



## Quote of the Month

*“Courage is never to let your actions be influenced by your fears.”* Arthur Koestler

## Letter from the President

Dear members,

**Size Does Matter** -The IMIA Board of Directors agreed that the IMIA needs to grow its numbers to have a greater impact in Washington DC. This is especially important after we started our national advocacy campaign in Washington DC a year ago. Our presence in Washington is only as strong as our numbers. That is why prospects cannot refuse our new offer. Any interpreter wishing to check out the benefits of joining our trade association will get a 6-month free trial membership or pay 2 years for the price of one. Please encourage all your colleagues who are not yet an IMIA member to join in 2010 - we do not know how long this offer will last. This offer is only valid for new members. The IMIA knows that as the organization grows it will have an increased impact in Washington DC.

*“Our presence in Washington is only as strong as our numbers. At over 2,000, we are the largest national interpreter organization, but a drop in the bucket for a new profession.”*

**First DC Trip of 2010** - Our last meetings in Washington DC took place on February 25, 2010. I visited John J. Thomas Director, and his Clinical Standards Group, from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, United States Department of Health and Human Services, at their invitation and explained that national certification was already in place and many are being tested across the country. I also visited Linda Cummings, Vice President of Research of the National

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Association of Public Hospitals. She was happy to hear that so much has been done already and she is working hard on behalf of public hospitals in the US. My last visit was to Rebecca Medina, Office of Congresswoman Roybal-Allard (D-CA), Chair of Health Care Task Force for the CHC. Representative Roybal-Allard is a great advocate for ending health disparities and health care reform.

*“We need to increase membership numbers to be more effective in advocating for better working opportunities and a national reimbursement system.”*

**March 7-13 is Patient Safety Awareness Week** -There will be a national education and awareness-building campaign for improving patient safety at the local level. Hospitals and healthcare organizations across the country are encouraged to plan events that promote patient safety within their own organizations. Educational activities are centered on educating patients on how to become involved in their own health care and working with hospitals to build partnerships within their patient community. As medical interpreters, we need to ensure that we are upholding national patient safety goals such as doing our part by participating in hand washing campaigns, reduction of falls or patient identification efforts. Other health care workers rely on us as colleagues to protect patients and keep them safe.

Last, I want to speak to you once again of the importance of becoming a credentialed medical interpreter. Most interpreters who have been practicing should not fear being tested. Interpreters have been tested time and time again by employers. Let this be the last time you have to undergo a medical interpreter exam. Think of the feeling of accomplishment you will have when telling your next employer that you are nationally certified just as your ASL interpreter colleagues... priceless.

Sincerely,

Izabel S. Arocha, M.Ed.  
IMIA President





## 2010 IMIA Conference

### ENSURING PATIENT SAFETY FOR LANGUAGE MINORITY PATIENTS - a new standard of care -

**September 3rd – 5th, 2010  
Boston, MA, USA**

**IMIA Conference Call for Papers – due March 31!**

<http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/2010callforpapers.asp>

**Location - It doesn't get any better than this!**

**Harvard Medical School New Conference Center**

<http://www.theconfcenter.hms.harvard.edu/>

**Meetings** - This year, be part of a stakeholder meeting on Friday September 3, 2010. These PowerPoint-free interactive meetings will promote live discussion. Participants, whether IMIA members or not, are invited to join different meetings throughout Friday. These will include Committee Meetings, Division Meetings, and other stakeholder group meetings.

**Workshops** - This year, be part of the Harvard Medical Community by attending the conference in the renowned Boston Longwood Medical and Academic Area. There will be workshops given by health care providers on medical specialties, terminology, and interesting topics for aspiring medical interpreters related to ensuring patient safety.

**Hospital Tours** - Interpreter Departmental Tours will be at a walking distance from the conference site! Learn the latest best practices regarding interpreter management, technology, quality measures, and job opportunities.

**International Panel** - This year we will have different countries representing the international panel and highlights on the status of the profession in those countries. Come to see first-hand what is that your colleagues have learned to professionalize abroad.

