



Dear Health Care Provider:

I recently visited your office. I greatly valued my visit with you and appreciated your compassion and concern. Yet, I noticed that I was not asked about intimate partner violence. No one asked me directly, “How does your partner treat you? Has your partner ever hit you, or hurt you, or threatened you?” I also noticed that posters and safety cards showing patients how to get help if someone is hurting them were not displayed.

Because your office is a safe, supportive, and confidential place to get help I am asking you to please learn more about how to address intimate partner violence (IPV). Multiple focus group studies show that patients want to be asked about IPV by their health care provider. Studies also show that 5.5%-22.7% of patients coming to office based care are currently in an abusive relationship.

Learning how to address intimate partner violence (IPV) is as simple as visiting www.leapsf.org and following the steps outlined on this website. This website will direct you to the most current expert information on addressing IPV. You don't need to create forms and materials on your own. Instead you can easily download the forms, patient education and safety materials, and reference materials you need to start helping your patients with IPV.

I know you are very busy but I sincerely hope you will visit www.leapsf.org as soon as possible. You can help end intimate partner and family violence by asking each patient about intimate partner violence.

Thank you!

Your patient