



IMIA eNews - November 2009



Never mistake motion for action.

Ernest Hemingway



Letter from the President

There is no question that the greatest news ever for the medical interpretation field is that national certification was launched at the IMIA Conference on October 10, 2009. What a historic moment that we will remember decades from now!

I take this opportunity to honor and recognize the work towards certification of all our predecessors, including our founder Raquel Cashman and all the past Board Directors and Certification Committee members of the organization in its 23 year history.

Despite attempts to boycott, delay, stop, and even slander our efforts, the will of the medical interpreter prevailed and national certification is a reality! This is an incredibly important turn of events for the field and we want every interpreter in the US to know the official position of the only national trade association of medical interpreters, the IMIA, representing almost 2,000 medical interpreters and growing. The IMIA endorses and strongly supports the formation and work of the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (also referred in the media as the National Board) as a distinct non-profit organization. While the IMIA and LLS are the transparent founders of the National Board, this new certifying body was selected by a public process, void of our influence or handpicking, and we do not control in any way its work. The National Board is a neutral and independent entity, following the National Organization of Competency Assurance's (NCCA) accreditation requirements regarding governance. We strongly encourage you to go to the www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org website and sign up on the mailing list to join others who have been receiving updates since early 2006.

The IMIA believes strongly in inclusion and transparency. Therefore we decided early on that a completely public process was the only way to uphold these principles. To achieve this, the final testing development process was built through a series of

open public calls; from the development of and participation in the national job analysis through the latest public call.

This approach was received with enthusiasm and appreciation in the field, with over 3,500 medical interpreters, educators, subject matter experts, administrators, and non-profit and for profit organizations participating in our public calls and public annual events since 2006. Likewise, the selection of the National Board members who would oversee the process was also accomplished through a public call. How can a certifying entity be transparent and inclusive if it is not made public how members are to be selected and how to apply? We encourage you to research the history of this movement and read all the respective public calls.

The IMIA and our members and supporters take the twenty-three year development of our certification instrument very seriously. We urge the public and all involved in medical interpreting and language access to support ensuring LEP patient safety NOW - not later - by endorsing the only national certification that is currently in place, that of the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters.

We were surprised to find out in October that a new group had been formed and incorporated earlier in the summer. Since the public did not know of the formation of this group until after the fact, it seems difficult to understand how there was transparency and inclusion in its formation. Attempts to continue to distract the public with endorsements, a website and newsletters discussing plans for future duplication of certification only confuse stakeholders that are not being told that a completely ethical and legal national certification is already in place. Perhaps some are not aware that our processes will soon be protected by patent law as they are patent pending.

While I criticize the belief that duplication is helpful to the field, I also believe that these individuals are well intentioned and want the best for our patients, and that together we could achieve much more. We insist that communication, collaboration, compromise, and the unification with our work is in the best interest of our patients, interpreters, and language access advocates alike. Help us with the call for unity as the best direction for our field!

Izabel S. Arocha, M.Ed.
IMIA President



What are people saying of certification?

"The launching of a standardized certification process for medical interpreters is a crucial step towards assuring that all patients get the care they need in a language they can understand. It also sends a strong message that we will no longer tolerate substandard care due to miscommunication in our hospitals and health care organizations."

Dr. Alexander Green, MD, Associate Director,
Disparities Solutions Center,
Massachusetts General Hospital

"The certification of medical interpreters by a national board is a milestone of singular importance in the emergence and establishment of this much-needed and still under-valued profession. The National Board should be not merely proud, but exultant to have reached this turning point in its journey together. Congratulations!"

Dr. Michael O'Laughlin
Director of Interpreter Training
Boston University

"Congratulations on national certification. This is a significant start and bodes well for the interpreting profession and language access."

Bruce L. Adelson, Esq., President
Federal Compliance Consulting LLC

"Hearty congratulations from me in Maine about launching national certification. What an exciting time to be in the field."