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**International Job Analysis Results** - National and International Job Analysis Projects will be showcased at the conference.

**Focus Groups** - The IMIA wants to engage participants in important topics of discussion related to the progress of the profession.

**National Health Care Reform Update** - Where are medical interpreters in the national health care reform? Come listen to the latest updates on recent trips and general advocacy work in Washington DC including a summary of the Fourth May 1 Forum meeting.

**National Certification** - Get the latest news on National Certification. What languages have been added? When will the National Board apply for ICE accreditation? All you need to know...

If you have any ideas for the conference this year, please share them with Kyra Marino at [info@imiaweb.org](mailto:info@imiaweb.org)

### National Certification Updates

**The Next Informational Webinar is on March 18:**

**What Every Interpreter Needs to Know**

The next call will be on March 18, 2010 at 12pm EST.

For more info: [www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org](http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org)

The specific medical terminology that covered on the test is on slides 10 and 11 of the presentation, "What Every Interpreter Needs to Know" and easily accessed at: [http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/195\\_2.pdf](http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/195_2.pdf)

The National Board is working on the development of the next 22 language oral exams and educating the public about the connection between ensuring patient safety and national medical interpreter certification.

Check out [www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org](http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org)





## Ethical Considerations

The IMIA Ethics Committee is just beginning its work in setting up an Ethical Process to handle ethical complaints from organizations or individuals that claim that an interpreter has breached an ethical tenet. If you have experience with such a process or are interested in helping the Ethics Committee out please join their March meeting. To check when the meeting is taking place go to the IMIA Calendar of Events at <http://www.imiaweb.org/events/imia.asp>

## Interpreting Advocacy

### Leaders & Advocates to Convene in Washington, D.C.

Washington, USA (PRNewswire): Leaders and advocates for the medical interpreting profession will gather in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, May 1, 2010 for the fourth annual National Medical Interpreter Certification.

Come meet other stakeholders interested in working together to spread the word about the importance of credentialed medical interpreters to ensure patient safety. To register today: <http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/2010May1.asp>

## US Interpreting News

The IMIA eNews compiles on a monthly basis all articles related to medical interpreting and minority languages in the US and internationally. Occasionally, we publish an article on other interpreting specializations if we feel the subject matter might be of interest to the medical interpreter community.

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### New Joint Commission Standard Defines Interpreters

*Heather Comak, for HealthLeaders Media, February 24, 2010*  
- One of the most vital parts of providing adequate healthcare is the exchange of information between patient and caregiver. Without clear communication, it can be difficult, and even dangerous, to treat a patient. For patients who have limited English proficiency (LEP), as well as providers, the presence of a medical interpreter can allay fears about care. Most importantly, using a qualified medical interpreter to assist with communication keeps patients safe. <http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/content/QUA-247044/New-Joint-Commission-Standard-Defines-Medical-Interpreters>

### Phone Interpretation Grows Despite US Economy

MONTEREY, Calif., Feb. 23 /PRNewswire/ -- The weak economy has not stalled the demand for language services that help businesses and organizations communicate with their limited-English speaking customers, according to a recent report by Language Line Services. 2009 year-end results from Language Line(R) LanguageTrak, the company's proprietary service which provides real-time demographic information on language trends, revealed triple-digit spikes in language interpreter requests for 20 major U.S. cities, and a thousand percent year-to-year increase in demand for emerging languages such as Nepali, Kirundi and Cantonese. <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/over-the-phone-interpretation-continues-to-grow-despite-us-economy-85034512.html>

### VRI Alternative for Hospitals

Video remote interpreting (VRI) is one alternative to on-site sign language interpreters to assist deaf or hard-of-hearing patients who communicate using American Sign Language (ASL). VRI can meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and be HIPAA compliant with the right videoconferencing equipment. Unlike Video Relay Services (VRS), Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) is fee-based and relies on videoconferencing equipment to connect a deaf patient and doctor in one location with a sign language interpreter in a different, remote location. VRI is not government-regulated, but it is working its way into the mainstream to provide fast and convenient interpreting services in hospitals,





clinics, schools, and even prisons.  
<http://www.pr1.org/health/vri-alternative-for-hospitals/>

