

ICE Enforcement Activities are Impeding Immigrants from Seeking Necessary Medical Care

Health Equity

02.25.26

Health systems and physicians are [reporting](#) concerns that crackdowns by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), particularly in metropolitan areas, such as Minneapolis, are making immigrants afraid to leave their home. This fear has led to a significant increase in missed medical appointments and fewer vaccines administered to immigrant populations. Some providers are turning to telehealth and even in-home visits to provide necessary care. In a recent [press conference](#) held in Minnesota, physicians described instances of adults and children foregoing care, which can result in worse and costlier health outcomes. The [American Medical Association \(AMA\)](#) expressed serious concerns with ICE enforcement activities in and around hospitals, saying these actions are preventing immigrants from seeking vital medical care.