Providing Compassionate Evidence Based Care for Young Immigrants

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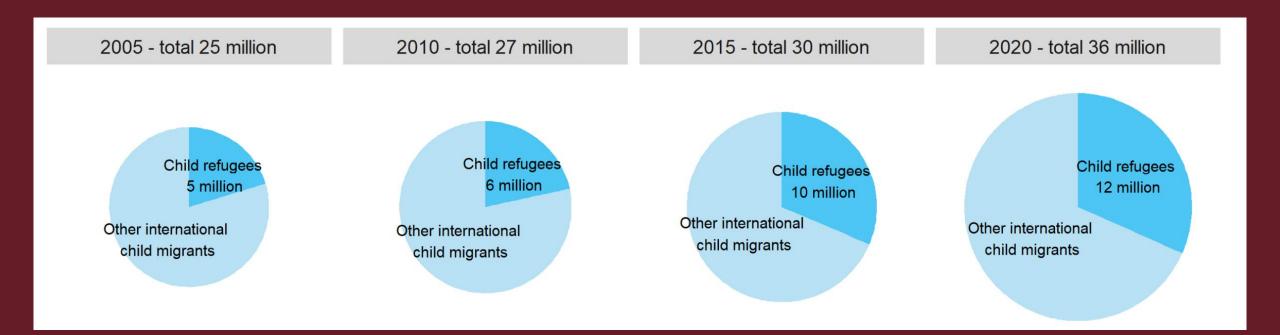
AAP CA2 Symposium 2/26/2022



Learning Objectives

- Recognize immigrant children in our care
- Understand approach to conducting migration history
- Review key medical considerations for refugee and immigrant populations
- Recognize gaps in care for immigrant children
- Identify opportunities for advocacy and change

Displacement



"These children may be refugees, internally displaced or migrants, but first and foremost, they are children: no matter where they come from, whoever they are, and without exception."

-Unicef-Uprooted Executive Summary

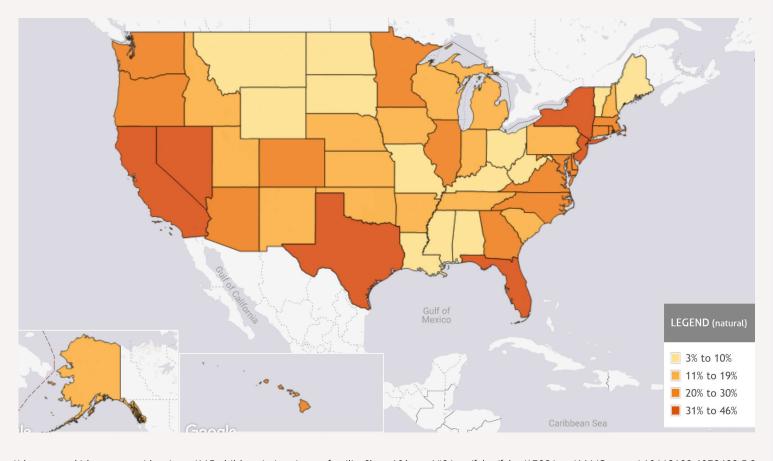
Caring for Children in Immigrant Families: Are United States Pediatricians Prepared?

Blake Sisk ¹, Andrea Green ², Kevin Chan ³, Katherine Yun ⁴



"More than a quarter of California residents are immigrants, while nearly 1 in 4 residents is a native-born U.S citizen with at least one immigrant parent"

American Immigration Council



https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/map/115-children-in-immigrant-families?loc=1&loct=1#2/any/false/false/1729/any/446/Orange/-10669123,4079423.5,3

Definitions

Refugees: individuals outside of their country who are unable or unwilling to return home because they fear serious harm, and are outside the US when they seek protection

Asylees: individuals who fit the definition of a refugee, however, they seek protection at a point of entry or once they are within the US

Definitions

Unaccompanied children (UAC):

individuals under age 18 without lawful legal status in the US and without a legal guardian in the US to provide care or physical custody

Unaccompanied refugee minors (URM):

refugee children under age 18 years old meeting definition above of 'refugees' without a parent or guardian and living with foster family with protection of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)

Definitions

Undocumented immigrant children: children without lawful legal status in the US with a legal guardian in the US

Special Immigrant Visa: qualifies for a green card (permanent residence) under the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) special immigrant program (most often Afghani and Iraqi families that worked for the US military)

Immigrant Visaholders: other children with various legal visa status' including green cards obtained through 'family-based' program and 'green card' lottery'

Pathways to Care: Refugee/Asylee/SIV

Resettlement Agency

Office of Refugee Health (CA) Refugee Health Assessment Program (CA) & Access to Primary Care



Pathways to Care: Unaccompanied Children (UAC)

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Shelters for Unaccompanied Minors* Receive healthcare coverage (PCU) Post-release services and care*

Highly variable, dependent on local healthcare laws

Pathways to Care: Undocumented Children

- Variable pathways to care
- CA- undocumented children eligible for Medi-Cal since 2016 (income limit up to 266% of FPL)
- May rely on safety net resources