Karin Elliot Whitney, Russian Language Services Maine

"Speaking as a registered nurse and as an interpreter, I believe that national certification for interpreters is a critical step in ensuring accurate communication to prevent medical errors and to improve quality of care provided to our linguistically diverse population."

Marlene Obermeyer, MA, RN, Marion, Kansas

Did you see the press release?

National Certification Launched at IMIA Conference

Washington, USA (SEO): Patients in the United States with limited English proficiency (LEP) continue to face language barriers that threaten their health and undermine their well-being. But today they are one step closer to quality, equitable healthcare with the launch of the first National Certification for Medical Interpreters. A culmination of an over 20-year effort that included stakeholders from across the industry, this first-of-its-kind national

interpreting standard provides professional interpreters working in the medical field with the opportunity to be tested and credentialed as "Certified Medical Interpreter" (CMI). For more information: www.seopressreleases.com/limited-english-speaking-patients-closer-guaranteed-quality-equitable-healthcare/4661



NATIONAL HEALTH REFORM UPDATE

Analysis of Health Reform Bills Highlights Similarities, Differences, Impacts, and Costs – Read the Summary Table that compares the bills

A Commonwealth Fund report published this morning analyzes the similarities, differences, potential impacts, and costs of the three comprehensive health reform bills passed by key U.S. congressional committees. To see more:

<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/Content/Publications/Fund-Reports/2009/Oct/Congressional-Health-Reform-Bills.aspx>



LANGUAGE RIGHTS CORNER

Using children as interpreters, and using other untrained and unqualified third parties as interpreters, can be two egregious violations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Children, relatives, and friends of LEP people, and others not employed by a health care provider, typically cannot legally interpret for LEP people.

Under Title VI, federal subsidy recipients have the legal obligation to provide language assistance to LEP people. This obligation cannot be legally delegated to children or other third parties. The legal obligation remains with the federally funded provider, unless the LEP person knowingly waives his/her right to a provider-offered qualified interpreter. Such a waiver is legally effective ONLY if the provider explains the right to language assistance to the LEP person in his/her native language, the LEP person understands this explanation, and knowingly waives the right. Only then can a third party, unconnected to the provider, legally be used for interpretation or translation.

Children, as a result of their ostensible emotional connection to the LEP person needing language assistance, and their lack of ability and qualification to provide effective language assistance, should almost never be used as interpreters, according to federal law. The one commonly accepted exception is in case of an emergency.

A provider's use of children and unqualified third parties as interpreters can also help prove a provider's intent to discriminate against LEP people.

To win money damages in a federal Title VI lawsuit, such intent must be proven by plaintiffs. Money damages can be obtained against a provider found liable for intentional discrimination and any employees and contractors of that provider who are also found liable. This information is brought to us by Bruce Adelson, Title VI Consultant and IMIA member. He can be reached at badelson1@comcast.net. © Bruce Adelson, 2009 All rights Reserved.



4th Annual MAY 1st 2010 in Washington DC!

We are planning our own rally and Congress visit on the Fourth Annual National Certification of Medical Interpreters Open Forum on April 30th and May 1st 2010 and we invite you to come with us so that every single state congressional office receives a visit from medical interpreter advocates. We need your help and want to know: *Are you coming?*

- Hear presentations on latest national lobbying updates
- Receive training on how to advocate
- Be the voice of the LEP patient in Washington DC
- Come with us to your Senators and Representatives offices, we need you!

