

Talking Points to Address Patients' Enrollment or Renewal Concerns

The fact sheet titled *Health Care Providers and Immigration Enforcement: Know Your Rights, Know Your Patients' Rights* addresses questions regarding the safety of information that applicants provide when enrolling or renewing health care coverage. Health care providers are encouraged to **share the fact sheet, or the information in it, with any patients who express concerns**. When discussing the information in that fact sheet, the following points are worth emphasizing:

1. **Health coverage** under the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare, and state or local health programs **remains in effect**.
2. Anyone, regardless of immigration status, may be eligible for some types of health services. You should **explore which services are available where you live**—including charity or public hospitals, community based health centers, and school based clinics—and **seek health care** if you need it.
3. Under existing policy, the information shared when applying for or seeking services through these programs is used only to determine eligibility for these programs. It should not be used for other purposes. The only exception is if a person provides false information and is being investigated for fraud. Thus, you should **be careful not to provide any false or misleading information**. Providing false or misleading information can cause problems with the benefit agency and with immigration.
4. You should **provide only the information necessary for the program or service**. If you are applying for someone else, you can say that you are not applying for yourself. And you should not ever provide a Social Security number if you do not have an official one issued by the Social Security Administration.
5. If you have questions about which programs you are eligible for, you should contact our staff members who can help you. **We will not collect, record, or disclose any information** that you share with us related to your immigration status or country of origin, **unless it is necessary for you to get the services you need**.
6. Having health coverage is one way you can **take care of simple problems before they become more serious** or costly emergencies. Health care helps you remain strong so you can **continue working and supporting your family**. If you are applying for a green card, attempting to remain healthy and productive can also help show that you are not likely to rely on the government (for income) in the future.
7. Under existing U.S. government policy, immigration enforcement officers avoid enforcement actions at or near hospitals or medical facilities. **We have taken and will continue to take various steps to help you feel safe when visiting our health facilities**.