Approach to Clinical Care

Migration History

+

Preventive Health Services

Migration Health Maintenance



Proposed Patient Care and Follow-up Plan

Timing	First provider visit	~4 weeks after first provider visit	2 months after second provider visit
Goals	 Introduce family to clinic and health care system (ie when to call clinic, how to call, when to go to ER, interpretation use) Elicit Migration History Collect PMHx, Family Hx, Physical Examination Review prior records including screening labs and overseas medical examination information for refugees* Prescribe presumptive treatment (prn) Connect with SW, nutrition, MLP (prn) Referrals (medical subspecialty Head Start, etc) 	 Discuss adjustment for child and family HEADSSS for adolescents Developmental screening Ensure enrolled in school and necessary forms completed Dental varnish and referral Follow-up concerns from Visit 2 	 Discuss adjustment for child and family Follow-up concerns from Visit 2
Labs	Recommended list*	If unable to do at Visit 1	Consider repeat Lead (3-6 months after arrival)
Meds	Presumptive treatment	If necessary based on labs	
Imms	Initiate catch-up	Continue catch-up	Continue catch-up
Follow-	Code Z11.9 & change display as	Update "Migration health	Update "Migration health
up/Note	"Migration health maintenance": use	maintenance" list	maintenance" list

Migration History

Location of birth

Number of years in the US

Nationality

Preferred Language

Immigration status*

Migration path to the US

Health care access

Education access

Family

Migration Health Maintenance

Introduction to Preventive Health

Screening Labs

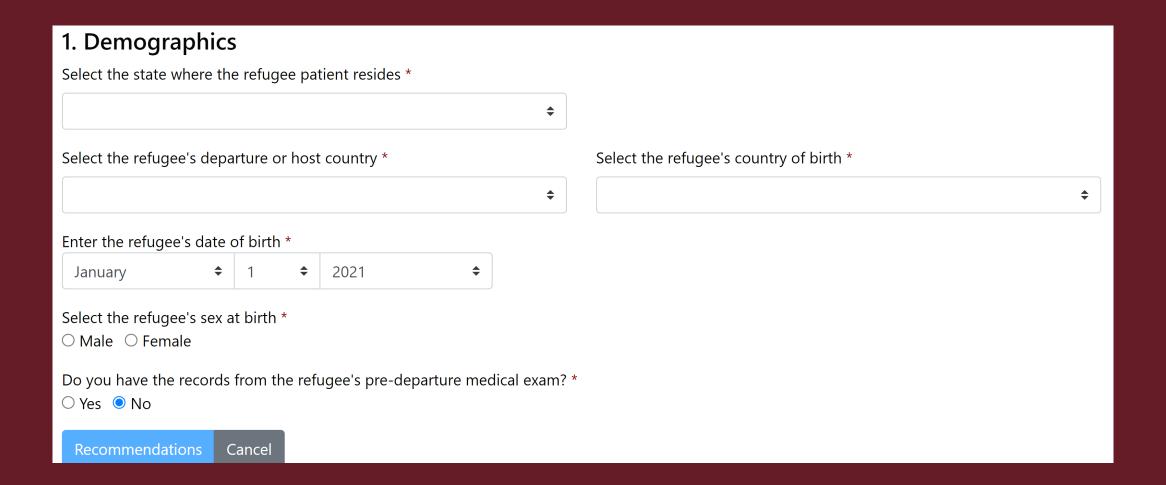
Growth

Developmental Screening

Mental Health Screening

Immunizations

Careref



Careref

CDC alerts

Screening labs

Physical Exam

Immunizations

Mental Health

Health Profiles

Common Concerns

Malnutrition

Infectious Disease Developmental Delay

Mental Health Concerns

Oral Health



Trauma Informed Care

Built Environment

Creating a safe, respectful, empowering visit

Training

Intentionality
with and
interactions
with others

Training & Intentionality

"I imagine you may have been through a lot in your journey, I am going to ask you a few questions to help me take better care of you. You are welcome to share more if you would like to."



Advocacy for Immigrant Children and Families

Advocacy: Many Facets, Many Levels





Immigration Messaging: Values



Shared prosperity



Human potential



Human dignity

Framing Pearls

 Rephrase relentlessly to get the attribution of responsibility for disparities focused on underlying causes, shared consequences, and social responsibility.

Disparities >> Inequities

 Don't leave room for the public imagination to place blame for disparities on the people and communities experiencing adversity.

