# Interpreter Services

What you need to know

#### Who needs interpreter services?

 Patients, family members, or companions that cannot read, speak, write or comprehend English.

 Patients, family members, or companions that are hard of hearing or visually impaired.

Anyone who requests an interpreter.

Always ask the question:

"Do you need an interpreter for any reason?"

# What is our responsibility?

Determine upon first encounter with patient if they are limited English proficient, hard of hearing, or visually impaired; and their preferred method of communication. Once this is obtained, it should be

documented in the medical record. If you don't document it, it wasn't done!

# Admission Assessment

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#### Federal & State law

By law, an interpreter must be available within 10 minutes to patients in the ED and within 20 minutes to all other patients within the inpatient and outpatient setting.

# How do we communicate and document when a patient needs interpreter services?

# In an Emergency

In an urgent situation where the patient's medical condition might be compromised by waiting for an interpreter to arrive and where use of a telephonic interpreter service is not possible or practical, staff should render any necessary and appropriate medical treatment and use their best efforts to provide the most effective communication possible until the services of a SJHHC approved interpreter can be accessed.



The Cyracom phone is a way to contact an interpreter via telephone and can be found on your unit.

 You must document the language and Interpreter ID in the chart.



#### (American Sign Language(ASL) Rover

The rover is for the hard of hearing who use ASL to communicate.

The Rover can be found in the ED or administrative coordinator's office.

You must document interpreter ID in chart!



#### Face to Face

Face to face interpreters available at: Multicultural Association Medical Interpreters (MAMI)

Spanish Action League (Spanish Only)

Designated and certified bilingual staff.

(phone numbers can be found in interpreter services policy)

#### Face to Face

 Face to face interpreters for hard of hearing can be contacted by calling Aurora of CNY or Empire Interpreting Service.

This phone number can also be found in interpreter policy.

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#### Put the word "interpreter" in search box.

#### Can a family member interpret?

Family/friends should not be used as an interpreter. If patient refuses interpreter services and requests family to interpret, you must document in the medical record:

- Relationship and name of interpreter.
- The language of the interpreter.
- That patient refused free interpreter services.
   (No interpreter under 16 unless explicitly requested by patient!)

# Can hospital staff interpret?

• Staff are able to interpret only if they have been certified in medical terminology and in the language in which they want to interpret.

(Certified by hospital's contracted interpreter service)

#### Written Materials: Forms

 Translated consent forms can be found under "online forms" then click "translated forms."

 "Translated" consent form must be signed and placed in chart with English version attached to it.

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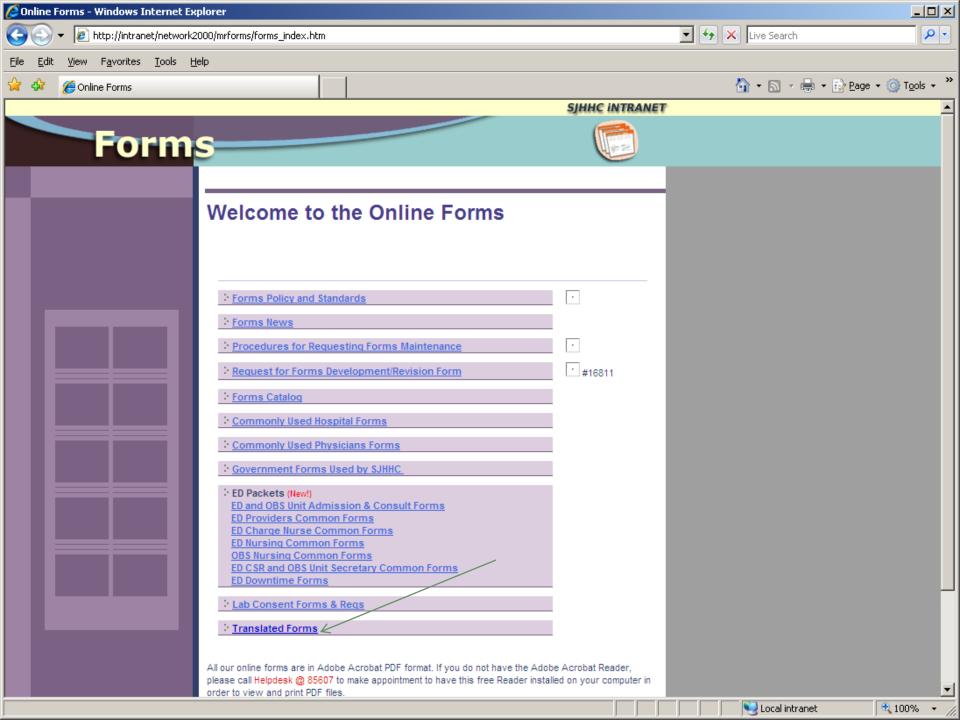
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## Written Materials: Patient Ed.

