

# Language Access Interpreter Services

Boot Camp for New Managers

Presented by: Allana Carlyle, Manager Shared Health Language Access



# Evidence demonstrates that language barriers lead to poor health outcomes

#### Language barriers:

- Decrease patient safety
- Decrease access to care/preventive services
- Lead to misdiagnosis/medical errors
- Increase number of tests/visits
- Negatively impact health and health outcomes due to misunderstandings
- Result in critical incidents
- Decrease patient and provider satisfaction
- Increase healthcare costs



If you can't communicate with your patient, your patient is not safe!



# Trained, Professional Interpreter Services Support Service Excellence

#### **Client-Centered Care**

- Enable providers to build relationships with patients/clients
- Help protect confidentiality & privacy
- Increasing understanding & satisfaction of all parties
- Support accessible communication, access to care

#### Quality and Safety

- Help ensure informed consent
- Assist providers in meeting professional and legal obligations (e.g. informed consent)
- Enhance patient safety
- Improve quality of care
- Support equity
- Support accessibility

#### Sustainability

- Enhance appropriate utilization of services
- Support provider, patient/client and family engagement
- Reduce health care costs associated with language barriers



## Shared Health Language Access Service Excellence Model

Centralized contact **24/7** for all language constituencies

(Including Immigrant/Refugee languages; Indigenous languages; Official languages; ASL)

204-788-8585

Professionally Trained Interpreters

Language Access
Code of Ethics & Standards of
Practice for Interpreters

Interpreter Services Policy

Services available in all Manitoba health regions, government departments (e.g. MB Justice, MB Families) and external organizations



## Language Access Team



- 90+ Language Access Interpreters (casual employees)
- 34 languages (subject to change)
  - Amharic, Arabic, Blin, Bosnian, Burmese, Cantonese, Croatian, Dari, Farsi (Persian), French, German (High), Hindi, Karen, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Korean, Kurdish-Kurmanji, Low German, Mandarin, Nepali, Oromo, Polish, Punjabi, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tigrinya, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese





Face-to-Face Interpretation



Message Relay, Reminder Call



**Conference Call** 



Video Conference



**Sight Translation** 



# Quality Indicator: Interpreter Recruitment & Training

- 1. Paper Screen & Telephone Screen
- 2. Language/Skills Testing (ILSAT/CILISAT)
- 3. Personal Interview
- 4. Interpreter Training
  - 72-hrs, intense, skill-based
  - Intro to medical terminology
  - Final written & audio evaluation
- 5. Ongoing Professional Development & Performance Monitoring





## Over-the-Phone Interpreter Services

In addition to the services provided by Language Access staff interpreters, Language Access contracts with external provider, *MCIS Language Solutions*, for the provision of on-demand, **over-the-phone interpretation in 200 languages**.







### Provincial Scope of Interpreter Services

















Face-to-Face Interpretation



#### Remote Interpretation

- Conference Call
- Video Conference
- Over-the-Phone (external vendor)



# Language Access Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice for Interpreters

- 1. Accuracy and Fidelity
- 2. Confidentiality
- 3. Impartiality
- 4. Respect
- 5. Cultural Responsiveness
- 6. Role Boundaries
- 7. Accountability
- 8. Professionalism
- 9. Professional Development



# Professionally Trained Interpreters Follow Evidence-Based Best Practice

#### **Accuracy & Fidelity**

- Interpret all messages without additions/omissions/ changes
- Do not add cultural information or explanations

#### **Impartiality**

- Do not advocate or advise either party
- Do not give their opinion
- Do not engage in sideconversations

# Confidentiality & Role Boundaries

- Keep all information seen/heard confidential
- Do not provide written translations
- Do not fill out forms, escort, etc.