Adapted from: Moira O'Neil, PhD, Frameworks Institute

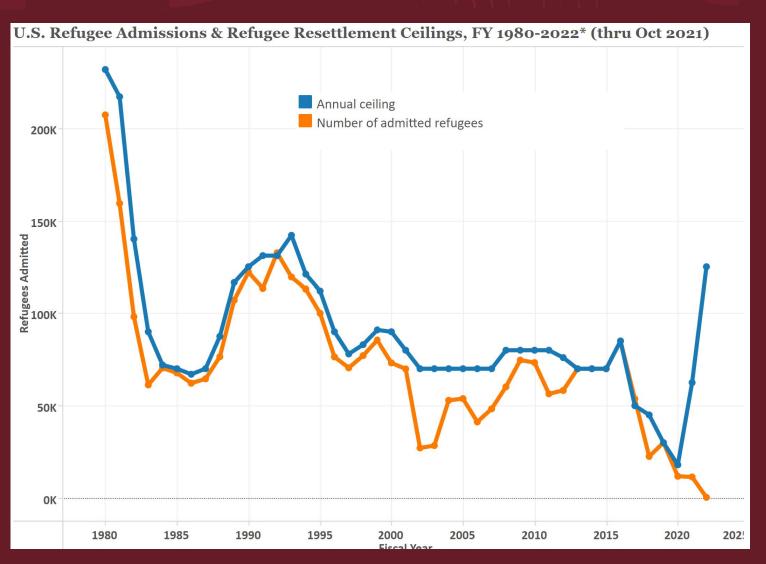
INSTEAD OF THIS

The higher number of deaths among Black and Latino people in the covid19 pandemic can be explained by the higher number of underlying health conditions, like obesity and diabetes.

TRY THIS

When thinking about higher number of deaths among Black and Latino people, we need to think about why people get sick in the first place. Who still has to leave their home to work, who has to leave a crowded apartment, get on crowded transport, and go to a crowded workplace? The privilege of continuing to work from our homes is not available to everyone.

Advocacy Opportunity: Refugee Resettlement



Opportunity for Improvement

- Increasing capacity for intensive case management for families who are supported by resettlement agencies beyond 90 days
- Support & funding for community -agencies to support immigrant children who are not supported by resettlement agencies (case management, connection to resources)

Advocacy Opportunity: UAC

Number of children released to sponsors in FY21 through August 2021

County	Number of children
Kern	184
Los Angeles	3643
Riverside	513
San Bernadino	290
Santa Barbara	90
Ventura	139



Advocacy Opportunity: UAC

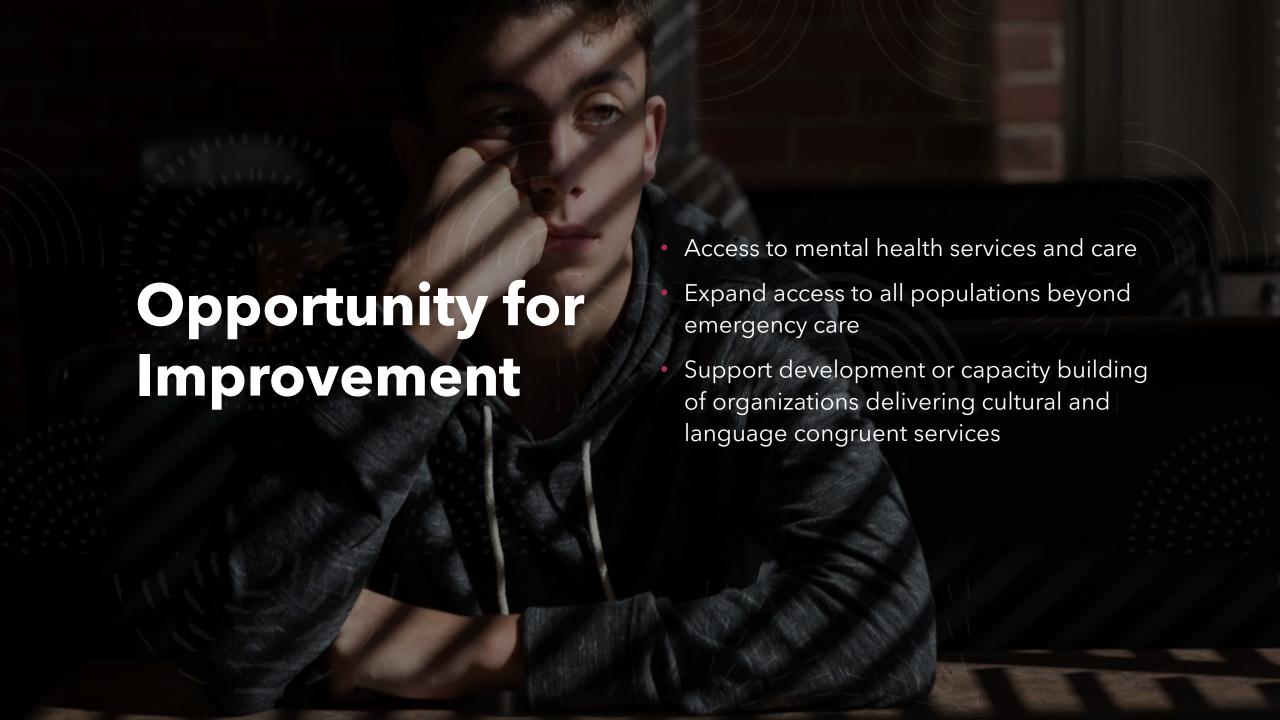
Increase bed capacity

Expansion of post release services (PRS) for UAC

Access to insurance and subspecialty care for children in need of care

Access to and navigation of quality education

Access to legal representation





Advocacy Opportunity: Eliminating barriers to immigrants pursuing professional careers



Washington Governor Jay Inslee signing Senate Bill 5846 supported by the Somali Health Board "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead

Questions?

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