See the Save the date flyer at:

http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/480_7.pdf



US NEWS

Washington: Reply to OIG Audit of FBI's Foreign Language Translation Program

Washington, USA (FBI): The following is a response from FBI Deputy Director John S. Pistole to the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report entitled, "The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Foreign Language Translation Program." "I am confident that with respect to counterterrorism translation matters, we have made progress to address our collected material in a timely way. With regard to counterintelligence collections, we are doing a careful job of prioritizing and monitoring the most important material. For more information, please visit: www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel09/oig_audit_102609.htm

Kaiser Permanente awarded \$300,000 to Health Care Interpreters Network

California, USA (Reuters): Kaiser Permanente has awarded \$300,000 to the Health Care Interpreters Network to develop the "Statewide Video Network for Public Hospitals to Link with Health Care Interpreters" program, which will be implemented in public hospitals throughout California. This program will deliver training and continuing education programs for medical interpreters, and test how the this program can be leveraged to provide telemedicine services to patients who have limited English proficiency. For more: www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS144431+27-Oct-2009+PRN20091027

Physicians on Massachusetts Health Care Reform Law

Three years after Massachusetts enacted its health insurance reform law, the state boasts the lowest rate of uninsurance nationwide. Yet, the model is still surrounded by public controversy, especially as the nation explores health reform. Researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health argue that physician opinions about the legislation may demonstrate how the Massachusetts health reform implementation is succeeding. <http://www.rwjf.org/healthreform/product.jsp?id=50108>

Educational Tool Addresses Racial/Ethnic Disparities

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Center for Health Care Quality at The George Washington University have developed a short educational video and PowerPoint to explain to providers the importance of identifying and addressing racial and ethnic disparities in care. Numerous studies document disparities in the care delivered to minority patients-even when income, education level, insurance status and other demographic and socioeconomic factors are equal. Yet most hospitals, health systems and providers have not thoroughly assessed whether such disparities exist within their organizations. The video examines the definition of health care disparities and academic evidence of its existence and presents tested solutions to identify and address disparities from previous RWJF-funded initiatives. Watch the video here: <http://rwjf.org/newsroom/product.jsp?id=44448>

The U.S. Senate confirms Thomas Perez as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.

Now that Mr. Perez is in place, I expect DOJ to increase its enforcement efforts, especially in the areas of language based and national origin discrimination and voting rights. In 2009, DOJ has been active in enforcing the Americans with Disabilities Act. This should not only continue but may also increase. Mr. Perez's deputy assistant attorney generals, including a former DOJ line attorney,

are already in office. Mr. Perez's confirmation may also result in personnel changes in DOJ's Voting Section and in other sections of DOJ's Civil Rights Division. The Obama DOJ's voting rights enforcement will be especially important for states and localities as they approach the next round of redistricting after the 2010 Census.

Patient Interpreters Save Money, but Who Pays?

At a Northern Virginia pediatric clinic, 1-year-old Katy is getting a checkup. As Dr. Hoda Bastani peers into her throat and eyes, Katy's mother, Myrna Mejia, looks on. Standing just behind her is Barbara Perez, one of 16 full-time medical interpreters for Inova Hospital, which runs this clinic. Under civil rights laws, health care providers who accept federal money must provide interpretation for patients who can't speak English. But the law doesn't compel the government or insurers to pay for that. As Congress debates a health care overhaul, medical providers are hoping that will change. Inova also has a contract with a company that offers phone interpretation in 176 languages. For more:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=111066555>

Medicare Reimbursement of Language Services

New York, USA (HealthNewsDigest): The health care reform debate has been dominated by the central questions of how to expand access to insurance and how to rein in medical costs. But beneath these larger concerns, and beyond the disagreement over the public option, are critical details that often receive too little attention. One of these details involves an issue that affects millions of Americans who have limited English proficiency (LEP), and millions more who pay for the inefficiency of a medical system that often fails to communicate with every patient, regardless of their native language. For more information, please visit:

http://www.healthnewsdigest.com/news/Guest_Columnist_710/Sp_eaking_Up_for_Medicare_Reimbursement_of_Language_Services_shtml

