ability to manipulate physicians.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

19. Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) is effective and worth the effort.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

These questions are about your comfort in discussing overdose prevention strategies with patients.

20. Abstinence is the only overdose prevention strategy that should be discussed with patients who use drugs.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

21. I am comfortable training my patients on how to administer naloxone.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

22. I am not familiar enough with overdose prevention strategies to discuss this with my patients.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

23. I am concerned that discussing overdose prevention strategies with people who use drugs gives the wrong message.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

These questions focus on your thoughts on harm reduction strategies and their impact on overdose prevention.

24. People with drug related issues who want to reduce, but not eliminate their use are in denial.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

25. People who use drugs should be given accurate information about how to use drugs more safely (for example, how to avoid overdose or related health hazards).

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

26. People with issues related to drug use may be more likely to seek professional help if they are offered treatment options that don't focus on abstinence.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

27. Measures designed to reduce the harm associated with drug use are acceptable only if they eventually lead clients to pursue abstinence.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

28. MOUD such as methadone should only be prescribed for a limited period of time.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

These questions are about what you think about people with substance use disorder.

29. Individuals with substance use disorder only have themselves to blame for their issue.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

30. People with substance use disorder have poor moral character.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

31. How willing would you be to have a person with substance use disorder marry into your family?

Strongly Willing Somewhat Willing Somewhat Unwilling Strongly Unwilling

32. How willing would you be to have a person taking medication treatment for substance use disorder marry into your family?

Strongly Willing Somewhat Willing Somewhat Unwilling Strongly Unwilling

33. People who need medication treatment to stop using substances lack willpower.

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

The next questions are about what you think most people think about people who have been treated for substance use.

34. Most people would willingly accept someone who has been treated for substance use disorder as a close friend.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

35. Most people believe that someone who has been treated for substance use disorder is just as trustworthy as the average citizen.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

36. Most employers will hire someone who has been treated for substance use if they are qualified for the job.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

37. Most people would be willing to date someone who has been treated for substance use disorder.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

This section will ask you to assess why other providers may have negative attitudes towards patients who use drugs.

38. Some providers have negative attitudes towards patients with substance use disorders. What do you think are the sources of those attitudes? (Number each source below from 1-5 where “1” signifies *the most important source of the negative attitude*, “2” the *2nd most important source*, and so on; **use each number only once**)

Negative experiences with patients with substance use disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Substance use by self, family member, or close friend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Attending physicians with negative attitudes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Other resident physicians with negative attitudes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Non-physician health care professionals, e.g., nurses, with negative attitudes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

Thank you for participating in the survey. Your responses will help your community improve its provision of overdose prevention and response services. If you have any questions about the survey, please reach out to _____.