

CUES: ADDRESSING DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN HEALTH SETTINGS

As easy as **CUES**

C: Confidentiality

Know your state's reporting requirements and share any limits of confidentiality with your patients before discussing domestic and sexual violence.

Always see patients alone for at least part of the visit. It is unsafe to discuss relationships if their partner, friend, or family member is with them.

TIP! Make sure you have access to professional interpreters and do not rely on family for friends to interpret.

UE: Universal Education + Empowerment

Give each patient two Safety Cards to start the conversation about healthy relationships, those that are not healthy, and how they can affect their health. Normalizing this conversation as a health issue is crucial.

TIP! Offering Safety Cards to all patients ensures that everyone gets access to information about relationships, not just those patients who choose to disclose experiences of violence.

S: Support

Though disclosure of violence is not the goal of CUES, it will happen. Know how to support someone who says "yes, this happened to me."

Make a warm referral to your local domestic violence partner agency or the National Domestic Violence Hotline (on the back of all Safety Cards!) and document support provided in order to follow up the patient at their next visit.

Offer health promotion strategies and a care plan that takes surviving abuse into consideration.

TIP! What resources are available in your area for survivors of domestic and sexual violence? How about for LGBTQ folks, immigrants or youth? Partnering with local resources makes all the difference.

"Before we get started I want to let you know that I won't share anything we talk about today outside of the care team here unless you were to tell me about [find out your state's mandatory reporting requirements]."



"Because relationships can affect our health, I give two of these cards to all patients in case you or someone you know needs it. It talks about healthy relationships and what to do if your relationship is not healthy. Take a look... Is any of this a part of your story?"

"Thank you for sharing this with me, I am so sorry this is happening. What you're telling me makes me worried about your safety and health...."

Would you like me to share some options and resources that folks with similar experiences are often interested in hearing about? I would be happy to connect you if you are interested."

ipv
health

National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence
M-F 9am-5pm PST | 415-678-5500 TTY: 866-678-8901
health@futureswithoutviolence.org
to get safety cards and other resources: ipvhealth.org

FUTURES
WITHOUT VIOLENCE

futureswithoutviolence.org