### Indiana: House passes bill for sign language interpreters

Indiana, USA (Fox 59): The Indiana House has unanimously passed a bill aimed in part at helping deaf students by setting state standards for sign language interpreters. The bill passed the House on a 94-0 vote Monday, and it now advances to Gov. Mitch Daniels for his consideration.  
[www.fox59.com/news/sns-ap-in-xgr--deafstudents-interpreters,0,4888186.story](http://www.fox59.com/news/sns-ap-in-xgr--deafstudents-interpreters,0,4888186.story)

### Microsoft Updates Haitian Creole Translation System

Port-au-Prince, Haiti (Technology News): Microsoft unveiled the first updates designed to provide translation into the official language in Haiti, in addition to French. In the last week of January 2010, when it made available the Haitian Creole statistical machine translation engine, Microsoft asserted that it would work to better the translation capabilities and promised updates would follow soon.  
[news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Updates-the-Haitian-Creole-Translation-System-133696.shtml](http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Updates-the-Haitian-Creole-Translation-System-133696.shtml)

### Pennsylvania: Orthopedic Institute to Ensure Effective Communication with Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Patients

Pennsylvania, USA (Benzinga): Patients who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, who seek treatment at the Orthopedic Institute of Pennsylvania (OIP), will receive qualified interpreters for effective communication as required by federal law under a Settlement Agreement reached with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).  
[www.benzinga.com/press-releases/b131360/orthopedic-institute-of-pennsylvania-to-ensure-effective-communication-with-d](http://www.benzinga.com/press-releases/b131360/orthopedic-institute-of-pennsylvania-to-ensure-effective-communication-with-d)

### I Say Medicine, You Say Midewin

New Jersey, USA (Aiatranslations): Think about the word, "medicine." What does it mean to you? Do you think of multi-colored pills? Your doctor? The pharmacy down the street? If you are an American Indian from the Ojibwe tribe, the word for medicine is "midewin" (pronounced ma-DAY-win) and it means 'from the Earth.' It is subtle but the difference is clearly there. For American Indians, wellness does not come from a pill. Healing comes from plants and herbs that treat disease.

[aiatranslations.blogspot.com/2010/02/i-say-medicine-you-say-midewin.html](http://aiatranslations.blogspot.com/2010/02/i-say-medicine-you-say-midewin.html)

### HHS Launches Site to Organize Volunteers for Haiti

Washington, USA (RT): The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) now has a Web site to provide information to health care professionals who would like to volunteer to assist the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. "The immediate and long-term health and medical needs of Haiti are currently being assessed by the United Nations and the Pan American Health Organization with the Haitian government. Once we know more about the results of this assessment, we'll have a better sense of the possibilities for volunteering,"  
[http://www.rtmagazine.com/news/2010-01-29\\_01.asp](http://www.rtmagazine.com/news/2010-01-29_01.asp)

**Getting an interpreter on your cell phone 24/7!** An Apple iPhone application that allows you to contact an interpreter anywhere your phone has reception. In September 2009, Common Sense Advisory wrote, "...we anxiously await the arrival of a Blackberry, iPhone, or Palm application that will be marketed to the masses, to enable the average consumer to dial an interpreter from anywhere in the world. Putting this power into the hands of millions could radically and drastically boost awareness of the availability of telephone interpreting (TI) services, and create revenue streams from previously untapped sources"  
[http://www.cellphonedigest.net/news/2009/12/language\\_line\\_services\\_launche.php](http://www.cellphonedigest.net/news/2009/12/language_line_services_launche.php)

**Free telephone interpreting services will be extended to pharmacies across Australia** on an ongoing basis. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship, through the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) and the assistance of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, recently conducted a pilot extension of free telephone interpreting services, which showed that pharmacies using the service found it to be a valuable tool when communicating with non-English speakers and would use it again. Registered pharmacies around Australia will be able to access the service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more info:  
<http://www.minister.immi.gov.au/parlsec/media/media-releases/2008/1f08070.htm>





