

MedEdPORTAL® Call for Submissions: Language Appropriate-Health Care and Medical Language Education

MedEdPORTAL is an open-access journal of teaching and learning resources in the health professions published by the Association of American Medical Colleges. *MedEdPORTAL* actively encourages educators across the health professions to submit generalizable educational materials with a focus on language-appropriate health care and medical language education.

Language is the principal tool that clinicians use in providing health care. Furthermore, the language identities and linguistic practices of patients, clinicians, and communities are complex and may intersect with other marginalized characteristics such as race, ethnicity, culture, nationality, ancestry, and immigration story, among others. Populations with non-English language preferences (NELP) are more likely to experience health inequities, such as worse clinical outcomes and less satisfaction with care, compared to English-speaking patients. Additionally, the standard use of language in health care communication may be ineffective for patients with sensory or cognitive impairments. Despite known benefits, there is a paucity of existing curricula that teach students and practitioners how to provide equitable patient-centered language-appropriate care.

The [Language-Appropriate Health Care and Medical Language Education Collection](#) within *MedEdPORTAL* intends to provide educators with practice-based, peer-reviewed resources to teach:

- (1) language-concordant clinical and communication skills relevant to specific populations with NELP (e.g., medical Spanish, medical Korean, or other focused medical language educational interventions)
- (2) clinical strategies to effectively communicate with patients who have conditions affecting sensory or cognitive function (e.g., deafness, visual impairment, aphasia, autism), and
- (3) knowledge and clinical skills needed to access and collaborate with medical interpreters and other health care team members (e.g., patient navigators, community health workers, etc.) who can enhance language-appropriate care.

The collection also seeks to elevate the educational scholarship and convene a community of collaborators dedicated to improving medical education curricula about language-appropriate health care. To specifically support developers of and educators in language-appropriate health care and medical language education curricula, we offer individualized mentorship for potential authors.

All submissions in these topics that successfully pass the peer review process will be published in *MedEdPORTAL*, prominently highlighted in a featured collection, and searchable via PubMed and MEDLINE.

General submission instructions are available at www.mededportal.org/author. Additional guidance specific to language-appropriate health care and medical language education is available at www.mededportal.org/authorcenter.

The call for submissions is driven by the *MedEdPORTAL* Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Collection under the guidance of Collection Editors Dr. Pilar Ortega, MD, MGM and Dr. Débora H. Silva MD, FAAP, M.Ed.