

I have been fortunate to have highly skilled interpreters for medical situations, making appointments and surgeries smoother for doctors while consuming less time than otherwise. I found out 5 months after the fact that a non certified interpreter made a mistake that cost me 5 months delay getting the medical care I needed. We cannot know for sure when we are not being understood. Skilled interpreters ask for clarification to ensure correct information is being transferred. With medical interpreting, it's our lives that are on the line. It is important that medical interpreters have training necessary to access communication for Deaf and hard of hearing people and are registered with the health care registry operated by Oregon Health Authority.