



## Advanced Series For Medical Interpreters: STDs & HIV-AIDS

### About the Training Workshop

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), once known as venereal diseases, are among the most prevalent infectious diseases in the United States. According to the National Institutes of Health and Allergy and Infectious Diseases, more than 20 different kinds of STDs have been identified, which affect over 13 million people in this country every year. There is an increasing demand for bilingual and bicultural medical interpreters for the treatment and prevention of STDs and HIV-AIDS in a wide range of health care settings involving refugee and immigrant populations.

### Advanced Series: Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV-AIDS

This 2.5-hour workshop provides an overview of basic knowledge that a medical interpreter will need in clinical encounters related to the treatment and prevention of STDs and HIV-AIDS. The basic objectives of the workshop are to prepare the interpreter for the following:

- Understanding of many different types of STDs including HIV-AIDS
- Organs affected by the diseases and related symptoms
- Knowledge of the complications that may arise, as well as treatment and prevention
- Competency in medical terminology specific to STDs and HIV-AIDS
- Practice through roleplays with glossaries and simulations of real life situations that may arise

### Our Lead Trainer is Mary Gwynn, Health Educator from Health Care of South Eastern Massachusetts

Ms. Gwynn has extensive experience as a trainer and health educator focusing on special issues related to the treatment and prevention of STDs and HIV-AIDS, and will address the following specific topics and issues during the workshop:

- The seriousness of sexually transmitted infections, their prevalence among Massachusetts communities and implications for public health
- Common myths and stereotypes which are perpetuated about STDs and HIV-AIDS
- The need that exists for specialized training for medical interpreters in clinical encounters related to the treatment and prevention of STDs and HIV-AIDS
- Overview of organs affected by the wide range of diseases and related medical terminology
- Risk factors and strategies for prevention
- Ethical dilemmas that come up for interpreters and issues of confidentiality
- The centrality of culture and cross-cultural issues when treating STDs and HIV-AIDS
- The roles of the parent/guardian or family members, the provider, and the interpreter in handling the dynamics of the encounter
- Issues of gender, age, race/ethnicity and culture

**Entrance Criteria:** Experienced interpreters who have completed a medical interpreter training program, and who have at least one year of experience as medical interpreters; Coordinators of Interpreter Services.

**\*\*A Certificate of Completion will be awarded to all participants.**

Training programs are sponsored by the Office of Community Program's Cross Cultural Initiatives and MassHealth Services through collaboration between the MassHealth Access Program and the University of Massachusetts Medical School's Commonwealth Medicine.