Nebraska: Utilizing translators

Nebraska, USA (News Net): Providing services to a city whose population speaks languages other than English offers a challenge to city departments, but many are using translators in an effort to communicate with a diverse population. Larry Williams, director of the Lincoln Human Rights Commission, which investigates claims of discrimination, said his department provides interpretation services—in Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese and Russian—at no cost to those coming into the office. Translation services for public offices are provided by a local translation company and in some cases members of the community or bilingual office staff members. For more information, please visit:

www.newsnetnebraska.org/component/content/article/13-campus-news-/630-city-utilizes-transalators

Video Medical Interpreters Break Language Barriers

The University of Missouri Institute of Public Policy, Center for Health Policy and Missouri Telehealth Network are partnering with the Language Access Metro Project (LAMP) and the Missouri Primary Care Association to provide medical interpreters to non-English-speaking patients who otherwise might not have access to live interpreters.

<http://www.usnews.com/articles/science/2009/09/23/the-doctor-can-understand-you-now.html>

Transatlantic Translations Launches LangCommLingo Telephone Interpreting Service

New York, USA & London, UK (Business Wire): Transatlantic Translations, a leading provider of translation services to organizations worldwide, launches LangCommLingo. An "on demand" Telephone Interpreting service designed with the traveler in mind. Transatlantic Translations, through its trading subsidiaries, has provided Telephone Interpreting services to commercial organizations across the world for some time.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS207566+03-Sep-2009+BW20090903>

NCIHC Announces First Executive Director

Washington, USA (PRLog): Gem P. Daus, M.A. has been named as the first Executive Director of the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (NCIHC). Mr. Daus will lead the organization and work to implement a strategic plan that secures the NCIHC as the expert national resource on language access issues in health care. Daus' presence will provide an important and unique opportunity to work more closely with NCIHC members and stakeholders in meeting their diverse needs. For more:

www.prlog.org/10374871-the-national-council-on-interpreting-in-health-care-announces-first-executive-director.html

Missouri: Interpreter service caters to Spanish speakers

Missouri, USA (News Press): Encountering a language barrier during a medical emergency can be a daunting ordeal. A new company aims to address that in St. Joseph. Alfredo Pereira provides language interpretation for Spanish-speakers in a medical setting. Originally from Uruguay, Mr. Pereira did interpretation in Hawaii for five years. For more information, please visit:

www.stjoenews.net/news/2009/oct/03/interpreter-service-caters-spanish-speakers/?local

Phoenix: Children's Hospital site of translation video created for healthcare staff

Arizona, USA (Nurse): An educational video filmed at Phoenix Children's Hospital and written by a PCH employee will be released this fall with the hopes of reaching U.S. healthcare workers — primarily nurses. "A Guide to working with Interpreters in Healthcare" is an approximately 22-minute video

that stresses the importance of working with a professional translator when caring for patients whose first language is not English. For more information, please visit:

news.nurse.com/article/20091005/SW02/110050048

Missouri: New interpreter program receiving support

Missouri, USA (Carthage Press): Keeping students in school is highest priority for school officials no matter the reason – even when students miss a test or lesson to serve as a family interpreter. As strange as that may sound, it happens right here in the R-9 School district, where the Hispanic demographic reached a historic 25 percent high this year. For more information:

www.carthagepress.com/news/x576541090/Speak-from-the-heart

Alabama: National shortage of Sign Language Interpreters

Alabama, USA (AL): Some colleges offer ASL courses, but Bishop State is the only one in Alabama to grant an associate degree in science in ASL and interpreter training. Janice Rogers, Bishop's ASL instructor, said that a national shortage of interpreters is fuelling the need for ASL graduates. For more information, please visit:

blog.al.com/live/2009/10/communications_degree_bishop_s.html

Indiana: A day in the life of... Erika Bredee

Indiana, USA (Tribune): Erika Bredee, a translator with Language Access Metro Project, conducts a teleconference in St. Louis with a doctor and her patients at Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center in Kansas City. According to the organization, their aim is to decrease language and cultural barriers for immigrants and refugees seeking health care

www.southbendtribune.com/article/20091020/Lives/910209951/-1/XML



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Medical Interpreting in Geneva - Study

