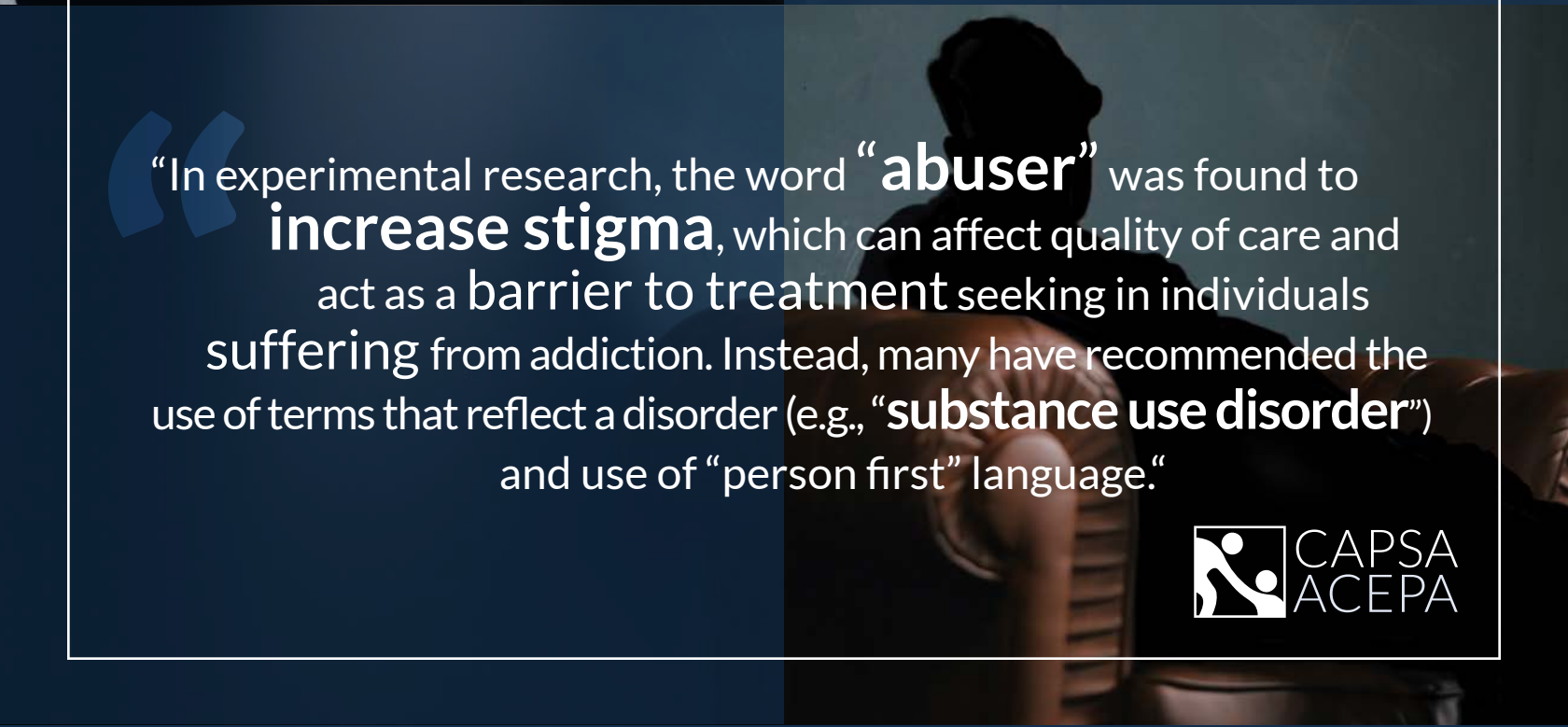


Stigma takes the person out of the picture



“This review indicates that **negative attitudes** of health professionals towards patients with substance use disorders are common and contribute to **suboptimal healthcare** for these patients.”



“In experimental research, the word “**abuser**” was found to **increase stigma**, which can affect quality of care and act as a barrier to treatment seeking in individuals suffering from addiction. Instead, many have recommended the use of terms that reflect a disorder (e.g., “**substance use disorder**”) and use of “person first” language.”

THE EVIDENCE: The Harms Are Real

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Behavioral Addictions: Are They More or Less Stigmatized than Alcohol & Drug Addictions?

<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/behavioral-addictions-are-they-more-or-less-stigmatized-than-alcohol-drug-addictions/>

How Do Former Drinkers Share Their Non-Drinking Identity?

<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/how-do-former-drinkers-share-their-non-drinking-identity/>

Healthcare Worker's Feelings About People with Substance Use Disorders

<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/healthcare-workers-feelings-about-people-with-substance-use-disorders/>

<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/confronting-inadvertent-stigma-pejorative-language-in-addiction-scholarship/>

Stigmatization & Other Predictors of Addiction

<https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/stigmatization-other-predictors-of-addiction/>

Substance Use More Stigmatized Than Smoking Cigarettes & Obesity

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