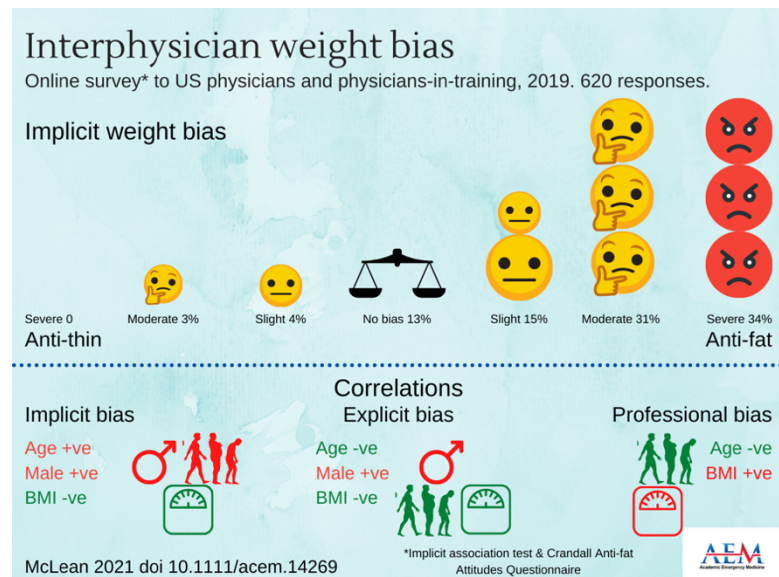


September 2021

Interphysician weight bias: A cross-sectional observational survey study to guide implicit bias training in the medical workplace

Des Plaines, IL – There are strong correlations between implicit, explicit, and professional weight bias and disparities faced by physicians with obesity. This is the conclusion of a study titled [Interphysician weight bias: A cross-sectional observational survey study to guide implicit bias training in the medical workplace](#), to be published in the September diversity and inclusion special issue of *Academic Emergency Medicine* (AEM) journal, peer-reviewed journal of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM).



CREDIT: KIRSTY CHALLEN, B.SC., MBCHB, MRES, PH.D., LANCASHIRE TEACHING HOSPITALS, UNITED KINGDOM

Implicit bias contributes to both health care disparities and professional limitations, and it exists among physicians. Prior literature has described physician weight bias toward patients, but little research has investigated interphysician weight bias. This [study](#) describes the prevalence of interphysician implicit weight bias and investigates the relationships between implicit, explicit, and professional biases. Authors of the study suggest that these results may be used to guide implicit bias training for a more inclusive medical workplace.

The lead author of the study is Mary E. McLean MD, an assistant program director at St. John's Riverside Hospital Emergency Medicine Residency in Yonkers, New York.

Study details and results are discussed with Dr. McLean in a recent [AEM podcast](#).

Commenting on the study is Dara Kass, MD, associate clinical professor of emergency medicine at Columbia University Medical Center.

“This study is so powerful. It has been well documented that physicians exhibit weight bias to their patients, and it is important to recognize that they also have it towards their peers.”

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ABOUT ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Academic Emergency Medicine, the monthly journal of Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, features the best in peer-reviewed, cutting-edge original research relevant to the practice and investigation of emergency care. The above study is published open access and can be downloaded by following the [DOI link: 10.1111/acem.14269](https://doi.org/10.1111/acem.14269). Journalists wishing to interview the authors may contact Tami Craig at tcraig@saem.org.

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