# Interpreter Services Policies

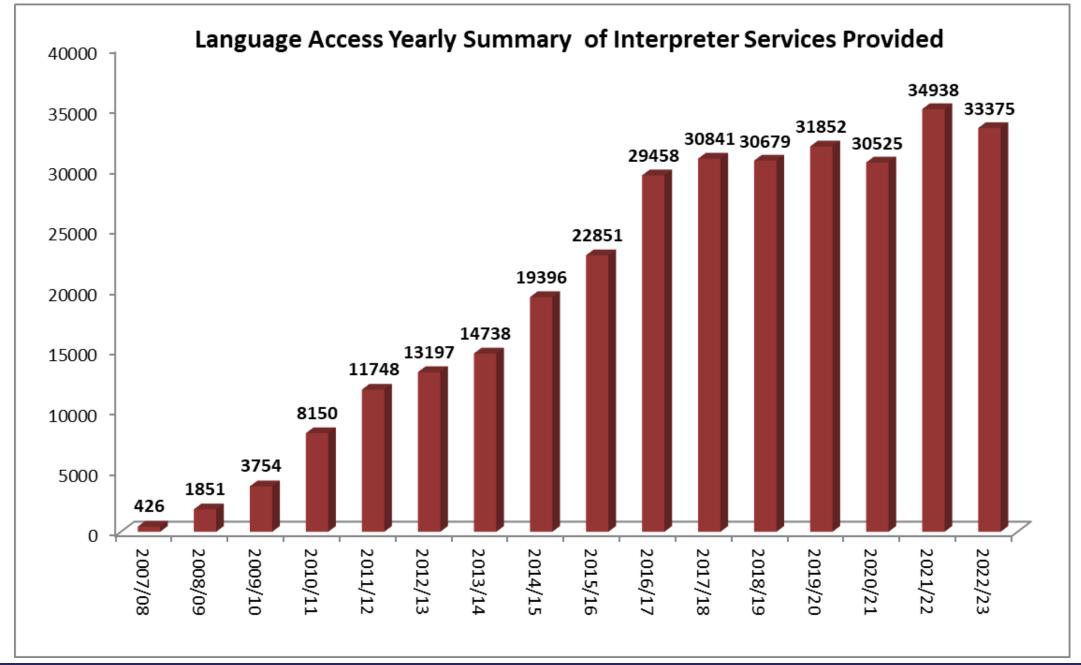
Each health service delivery organization in Manitoba has an Interpreter Services policy for their region.

- When To Request Interpreter
- History taking, examination, assessment, intake
- Diagnosis, prognosis, treatment plan, care plan
- Patient/family conference / education
- Mental health issues and concerns
- Treatment, procedure, or investigation
- Informed consent
- Medication instructions; potential side effects
- Discharge plan
- Use of seclusion, restraints
- End-of-life issues / decisions

Ad Hoc Interpreters shall not be asked to interpret for situations described in previous item except when Shared Health Interpreter not available within reasonable time frame either in person, over the phone or via Telehealth.

Policy

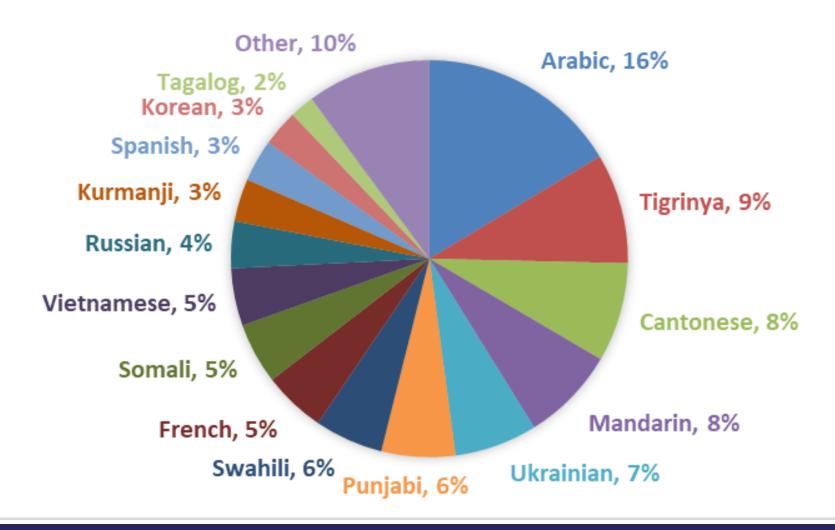






#### INTERPRETER SERVICES BY LANGUAGE

FACE-TO-FACE AND REMOTE INTERPRETATION APRIL 1, 2022 - MARCH 31, 2023





# Tips for Working Effectively with Professional Interpreters

- Introduce yourself and allow interpreter time to perform their introduction
- Speak directly to the Limited/Non-English Speaking Person, make eye contact
- Avoid directing questions to interpreter
- Speak clearly/slowly
- Use 1-2 short sentences; pause frequently to allow for 1<sup>st</sup> person, consecutive interpretation
- Allow interpreter to intervene for clarification as required
- Be aware interpreters will take notes to aid their memory
- Remember everything said will be interpreted, including side conversations
- Avoid:
  - technical terms/jargon when possible
  - slang/idiomatic expressions
  - jokes



# How do I Request a Language Access Interpreter?

Phone 204-788-8585 (24/7/365)

or

Fax Interpreter Request Form to 204-940-8650 (Mon-Fri, 0800-1600)

Interpreter Request Form available online at <a href="https://sharedhealthmb.ca/patient-care/language-access/">https://sharedhealthmb.ca/patient-care/language-access/</a>



#### For more information:

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https://sharedhealthmb.ca/patient-care/language-access/



