

Systemic Challenges

Thought starters: How do we address barriers to care, reduce systemic inequities, reduce stigma around obesity, provide diverse therapy options?

To address systemic challenges for older adults - we have to address challenges across the lifespan.

<https://sites.duke.edu/centerforaging/older-americans-resources-and-services/>

impact of ageism and not listening to older adults

body image --- impact on social connectedness/isolation

emerging research on genetics -- it's not just willpower

distrust of health providers is a key issue to resolve

impact of functional age rather than chronological age is important

how diseases present in older adults vs. younger adults?

body positivity/body image

adequate funding/reimbursement, access to allied health pros

environmental factors, food deserts

use the proper terminology across systems, education on BMI!

not understanding malnutrition and malnutrition impact our stigmas about obesity...discussion today around sarcopenia

Loss of physicians - physicians leaving practice or how they were initially trained

policy issues around age of onset -- personalized vs. "race-based" treatment

Age eligibility for treatment not reflective of needs of different communities (ie priority COVID-19 vaccines began with age 75 and older, younger people of color at high risk)

access to health pros in non-urban areas

how often are USPSTF screenings used in the annual wellness visit?

practical applications of data

de-center obesity from the medical model to a community health model