

## **Boot Camp (2)**

### **“Sight Translation and Written Translation in Healthcare Interpreting”**

#### **Abstract**

Due to the broader implementation of laws regarding language services in the healthcare setting, the need for interpreting and translation services is constantly expanding. However, there is still lack of knowledge on what those two disciplines entail and oftentimes professional interpreters and translators are put on the spot and asked to perform duties that fall outside their expertise and/or skills. Interpreting and translation, although related disciplines, require different skills, which need to be acquired through specific training. Examples of how sometimes language professionals are expected to perform out of their capability, is sight translation and written translation. As on-site healthcare interpreters many of us have been asked to “read out loud” a document written in English to a patient in their native language with the purpose of saving some time to the provider or staff who can complete other patient-related tasks in the meantime. Also, we have been asked to translate on the spot. Even though in some instances it may be a reasonable request, other times it involves a large and complex text that should have been translated in advance.

This boot camp is designed to train healthcare interpreters to deal with requests to perform sight translations and on-the-spot written translations in medical settings.

#### **Objectives**

- Understand the definitions of sight translation and written translation and how they differ from interpreting
- Become familiar with the current guidelines for healthcare interpreters regarding sight translation and written translation
- Practice some of the skills that need to be developed in order to be proficient at sight translation and written translation
- Recognize what type of documents can be sight translated and what type of documents should be translated in advance
- Identify some common sight translation and written translation errors
- Find ongoing learning resources to master the skills to perform successful sight translations and written translations

## **Methodology**

In addition to lectures, that will include theory and videos, participants will be able to take part on different interactive activities. We will focus on the skills necessary to become proficient in sight translation and written translation in healthcare interpreting, such as: reading comprehension, reading aloud, paraphrasing, reading a variety of type faces and formats, deciphering handwriting, chunking and manipulating the register, among others. It is recommended that participants bring their own laptops or smartphones with access to electronic sources for consultation of vocabulary.

## **Biography**

Alexandra Guevara-Salcedo MD, MA, CMI, CT was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia. She graduated from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana as a medical doctor and surgeon in 2002. She practiced as a primary care physician for a few years and then moved to the U.S in 2006. She worked at the Miami VA Hospital and at the University of Miami as a research associate in the Department of Epilepsy and the Department of Movement Disorders. From 2009 to 2011 she was a resident physician in the neurology program at the University of Illinois at Peoria and the Saint Francis Medical Center. She holds a master's degree in Spanish/Translating and Translation Studies from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She started interpreting in 2006 and in 2012 she became a Certified Medical Interpreter by the NBCMI. She is also an English-Spanish translator and holds the ATA certification since 2016. In addition to her interest in medical interpreting and translation, she has also been a volunteer interpreter and translator for the immigration clinic of the Charlotte School of law and for different law firms. She completed her internship at the Charlotte Mecklenburg Courthouse. She currently works as a video remote healthcare interpreter and as a medical translator. She worked as an adjunct faculty at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where she taught a medical interpreting course for undergraduates. She teaches a seminar on legal interpreting for law students at the Charlotte School of Law. She currently lives in Fort Mill, SC with her family.