 Can be found on intranet under "patient education information" then click "materials for patients with limited English proficiency."

 Must be printed in English and language patient reads in, then document this in medical record.

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General Health Information		

- Internet Consumer/Patient Information Resources
- Materials for patients with Limited English Proficiency
- Educational TV for Patients
- Resources for developing patient education materials

#### Give us your feedback: tell us how we are doing!



Documentation (Care Manager)

You must document method of communication EVERY time you speak with the patient/caregiver/family or companion about care, or medical information.

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# Documentation ("physician Progress notes")

 If you normally document your assessment, care, discussion with a patient/caregiver/family or companion about care, or treatment in the "physician progress notes"; the information on the following slide is required EVERY time you use interpreter services.

 You can print a progress note containing this framework.

Progress Notes – Interpreter Servi	ces Documentation
Service used:      Cyracom Phone	American Sign Language (ASL) Rover
□ Face to Face –	
□ Family – Relationship to patient	
Reason family used	
Language:Interp	reter ID# (when applicable)
	////
Signature/Title	Date Time
The above information will be an in the usual line format following to c	

Form number 20038 in the online forms catalog or FOD

# "Quick Reference"

A quick reference for interpreter service phone numbers can be found in care manager under "online resources."

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Invasive Line	Phone Interptr #							
Neurological		FACE TO FACE						
Cardiovascular	Face-to-face:Who							
Respiratory	Relation to Pt							
Gastrointestinal	Hearing Impaired	Face-to-Face:Why						
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Infection Control	Safety							
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Review/Handoff	Risk to Fal							
D/C Plan	MORSE SCALE (QD)							
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	Secondary Dx	15=						
	Ambulatory aid	15=crutches/cane/wa						

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CDC Disease Specific Isolations	3 2
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# Test Yourself

- 1. St. Joseph's is required to provide interpreter service, free of charge, to any patient or primary care giver who needs it?
  - a.True
  - b. False
- 2. On a med-surg unit once it is determined that interpreter service is needed for communication, it must be provided within:
  - a. 5 minutes
  - b. 10 minutes
  - c. 15 minutes
  - d. 20 minutes

## Test Yourself

- 3. The RN taking care of a patient who has been identified as Hard of Hearing/Deaf will communicate using:
  - a. Cyracom Interpreter Phone
  - b. ROVER Interpreter Service
- 4. When documenting communication with LEP or the hard of hearing/deaf patient or primary care giver , you must document:
  - a. Source of Interpreter, full name or ID number if cyracom used
  - b. Refusal to utilize the free interpreter services
  - c. Patient's desire to utilize family/friends for interpreter
  - d. Patient's desire for a face-to-face interpreter
  - e. All of the Above

## Test Yourself

- 5. If patient does not wish to utilize the interpreter services provided by SJHHC, what items need to be documented in the chart?
  - a. Individual's relationship to patient
  - b. Interpreter's name
  - c. Language interpreting
  - d. Reason why they are not utilizing an SJHHC interpreter
  - e. All of the Above
- 6. Further information on Interpreter Services may be found in SJHHC Network Policy and Procedures on the hospital intranet under Interpreter Services?
  - a.True
  - b. False

#### Answers:

- 1.True
- 2.D
- 3.B
- 4.E
- 5.E
- 6.A

# <u>Click Here to Complete</u>