Sanctuary Doctoring
Supporting Undocumented Patients and Others
Affected by Immigration Concerns

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Objective #1:
Open a Dialogue with the patient about Immigration-related stressors

a. Patient may open dialogue based on seeing your button or brochure.

b. Help them to understand that their concerns are normal. Place in Context: “Many of my patients are currently experiencing anxiety concerning immigration problems.”

c. Generalize: “Are you, someone in your family, or your friends having these kinds of problems?”
Objective #2: Provide Reassurance

a. Assure of confidentiality: “I will not write your immigration status in the medical record. Only health-related issues will be recorded.”

b. Explain your motive: “This kind of anxiety can impact your health. You are safe to express your concerns here.”

c. Keep contextualizing: “Many people are going through similar struggles right now. You are not alone”
Objective #3:
Provide Resources
*Use “Sanctuary Doctors” brochure*

a. Recommend that **youth connect with networks** of undocumented young people, a.k.a. Dreamer organizations – maybe follow online in order to learn about opportunities and to keep up with new information

b. Legal resources available in brochure
Objective #4: Planning for an Emergency

Use “Sanctuary Doctors” brochure

a. Recommend **Know You Rights** training from qualified provider; give example of how it can help, e.g., not opening door w/o warrant (We may wish to offer such a session in the clinic itself; the brochure lists online versions of this information)

b. Recommend **updating emergency contacts** at children’s school or day care; include who should pick up child if parent cannot