



December 22, 2011

Volume 1, Number 2

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LINKS

[IMIA](#)

[CTMHP](#)

[EASTERN CT AHEC](#)

[PROZ](#)

Contact Us

IMIAConnecticut@imiaweb.org

Welcome!!!!

This is our second monthly newsletter, every member is welcome to participate in the Connecticut Chapter newsletter, and let me know how I can help you.

Marisa Gillio, QMI
Connecticut Chapter Representative

Health Equity & Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS): How Are They Connected?

Health inequities in our nation are well documented, and the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (CLAS) is one strategy to help eliminate health inequities. By tailoring services to an individual's culture and language preference, health professionals can help bring about positive health outcomes for diverse populations. The provision of health care services that are respectful of and responsive to the health beliefs, practices and needs of diverse patients can help close the gap in health care outcomes. The pursuit of health equity must remain at the forefront of our efforts; we must always remember that dignity and quality of care are rights of all and not the privileges of a few.

What are the CLAS Standards

In 2001, the Office of Minority Health published the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care (CLAS Standards), which provides the framework for all health care organizations to best serve the nation's increasingly diverse communities. The CLAS Standards are a collective set of mandates, guidelines, and recommendations intended to inform, guide, and facilitate required and recommended practices related to culturally and linguistically appropriate health services. The CLAS Standards provide guidance on improving quality care under three areas in particular: Culturally Competent Care, Language Access Services and Organizational Supports.

What is the CLAS Standards Enhancement Initiative?

The field of cultural and linguistic competency has seen tremendous growth in the decade since the CLAS Standards' release. It has evolved from a fledgling concept to a recognized intervention in the quest for health equity. With this in mind, the Office of Minority Health is revisiting the CLAS Standards in order to reflect the past decade's advancements, expand their scope, and improve their clarity to ensure universal understanding and implementation. The Office of Minority Health will publish the enhanced CLAS Standards in early 2012.

The enhancement initiative began in fall 2010 with an open call for public comments, three regional public comment meetings, and the convening of a National Project Advisory Committee (NPAC). With this enhancement initiative, the CLAS Standards will continue into the next decade as the cornerstone for advancing health equity through cultural and linguistic competency.



What every Interpreter needs to know to get certified

The webinars are given by a National Board Director and offer a step-by-step guideline on how to prepare for the National Board's written and oral exam, which will be offered soon in five more languages. The webinar will focus on the specifics of taking our exams, including a description of what to expect when you get to the testing center, the software program, screen shots of the test setup, and more. Participating in the webinar is the best way to prepare for taking our oral exam to become a Certified Medical Interpreter, and it's free.

This one hour webinar is open to everyone and there's no need to pre-register. You will need a phone line and a computer with Internet access to fully participate.

Topic:

What Every Interpreter Needs to Know to Get Certified

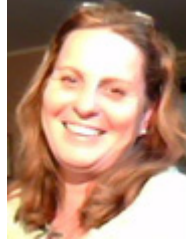
Dates:

Ongoing - visit <http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org/> for details.

Duration: 1 hour

If you have questions regarding the Certification webinars, you can submit them to info@certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org.

Get together...



Through a conference call, I propose to get in contact and start to work together and participate in the Connecticut Language Access issues. I'll talk to you soon....

If we're going to share a screen. We'll send you a link to be connected.

Our 2nd Meeting will be:

January 4, 2012 at 6:30 pm EST

Meeting Number: 712-432-0900

Access code: 634546

Happy Holidays!!

Thank you!!!

Marisa Gillio, QMI

Connecticut Chapter Representative

IMIAConnecticut@imiaweb.org



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

**SAVE THE DATES for
UPCOMING IMIA EVENTS!**

May 11, 2012

2012 IMIA Administrators Symposium

University of California, Irvine Medical Center • Orange, CA

*A forum for interpreter administrators to meet, learn,
and share about interpreter management best practices.*



Presentations on:

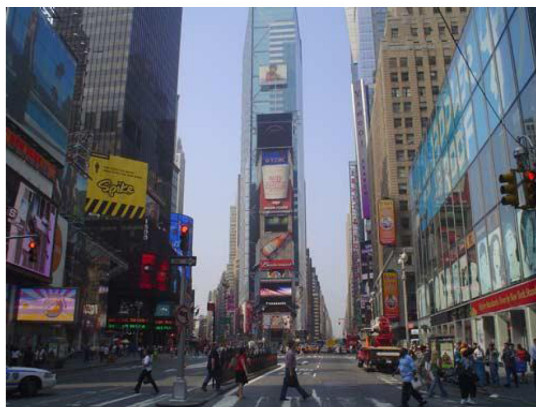
- ❖ Language Access Quality Measures
- ❖ Dispatching Software Systems
- ❖ Language Access Technologies
- ❖ Minority Language Management
- ❖ Managers Implementing National Certification

June 1, 2012

2012 IMIA Trainers Symposium

Hunter College • 695 Park Ave , New York, NY

*A forum for trainers to meet, discuss, and
share best practices about medical interpreter education.*



Presentations on:

- ❖ The Importance of Medical Terminology Training
- ❖ National Standards for Healthcare Interpreter Training
- ❖ National Accreditation for Training Programs
- ❖ Training for Certification
- ❖ National Curriculum Project

Go to www.imiaweb.org and then the Events Section for more information. Registration opens January 1, 2012!