### Colorado's deaf and hard of hearing community deserves competent interpreters

Colorado, USA (Statesman): It's time for legislators to treat Colorado's 42,000 deaf and 350,000 hard of hearing citizens like you would want members of your family treated. Individuals should show proven ability to be interpreters, especially those who get consideration for their services. The Legislature can have the Commission For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing act as a regulating agency. Give them power and staff to investigate and punish those who fail to meet the statute's minimum standards. For more information: [coloradostatesman.com/kopel/991574-colorado%3Fs-deaf-and-hard-hearing-community-deserves-competent-interpreters](http://coloradostatesman.com/kopel/991574-colorado%3Fs-deaf-and-hard-hearing-community-deserves-competent-interpreters)

### Certification defines qualified medical interpreters, keeps patients safe *Patient Safety Monitor*, March 1, 2010

One of the most vital parts of providing adequate healthcare is the exchange of information between patient and caregiver. Without clear communication, it can be difficult, and even dangerous, to treat a patient. For patients who have limited English proficiency (LEP), as well as providers, the presence of a medical interpreter can allay fears about care. Most importantly, using a qualified medical interpreter to assist with communication keeps patients safe. <http://www.hcpro.com/QPS-245632-234/Certification-defines-qualified-medical-interpreters-keeps-patients-safe.html>

### FIU seeking Creole-speakers to help in relief effort

Florida International University is on the hunt for Haitian Creole speakers to help in the earthquake relief effort. The university is creating a database listing fluent Creole speakers who can be called on to assist in efforts to support South Florida's Haitian community. Already, interpreters are needed immediately to help Haitian immigrants apply for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) through the College of Law's Carlos A. Costa Immigration and Human Rights Clinic. <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/breaking-news/story/1459771.html>

### Immigrants sue state over exclusion from health care

The lawsuit charges that the state's Connector Authority and its executive director, Jon Kingsdale, violated the immigrants' right to equal protection under the state and federal constitutions when the administrators last year cut their health coverage through the Commonwealth Care program because of a tight state budget. [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/02/26/immigrants\\_sue\\_state\\_over\\_exclusion\\_from\\_health\\_care/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/02/26/immigrants_sue_state_over_exclusion_from_health_care/)

## International Interpreting News

### Canada - AILIA Launches a Certification for Companies that provide community (legal, medical and other social services) interpreting services

On January 2010, AILIA launched one of the latest standards certification program. Firms wishing to set themselves apart can now apply for an audit immediately by contacting **Orion Assessment Services of Canada**. AILIA has contracted the services of Orion Assessment Services of Canada, recognized auditors with respect to ISO, EN 15038, CGSB 131.10-2008 and other standards to conduct audits, to ensure professionalism and complete confidentiality for all applicants. All transactions are held directly with the selected auditing firm to ensure that your information is protected and to guarantee impartiality. Once each audit has been completed, Orion will request that AILIA issue a certificate to firms who have been granted certification under NSGCIS. [http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/471\\_2.pdf](http://www.imiaweb.org/uploads/pages/471_2.pdf)

### National Job Analysis Goes Global

Washington, DC, January 20, 2010 — A U.S. job analysis survey of medical interpreters completed with great success in 2009 will now be applied globally in order to compare the tasks undertaken by medical interpreters worldwide and further advance the profession at an international level. The international job analysis survey, commissioned by the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters, will be conducted in the following months expecting participation from





many countries. <http://www.seopressreleases.com/firstever-international-job-analysis-survey-medical-interpreters-commissioned-national-board-certification-medical-interpreters/6178>

### UNDL Foundation call for Participation

Geneva, Switzerland (UNDL): The UNDL Foundation, a global network of computer developers and linguists, is seeking students, translators, interpreters, and language specialists to join the global effort of creating language resources for the Universal Networking Language (UNL) Programme. Candidates are not required to have any previous experience in natural language processing but are expected to have some acquaintance with descriptive linguistics and a good knowledge of English. Candidates must register in the UNLweb and pursue the CLEA450 certificate issued by VALERIE, the Virtual Learning Environment for UNL. [www.undlfoundation.org](http://www.undlfoundation.org)

