

TITLE: Breaking the Barriers: Increasing Health Care Access for Undocumented Immigrants

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: Yes

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Increase awareness of the importance of health care access and delivery for Undocumented Immigrants (UIs) for healthcare professionals and community members: Public Health Professionals and Stakeholders can collaborate on addressing the health inequities of this important topic.

ABSTRACT: Problem: There are approximately 12 million undocumented immigrants (UIs) in the US. Forty two percent are uninsured with one federally qualified health center for every 100,000 UIs. Lack of immigration reform and fear of deportation have led to a multitude of barriers to quality health care for UIs. In 2016, Americans taxpayers subsidized approximately \$18.5 billion dollars for the last resort emergency services that UIs utilize, which would be significantly less if they had access to primary care services. Aim: The purpose of this work is to share with Public Health Professionals evidence-based guidelines on increasing and improving healthcare access for UIs. Approach: Four electronic databases (PubMed, Academic Search Elite, Health Source and CINAHL) were searched using the following research question 'How can healthcare providers improve healthcare access and delivery for UIs.

Implications/Conclusions: The evidence provides multiple solutions from individual grassroots to policy level interventions. The recommendations include social determinant assessments, grant funding for preventative screenings, cultural and linguistic competency training for healthcare professionals and building community partnerships to provide education to UIs about their legal rights, citizenship and English proficiency lessons. Further research is needed to identify and target policy changes towards the most at-risk subset within the UI population.

OBJECTIVE(S): Identify barriers to health care access for Undocumented Immigrants (UI). Explain importance of increasing access to health care services for UIs. Discuss recommendations for increasing access and improving health care delivery for UIs.