In case you're interested in how medical interpreting is doing in Geneva, here's an article we just published based on a survey done of doctors, nurses and social workers at the Geneva University Hospitals. Co-author, Patricia Hudelson, IMIA Member

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/9/187>

UK: Migration Impact Fund to train interpreters

Herefordshire, UK (eGov): Translators are becoming increasingly essential to newcomers who are trying to access services and settle in to new communities. To improve local translation and interpreting services in Herefordshire, the fund will also pay for a number of bespoke courses to allow local people to train as

interpreters. For more information:

www.egovmonitor.com/node/29166

New Zealand: Medicines Terminology Report

Auckland, New Zealand (Voxy): The Health Information Standards Office (HISO) this week released the New Zealand Medicines Terminology Recommendation Report. [...] The Report's principal recommendation is to "adopt and adapt" the Australian Medicines Terminology that will eventually form an extension to the international Systematised Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT), which New Zealand is licensed to use due to its membership in the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation. SNOMED CT is considered to be the most comprehensive, multilingual clinical healthcare terminology in the world. For more information, please visit: www.voxy.co.nz/national/nz-medicines-terminology-recommendation-report-published/5/26498

Korea: Translators, Interpreters Underappreciated

Seoul, Republic of Korea (Korea Times): By 1876, when the Joseon Kingdom at long last opened itself up to the West, there was not a single person in the so-called "Hermit Kingdom" who was able to interpret or translate any Western language. This unfortunate situation was the result of the humble place accorded the study of most foreign languages.

www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2009/10/113_53677.html

India: Pune University to recommend Sign language

Pune, India (Times of India): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has sought an action taken report (ATR) from all universities including the University of Pune (UoP) regarding measures for implementation of recommendations under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of rights & Full participation) Act of 1995. The recommendations primarily relate to making the universities and its affiliated institutions, barrier free within a reasonable time-frame, besides ensuring facilities like Braille and audio books for the visually impaired students and sign language interpreters for students with hearing disability.

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Pune-Varsity-To-Submit-Plan-To-UGC-Soon/articleshow/5137124.cms

Scotland: How many interpreters without interpreting qualifications have been provided?

Edinburgh, Scotland (Scottish Parliament): Sarah Boyack (Edinburgh Central) (Lab): To ask the Scottish Executive on how many occasions interpreters without specific interpreting qualifications have been provided by (a) the Scottish Prison Service or (b) its contractors.

www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/pqa/wa-09/wa1021.htm

Nominations for Intratnet™ Linguist of the Year Awards

Rouen, France (Intratnet): Nominations for the Intratnet™ Linguist of the Year are now open. In past years, the Intratnet™ Linguists of the Year Awards have been purely honorary. This year, sponsors are invited to make a donation to the award prize money, in return for advertising their logo on the Awards website. The winner of the Awards will be invited to donate the prize money to a non-profit organization of the winners' choice. For more: www.intra.net/linguists_of_the_year



NEW! MINORITY LANGUAGE CORNER

Nepal: The tussle of translation between Nepali/English

Kathmandu, Nepal (Nepali Times): Translation is a tussle with the impossible. Yet it is fundamental to the word. There is a persistent and misguided conception that translation consists simply of the substitution of words from one language to another. This is an ignoramus mistake. It misinterprets and fundamentally misunderstands the word. No word can be substituted by a word from another language and match it identically for meaning, influence and association. This disparity in translation is accentuated when one takes on the task of translating between two radically different languages: Nepali and English. For more information, please visit:

www.nepalitimes.com/issue/2009/10/15/Review/16374

Latvia: The Latvian Language in the European Union

Riga, Latvia (ISRIA): The Latvian State Language Centre in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, the European Commission Representation in Latvia and the Terminology Commission of the Academy of Sciences of Latvia are organizing the second conference devoted to topical issues of the EU terminology - "The Latvian Language in the European Union – working towards a common terminology". For more information, please visit:

www.isria.com/pages/14_October_2009_82.php

Māori, one of 285 new languages added to Google Translator Toolkit

Auckland, New Zealand (PC World): Google added Māori to its Google Translator Toolkit today, allowing translators to more easily bring the Maori language into the lives of New Zealanders. Google has been researching how its Translator Toolkit might impact small and minority languages since 2008, especially those for which Google Translate does not yet provide machine translation, like Māori.