### Local Medical Team Returns from Haiti

(ABC 6 NEWS) - It has been weeks since the massive earthquake rocked Haiti, and still many are in desperate need of medical care. That was why a group of medical workers from Austin Medical Center decided to go help, and they have just returned home. "The night we flew in there it was dead silent," says Mary Fargen, a Certified Physician Assistant who works at the Adams Clinic. "You could smell there were bodies still buried," says Dr. Vijay Chawla, who works with Pediatrics at A.M.C. Four doctors from Austin Medical Center recall experiences from Haiti days after returning. <http://kaaltv.com/article/stories/s1402202.shtml?cat=10151>

### Indonesia: Three universities launch Bahasa Indonesia-Russian dictionary

Jakarta, Indonesia (Antara): University of Indonesia (UI)'s European Studies Center, in cooperation with Moscow State University and St Petersburg University in Russia, launched a Russian-Bahasa Indonesia dictionary here on Monday. Published in conjunction with the 60th anniversary of Indonesia-Russia diplomatic relations, the dictionary was written by a small team of Russian linguists. [www.antara.co.id/en/news/1265032969/three-universities-launch-bahasa-indonesia-russian-dictionary](http://www.antara.co.id/en/news/1265032969/three-universities-launch-bahasa-indonesia-russian-dictionary)

### Haiti: Relief organizations need medical interpreters

The IMIA Provider Outreach Committee is reaching out to international relief organizations to determine if there is an appropriate way or ways in which we can be most helpful, as a trade association resource, to the people of Haiti in their hour of greatest need. Please consider assisting one of the relief organizations below who are working now in Haiti. All these organizations are in dire need of medical interpreters and many of them offer lodging and a travel stipend for professionals willing to do field work. They are not just in need of Haitian interpreters, but also primarily in need of Mandarin and Cantonese, Portuguese and French, among others, as these are primary the languages of the relief service providers. [www.imiaweb.org/basic/HaitiRelief.asp](http://www.imiaweb.org/basic/HaitiRelief.asp)

### UK: Appeal for interpreters in 51 languages

Yorkshire, UK (Keighley News): Police and other public agencies operating in Keighley are looking for bilingual adults to become interpreters. Cash has been made available to train local people to help serve migrant and minority ethnic communities. The interpreters must be 18 or over, fluent and literate in English and speak one of 51 specific languages. [www.keighleynews.co.uk/news/4875493.Agencies\\_and\\_police\\_search\\_for\\_interpreters/](http://www.keighleynews.co.uk/news/4875493.Agencies_and_police_search_for_interpreters/)

## Minority Languages News

### Saving Endangered Languages from Being Forgotten

Moscow, Russia (Science Daily): With only 3.000 speakers in Northwest Siberia the Ob-Ugrian language Mansi is on the verge of extinction. Predictions say it will be extinct in ten to twenty years at the latest. The same holds true for Khanti, a member of the same language family. It is for this reason that extensive documentation is so important. Johanna Laakso, professor for Finno-Ugrian Studies at the University of Vienna concerns herself with the documentation of this and other minority languages in the framework of an FWF project and the EU project ELDIA. [www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/01/100126084059.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/01/100126084059.htm)





## Sign Language News

### Minnesota: Deaf patient dying, no interpreter to tell her

Minnesota, USA (Star Tribune): David Nelson got the bad news about his wife in December 2005. He just did not know it. For three months, the Nelsons met with doctors at North Memorial Medical Center, but they were not aware Mary Ann was dying of cancer. In fact, they thought she was doing well enough in her battle with the disease that she could go to her retirement party. So they were stunned in March 2006 when her oncologist abruptly put an end to their hopes -- and their request -- with a terse note saying, "We can't cure the cancer." [www.startribune.com/local/83692992.html?elr=KArksi8cyaiUncacyi8cyaiUiD3aPc:\\_Yyc:aU7DYaGEP7vDEh7P:DiUs](http://www.startribune.com/local/83692992.html?elr=KArksi8cyaiUncacyi8cyaiUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aU7DYaGEP7vDEh7P:DiUs)

### New Zealand: Shortage of interpreters for the deaf

Auckland, New Zealand (Manawatu Standard): Two hundred dollars is what it costs to talk to a deaf person in Manawatu because of a shortage of qualified New Zealand Sign Language interpreters. The access to interpreters is a major concern for the deaf community, not just in Manawatu but nationwide. Currently a qualified interpreter required in the Manawatu region has to travel from either Takapau, central Hawkes Bay, or from Wellington, to connect the deaf community.

