

You have the right to receive medical services in _____.

It's okay if you would rather speak to your medical professional in your primary language, _____.

You have the right to receive medical services in a language you understand.

All New York State hospitals MUST provide you with an interpreter.

A HOSPITAL MUST:

- Assist you in your language.
- Offer you a free interpreter, when you prefer to speak in a language other than English to communicate about medical matters.
- Identify the language of preference and language needs of each patient upon initial visit to the hospital.
- NOT ask you to bring your own interpreter with you to your appointment, without first providing you with the opportunity for a free interpreter provided by the hospital, which you refused.
- NOT ask a family member or person in the waiting room to be your interpreter.
- NOT ask you to sign papers that you could not understand because the papers were not translated into your language.
- NOT provide you with an interpreter who does not speak your language well enough to discuss medical matters.

Hospitals are NOT permitted to discriminate based on language, race, or immigration status.

Hospitals DO NOT share information with immigration agents.



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