

MEDICAL CENTER

Medical Interpreting Services

Medical Interpreting Services Department

Newsletter

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International Day of Sign Languages - September 23d

Source: https://www.un.org/en/observances/sign-languages-day

We Sign for Human Rights

The International Day of Sign Languages is an unique opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all deaf people and other sign language users. The 2021 theme, declared by the World Federation of the Deaf, is "We Sign For Human Rights," highlighting how each of us – deaf and hearing people around the world – can work together hand in hand to promote the recognition of our right to use sign languages in all areas of life.

According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are more than 70 million deaf people worldwide. More than 80% of them live in developing countries. Collectively, they use more than 300 different sign languages.

Sign languages are fully fledged natural languages, structurally distinct from the spoken languages. There is also an international sign language, which is used by deaf people in international meetings and informally when travelling and socializing. It is considered a pidgin form of sign language that is not as complex as natural sign languages and has a limited lexicon.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with

Disabilities recognizes and promotes the use of sign

languages. It makes clear that sign languages are equal in status to spoken languages and obligates states parties to facilitate the learning of sign language and promote the linguistic identity of the deaf community.

The UN General Assembly has proclaimed 23
September as the International Day of Sign
Languages in order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf.

The <u>resolution</u> establishing the day acknowledges that early access to sign language and services in sign language, including quality education available in sign language, is vital to the growth and development of the deaf individual and critical to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals. It



recognizes the importance of preserving sign languages as part of linguistic and cultural diversity. It also emphasizes the principle of "nothing about us without us" in terms of working with deaf

The proposal for the Day came from the <u>World Federation of the Deaf</u> (WFD), a federation of 135 national associations of deaf people, representing approximately 70 million deaf people's human rights worldwide. The resolution <u>A/RES/72/161</u> was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations, co-sponsored by 97 United Nations Member States and adopted by consensus on 19 December 2017.

The choice of 23 September commemorates the date that the WFD was established in 1951. This day marks the birth of an advocacy organisation, which has as one of its main goals, the preservation of sign languages and deaf culture as pre-requisites to the realisation of the human rights of deaf people.

The International Day of Sign Languages was first celebrated in 2018 as part of the <u>International Week</u> of the Deaf.

The International Week of the Deaf was first celebrated in September 1958 and has since evolved into a global movement of deaf unity and concerted advocacy to raise awareness of the issues deaf people face in their everyday lives.





September 2022 Calendar

National Hispanic Heritage Month National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

- 5 Labor Day (US)
- 7 Grateful Patient Day (US)
- 8 Nativity of Virgin Mary (Chrsitian)
- 11 Grandparents Day (International)
- 19-25 International Week of the Deaf
- 21 World Alzheimenr's Day
- 23 Fall Equinox (Wiccan)
- 23 International Day of Sign Languages
- 25-27 Rosh Hashanah (Judaism)
- 26 Navaratri Begins (Hindu)
- 29 World Heart Day
- 30 International Translator/Interpreter Day

Medical Interpreter Resources: Medical Glossaries

CCHI's Mini-Glossaries for Interpreters:

We, interpreters, love words and, yet, never seem to have enough time for an in-depth research. Wouldn't it be great if right before an appointment we can grab a brief, reliable, user-friendly bilingual glossary that has words, terms and phrases most frequently used by providers and patients at that type of an appointment?!

This is how the idea of medical mini-glossaries was born. Our volunteer Lois Feuerle and the two Commissioners, Virginia Perez-Santalla and Karin Ruschke, spearheaded this project. Yet, it's up to interpreters like you to create the English mini-glossaries and translate them into as many languages as possible.

During the first phase of the project, the CCHI Mini-Glossaries will consist of 50-101 words and terms. They'll be organized thematically around an appointment type, in a logical sequence rather than alphabetically.

We do need your help to make this project thrive! Please send us (to solutions@cchicertification.org) your suggestions about:

- translating the existing mini-glossaries into your language (attachments are accepted; let us know what font you use),
- adding new terms to the existing mini-glossaries (remember, the maximum is 101),
- better translation or another translation of any term listed in any existing mini-glossary,
- which appointment-type we should create a glossary for, etc.

We are also looking for volunteers of different languages to form language-specific Terminology Committees for this project. If you are interested, please contact us at solutions@cchicertification.org.

The following glossaries are available: Cardiovascular System; ENT-Ear; Respiratory System; Insurance Terms; Gallbladder; General Consent; MRI Intake Forms.

Follow the link: https://cchicertification.org/cchi-mini-glossaries/

Glossaries in English:

53 Medical Glossaries:

https://inboxtranslation.com/resources/glossaries/medical/

Medical, Legal, Education, etc.

https://www.vcinm.org/students-and-graduates/training-materials/vocabulary/various/

National Council on Interpreting in Healthcare:

https://www.ncihc.org/assets/documents/NCIHC%20Terms%20Final080408.pdf

Community Interpreters Glossaries, Tools:

https://www.thecommunityinterpreter.com/glossaries-tools

The IMIA Terminology Resource Database:

https://www.imiaweb.org/medical-resources/default.asp

The Cross Cultural Health Care Program https://xculture.org/tag/medical-glossary/

Medical Terminology for Interpreters

https://www.mylanguageconnection.com/medical-terminology-for-interpreters/