### Nation's First IP-Relay App for iPhone(TM)

California, USA (PRNewswire-FirstCall): Purple Communications(TM), Inc., a leading provider of text and video relay and on-site interpreting services, today announced IP-Relay for iPhone(TM) and iPod Touch (TM), the country's first relay application for the Apple iPhone and iPod Touch. The new IP-Relay app ([www.purple.us/iphone](http://www.purple.us/iphone)) lets users make direct IP-Relay calls right from their phones, or dial anyone in their iPhone address book with just a few taps. For more information, please visit: [www.itnewsonline.com/showprnstory.php?storyid=89743](http://www.itnewsonline.com/showprnstory.php?storyid=89743)

### What Does it Mean to be an Independent Contractor?

By CATHERINE RAMPELL

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Hardly a week goes by that I do not receive e-mail messages from readers worrying about workers misclassified as "independent contractors." These messages usually refer to laid-off employees who have been rehired to perform largely the same tasks as staff members under largely the same conditions, but receiving less pay and fewer benefits. <http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/02/01/what-does-it-mean-to-be-an-independent-contractor/>

## Study Corner

### Dimensions of Trust: The Tensions and Challenges in Provider--Interpreter Trust Find Similar

by: Elaine Hsieh, Hyejung Ju, Haiying Kong *Qual Health Res*, Vol. 20, No. 2. (1 February 2010), pp. 170-181.

This study examined the challenges to providers and interpreters' collaboration in bilingual health care. In-depth interviews were conducted and focus groups with 26 medical interpreters (speaking 17 languages) and 32 providers (from four specialties) in the United States to provide an empirically based framework of provider--interpreter trust. Constant comparative analysis was used for data analysis. Four dimensions of trust and theoretical constructs were identified that can strengthen or compromise provider--interpreter trust: interpreter competence, shared goals, professional boundaries, and established patterns of collaboration.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=pubmed&term=Rsearch%20Support%2C%20N.I.H.%2C%20Extramural%5BPublication%20Type%5D>,

### Modest & Uneven: Physician Effort to Reduce Disparities

While nearly half of U. S. physicians identify language or cultural communication barriers as obstacles to providing high-quality care, physician adoption of practices to overcome such barriers is modest and uneven, according to a new national study by the Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC). Despite broad consensus among the medical community about how physicians can help to address and, ultimately reduce racial and ethnic disparities, physician adoption of several recommended practices to improve care for minority patients ranges from 7 percent reporting they have the capability





to track patients' preferred language to 40 percent reporting they have received training in minority health issues to slightly more than half reporting their practices provide some interpreter services. <http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/4427.pdf>

### Using Professionally Trained Interpreters to Increase Patient/Provider Satisfaction: Does it Work?

Research has suggested a link between the use of professional interpreter services during emergency department (ED) visits and higher levels of patient and provider satisfaction with the care provided. However, evidence remains scant on whether the type of interpreter services used is actually causally linked to satisfaction ratings. Mathematics' study addressed this evidence gap through a randomized controlled design, considered the most reliable and statistically valid approach for examining the question of causality. [http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/pdfs/health/trained\\_interpreters\\_IB.pdf](http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/pdfs/health/trained_interpreters_IB.pdf)

## Interpreter Education

### Is Your Training Organization listed on the National Training Directory?

As of 2008, the IMIA is collecting data on what topics training organizations are teaching future medical interpreters. To post trainings, go to <http://www.imiaweb.org/education/training-form.asp>

### Job Postings Starting to Request National Certification

Please see this sample job posting. IMIA commends the work done on this posting as a best practice example for two reasons. It states that the interpreter must abide by *all published Standards of Practice and Codes of Ethics for Medical Interpreters*. It also states under Qualifications: *Must obtain National Certification where available*.