pcworld.co.nz/pcworld/pcw.nsf/feature/63BDD4B04FC99C7FCC257650006EC4F5

Zimbabwe: University produces unique dictionary

Harare, Zimbabwe (Southern Times): In Africa, the writing of dictionaries is very rare and worse if it is a dictionary in any of the African languages. Memory Chirere, a correspondent of the Southern Times based at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare where he teaches English talks to Mr. Gift Mheta, the editor of this dictionary about the dictionary itself and related issues. For more information, please visit:

[www.southerntimesafrica.com/article.php?title=University produces unique dictionary&id=2192](http://www.southerntimesafrica.com/article.php?title=University%20produces%20unique%20dictionary&id=2192)

India: Gujarati lexicon at your fingertips

Ahmedabad, India (Times of India): If the online Gujarati lexicon has proved a boon for translators or writers, this bunch of five 20-something girls ought to take the credit. Their love for their mother tongue is phenomenal and so is their passion for language. Hence, with the help of technology they have made words available at your fingertips. For more information, please visit:

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/Girl-power-puts-Gujarati-lexicon-at-your-fingertips/articleshow/5170661.cms



IMIA NEWS

IMIA Conference a great success!

“What an amazing conference! A true feeling of the global medical interpreter village!”

Eric Candle, Russian medical interpreter
& IMIA NY Representative

Hundreds of participants recently attended the 2009 IMIA International Conference on Medical Interpreting in Cambridge, MA, October 9th through 11th. Held at The Hyatt by the Charles River, the hotel was packed with conference attendees enjoying the beautiful venue. The positive grassroots energy for medical interpreter certification was evident to all and the keynote speakers were excellent, and truly inspiring.

Key events of the conference dedicated to "Global Perspectives on Professional Medical Interpreters" included:

- The National Medical Interpreter Certification officially announced - Introduction of the 12 members of the National Board for Certification of Medical Interpreters,
- International Panel presentations
- Bruce Adelson on Title VI
- Office of Civil Rights panel discussing patient rights
- Common Sense Advisory on Globalization

- Internationalization presentation by Eric Hardt, MD.
- Dr. Nakamura, on Interpreting in Japan
- Guest speaker Kate Auspitz, representative of Congressman Michael E. Capuano, expressing Capuano's admiration and gratitude for the work professional medical interpreters do"

The IMIA Raquel Cashman Language Access Award

Then Izabel Arocha, IMIA President, presented The IMIA Raquel Cashman Language Access Award to Louis F. Provenzano, President and COO, Language Line Services and his company, the first time the award was ever presented to an organization.

The Award was established in 1993 by the International Medical Interpreters Association, in memory of Raquel Cashman, Director of the Interpreters Department at Boston Medical Center, and the initial founding member of the Board of Directors of the IMIA.

This annual award perpetuates the enduring contributions of this health care and community leader by recognizing the achievements of individuals (and now organizations) who have made significant and lasting contributions to improving patient safety and language access in health care.

For those who were not able to attend, you will soon be able to access the IMIA Proceedings CD at www.imiaweb.org

IMIA Sets Continuing Education Standards for Medical Interpreters Worldwide

The International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) announced its capability to accredit workshops to provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for medical interpreters, in all languages worldwide. The organization sets this as a concrete step to professionalize medical interpreters. "Nurses and doctors get CMEs, even ASL interpreters get RID CEUs, why can't medical interpreters get IMIA CEUs?"

