

HOSPITAL LOGO

Multilingual Interpreting Department

Refusing to have a medical interpreter
(Waiver of Interpreter Services)

We believe that it best care to have a trained medical interpreter. That person understands your language and also medical words. The interpreter is also trained to protect your privacy. There are risks if you choose to have a family member or friend interpret for you. That person may:

- Not know the correct medical word and give you wrong information
- Add or leave out information
- Learn things about you that you may not want to share.
- Tell others about your health condition
- Misunderstand what your caregiver says.

Each of these risks can be a problem for you. They can hurt your medical treatment. So we want to make sure you understand the possible risks.

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You have explained the risks to me in my own language. I understand these risks and still choose not to have a medical interpreter.

Patient's Signature

Date

Provider's Signature

Date

Interpreter Signature, if present
If interpreted by phone, interpreter name or #

Date

Explanation of Document (for providers and staff)

HOSPITAL NAME policy requires that qualified medical interpreters interpret for patients with Limited English Proficiency in order to ensure patient safety and accurate communication between the patient and his/her treatment team. Patients have the right to refuse the medical interpreter and have a family member or friend interpret, but the potential risks of using an untrained interpreter must first be explained to them in their language. They must also sign this form each time they waive interpreter services, and it must be placed in their permanent medical record. Providers may request, at their discretion, that a HOSPITAL NAME interpreter remain in the room despite the signing of this waiver.