



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL  
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION  
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

## **IMIA Organizes First National Administrators Symposium**

*Interpreter Services Managers to Convene in Miami, Florida on March 18, 2011*

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Sponsorship Opportunities: [IMIAFlorida@imiaweb.org](mailto:IMIAFlorida@imiaweb.org)

Miami, FL, January 20, 2011 - Medical interpreter coordinators, managers, and directors in healthcare organizations will gather at the Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, on Friday, March 18, 2011 for the First National Administrators Symposium. The theme of the symposium is Sharing National Best Practices for Language Access Administration.

"There is currently no face to face gathering specifically for medical interpreter administrators in health care organizations. We are attempting to provide administrators with a live forum where they can network and share their challenges and solutions", said Lola Bendana, President of the International Medical Interpreters Association, IMIA. "Even though many hospitals have interpreter administrators, they tell us that they want to network with colleagues in a more targeted environment." This event is being organized in collaboration with ATIF, The Association of Translators and Interpreters of Florida. "IMIA's efforts to promote and support medical interpreting are well known. This symposium extends that support beyond the development of interpreting skills into the realm of professional relationships, helping to strengthen the roles of the various stakeholder,." Giovanna L. Lester, President, ATIF.

Event speakers are national experts in language service issues. Dr. Marsha Regenstien, Ph.D., M.C.P. , Professor, Department of Health Policy, George Washington University, will discuss Speaking Together Language Measures and how these have been adopted nationwide. Symposium participants will be able to take an active role in the event as all workshops are planned to be as interactive as possible. Participants will learn about the best practices of mature departments, and learn of the latest updates in interpreting technology, measures, operations, and other topics. The registration cost for the event is \$300.

In addition to the full-day event for administrators, the IMIA has organized an 8-hour Medical Terminology Boot Camp for medical interpreters to attend. The boot-camp will be led by Yadira Willimann, MD. Participants will receive the text book "HUMAN BODY - An illustrated guide to every part of the human body and how it works" by Ann Baggaley. The cost to this intensive course is \$75 for IMIA members and \$100 for non-IMIA members. Hospitals are encouraged to sponsor their interpreters for this essential course. For more information contact [IMIAFlorida@imiaweb.org](mailto:IMIAFlorida@imiaweb.org).

On Saturday, March 19, Habib Serrano, IMIA's Florida Representative, will lead a FREE Open House. Attendees will learn about resources available to medical interpreters and about the latest developments on National Certification. "We are very thankful to Jackson Memorial Hospital for hosting this event. They are providing us with the opportunity to have a face to face discussion about the work of managing a language access program," said Habib F. Serrano, the IMIA Florida Representative. Sonia Martinez, Manager of Jackson Memorial Hospital Interpreter Services, states, "It's an honor to have this inaugural event at Jackson Memorial Hospital - the first and, to date, the only hospital in Miami since 1980 to have full-time interpreters providing face-to-face service, 24/7, in Creole and Spanish, the target languages of our LEP patient population."



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Concurrent with the Administrators Program, there will be three special sessions provided to Jackson Health System providers on how to work with medical interpreters. The Symposium will take place on March 18-19, from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.. It is hosted by Jackson Memorial Hospital and sponsored by the International Medical Interpreters Association (IMIA) in collaboration with the Association of Translators and Interpreters of Florida (ATIF). There are opportunities for ten sponsors for this inaugural event. Sponsorships are welcomed. For more information please go to: <http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/adminsymposium.asp>

**To register go to:**

<http://www.imiaweb.org/conferences/adminsympreg.asp>

**About the IMIA**

The IMIA is an umbrella association that promotes all standards and best practices in the field of medical interpreting. As an international trade association of medical interpreters, it represents over 2,000 practicing medical interpreters as the ultimate experts in medical interpreting. The IMIA is also the only national trade association of medical interpreters in the US, and is an official active member of FIT, the Federation of Interpreters and Translators, an international organization comprised of trade associations of interpreters and translators worldwide. It is a partner member of AILIA, the Languages Industry Association, headquartered in Canada. IMIA developed the first code of ethics, standards, annual conference, and certification for medical interpreters and continues to be a pioneer in the field with its work to develop the first Interpreter Educators Code of Ethics and National Education Registry. The organization's most current work involves developing accreditation standards for medical interpreter training programs. ([www.imiaweb.org](http://www.imiaweb.org))