To see the entire job posting please visit:

<http://ste.myexacthire.com/ViewJob-21305.html>

## IMIA News

### Call for Interpreters to Speak Out.

The *IMIA eNews* is a monthly news brief, and not your typical membership association newsletter that showcases members or editorial articles. Nonetheless, there is now a forum for IMIA interpreters to speak up. *IMIA Viewpoints*, a new IMIA publication is launched, where practicing medical interpreters, trainers and administrators will submit opinion articles that enlighten colleagues on best practices, techniques, or viewpoints on different topics of the profession. This will be a quarterly publication, peer reviewed. We need volunteers. Join the editorial board and help to select top articles to be published for each edition. Please stand by for more information and visit:

<http://www.imiaweb.org/members/viewpoints.asp>

### Medical Terminology Committee Created

Cholecystectomy. Intubation. Laceration. Subdural hematoma. HIPAA. Understanding the language of medicine is hard enough, but interpreting it is much more difficult. Often we do not discuss the difficulties of interpreting highly specialized medical terms. In addition to there not being exact equivalents in many languages, there is also the important issue of health literacy and how it impacts health communication, whether it is mediated or not by an interpreter. The IMIA is committed to ensuring that medical interpreters have appropriate support for their medical terminology needs, so the IMIA has decided to start a Terminology Committee to look further into this issue. We imagine we have terminologists and others who might be interested. If so, you are interested in joining this committee, please email us at [info@imiaweb.org](mailto:info@imiaweb.org).

### IMIA Corporate Division

The IMIA is proud of its corporate members and the support they provide to the organization. Certification need not be politicized and all corporate members should support all efforts by all organizations that professionalize the field. While there is the possibility that the profession might have more than one certification in place in the future, there is only one national certification program in place at the moment, and that





is the program established in 2009 by the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters. All corporate members are being asked to list their support by agreeing to have their names on the National Board's website at [www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org](http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org). Stay tuned...

### Corporate Division Meeting

3/30/2010 at 12pm EST

Open for all corporate members -

Last Tuesday of every other month in 2010 - January, March, May, July, September, November  
9am Pacific / 11am Central / 12pm EST

### Action Plan: Join an IMIA Committee in 2010!

2010 will be a year of new and exciting projects. We will be working hard within our committees to keep medical interpreters running strong. Active committees will create a vibrant inclusive organization where all participate, as in any grassroots organization, change this big must come from the bottom up.

*How do I join a Committee?* Go to your IMIA Profile and click on the committee you want to join. That automatically puts you on that committee's mailing list so you will get the meeting notices to the selected committee.

## IMIA Book of the Month

### Health Care Ethics: Principles and Problems

by Thomas M. Garrett, Rosellen M. Garrett, Harold Baillie  
ISBN: 0132187906

This clear, accessible text/reference explores the full range of contemporary issues in health care ethics from a practical wisdom approach. The authors present the fundamental concerns of modern medical ethics—autonomy, beneficence, justice, and confidentiality—and then provide analysis, cases, and insights from professional literature to discuss them. Throughout, the discussion starts with larger issues or con-

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cepts and principles and then focuses on specific problems or complications.

## Calendar of Events

The IMIA Calendar of Events has the purpose of informing the interpreting community of events related to health disparities, language access, linguistics, and medical interpretation and translation.

- [International Calendar of Events](#)
- [U.S. Calendar of Events](#)
- [IMIA Events \(Committee Meetings etc\)](#)

## About the IMIA Monthly eNews Brief

The IMIA eNews is our 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, national and international news and reports, as well as provide monthly updates on useful websites, toolkits, and available trainings/resources. 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. The focus is not on being an organizational newsletter but on being an industry's news brief on medical interpreting. Please send suggestions and comments about the eNews to Izabel Arocha at [iarocha@imiaweb.org](mailto:iarocha@imiaweb.org)

