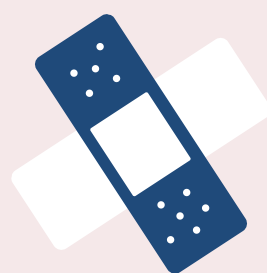


# IMPACTS OF LANGUAGE BARRIERS IN HEALTHCARE



## 1 HEALTH DISPARITIES

Language barriers = Unequal treatment + unequal access to healthcare + unequal health outcomes

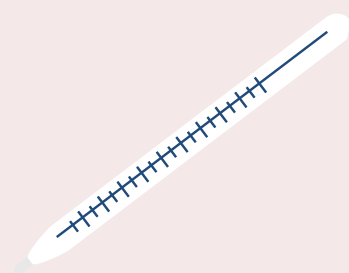
## 2 MISCOMMUNICATION

Miscommunication between physician and patient may lead to wrong diagnosis and medications, poor patient assessment, or incomplete prescribed treatment.



## 3 QUALITY OF CARE

Patients faced with a barrier when accessing healthcare may lead to not seeking healthcare services if not readily available for fear of not understanding their healthcare provider.



## 4 SATISFACTION

Patients with limited local language proficiency are likely to miss medical appointments and have difficulties arranging appointments due to language barriers.



## 5 COST

Healthcare institutions use interpreter services that increase the cost and length of treatment visits.

## POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR LANGUAGE BARRIERS

### 1 ONLINE TRANSLATION TOOLS

Ex: Google Translate or MediBabble



### 2 INTERPRETER SERVICES

Ex: Professional interpreter, trusted friend, or family member

### 3 PRINTED INFORMATION IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

Written medical information may be easier to understand than oral communication.