IMIA International Code of Ethics for Interpreter Educators – Open for Public Review

The IMIA International Code of Ethics for Interpreter Educators was developed by a number of educators from around the world who met on several occasions in 2007 and 2008 at the IMIA Trainers Calls. It has undergone several revisions with additional educators and is open for public review in 2009. This Code of Ethics was designed for all interpreter educators, not solely for medical interpreter educators. See document at <http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/492.pdf>

All comments should be emailed to info@imiaweb.org.

IMIA International Code of Ethics for Interpreter Educators – Open for Public Review – Last Call

The IMIA International Code of Ethics for Interpreter Educators was developed by a number of educators from around the world who met on several occasions in 2007 and 2008 at the IMIA Trainers Calls. It has undergone several revisions with additional educators and is open for public review in 2009. This Code of Ethics was designed for all interpreter educators, not solely for medical interpreter educators. See document at <http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/492.pdf>

All comments should be emailed to info@imiaweb.org.



OTHER NEWS & USEFUL TOOLS FOR INTERPRETERS

NHGRI Launches Improved Online Talking Glossary of Genetic Terms

Washington, USA (NIH): The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), part of the National Institutes of Health, today launched the next generation of its online Talking Glossary of Genetic Terms. The glossary contains several new features, including more than 100 colorful illustrations and more than two dozen 3-D animations that allow the user to dive in and see genetic concepts in action at the cellular level. For more information, please visit:

www.nih.gov/news/health/oct2009/nhgri-20.htm

Swine Flu Virus Continues to Hit Young Hardest

WASHINGTON--The H1N1 influenza virus continues to disproportionately affect young people, according to new government figures released Tuesday. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention involving 4,958 hospitalizations from the H1N1 virus, also called swine flu, showed 53% of the cases were in people age 24 and younger. Another 39% were in people ages 25 to 64, and 7% in people age 65 and older. (In the remaining 1% of cases the age was unknown.) For more:

http://online.wsj.com/article_email/SB125606838913397053-1MyQjAxMDI5NTI2MDAyNjA4Wj.html

National Library - Scenarios for Racial & Ethnic Health

Access the archived recording of the presentation made by Siobhan Champ Blackwell on Racial Ethnic Resources from the National Library of Medicine at

<https://webmeeting.nih.gov/p91185258/>

Health Literacy Tutorial with Audio

The National Library of Medicine recently added audio to its tutorial “Understanding Medical Words”

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/medicalwords.html> For anyone who has felt like their health care provider is speaking another language, this tutorial teaches how to break complex medical words apart to understand their meaning.

Health Information in Other Languages

Medline Plus is a service from the US National Library of Medicine. Find health information in other languages by health topic or by language. For more information:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/languages/languages.html>



IMIA BOOK OF THE MONTH

Transcultural Healthcare (Purnell) Series

by Larry Purnell, Larry D. Purnell, Betty Paulanka

Whatever your practice setting—your patients, colleagues, and managers will reflect the culturally rich and ethnically diverse world in which we live. The deeper your understanding of their traditions and customs, the more effective and rewarding your professional experiences will be. Noted researchers, educators, and clinicians, from a wealth of backgrounds, introduce you to 30 population groups from around the globe. Each contributor uses the Purnell 12-step model to explore a cultural group, and examine the implications of each step on the delivery of health care. Their in-depth understanding of these societies brings you personal perspectives you will find nowhere else.



About the IMIA eNews

The IMIA eNews is an industry-wide monthly news brief. The purpose and intent of this publication is to advance the medical interpreting profession by providing our members with the latest local, state and international news and reports, as well as provide monthly updates on useful websites, toolkits, and available trainings/resources, as well as IMIA news. We know our members do not have time to read everything that comes across their desks or emails, so we actually take the time to select, from a myriad of sources, and condense it into a summary of the most updated, relevant, useful and interesting news about the field on a monthly basis. Please send suggestions and comments about the eNews to Izabel Arocha at iarocha@imiaweb.org