Sanctuary Doctoring
Supporting Undocumented Patients and Others Affected by Immigration Concerns

LUC.edu/sanctuarydoctor

Mark Kuczewski, PhD
Johana Mejias-Beck, MD
Amy Blair, MD
Loyola University Chicago
Stritch School of Medicine
Objectives

1. Open a dialogue
2. Provide Reassurance
3. Provide Resources
4. Begin to develop an Emergency Plan (update contacts)

This model enables you to provide emotional support and possible action steps within 10 minutes
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. Contextualize: “Many people are going through similar struggles right now. You are not alone”

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

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

d. Keep contextualizing
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. *For instance, all DACA recipients are currently eligible to renew. Some community organizations have renewal assistance available. Important to be networked to stay current on these developments.*

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 (You 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
Continue your Professional Development

• Find your own information networks
  ➢ Professional societies
  ➢ Immigrant Advocacy Organization
  ➢ Lawyer networks

• Read & Learn more about the continuum of immigration and patient needs