

The Role of the SP in a Spanish Bilingual Medical Student Certification

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Objectives

- Describe the development of the Spanish Bilingual Medical Student Certification at SSOM and the components of the program
- Explain the challenges of recruiting, training and evaluating Spanish speaking SPs
- Examine the results of the program
- Explore future considerations



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WHY SPANISH?

**12% of US
population are
primarily Spanish-
speaking (1)**

**Language
concordance
improves health
outcomes (2)**

**Medical students
learn Spanish**

**Inappropriate use
of Spanish
perpetuates
increased health
risks (3)**



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**Clinician Cultural
and Linguistic
Assessment (4)**



**Qualified Bilingual
Staff Assessment (5)**

Spanish Bilingual Medical Student Certification

**Objective
Structured Clinical
Exam (6)**



RECRUITING CHALLENGES

- Lack of diversity amongst pool of SPs
- Only one Spanish speaking SP who fit the case profile (premenopausal female)
- Unsure of exactly how many SPs were needed until less than 2 weeks before the first certification OSCE



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TRAINING CHALLENGES

- Cases are written in English
- Clinical Skills staff does not speak Spanish
- Limited Spanish-speaking faculty resources
- Could check for accuracy in portrayal of tone, affect, and information given in English, but could not be sure that Spanish was correct



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TRAINING (con't)

- A list of common medical vocabulary used in the case was made and translated into Spanish
- SPs worked together to standardize terminology.



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QUALITY CONTROL CHALLENGES

- Encounters were watched live to control for pain/affect portrayal. Could not be sure that information given was accurate.
- Feedback was in English, but focused only on communication and interpersonal skills, not content.
- Initial budget concerns did not allow for an extra SP.



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QUALITY CONTROL

Computer documentation and clinical reasoning were done in English. Analysis of this data suggested that students were given accurate information by SP. It also confirmed the students' ability to translate information given in Spanish into English.



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OSCE RESULTS

To pass the OSCE, students needed to achieve a score of 70% or higher on each of the three components, the SP H&P checklist, the SP Patient Perception Scale, and the computer documentation and reasoning.

17 students
have taken the
Certification
OSCE

14 students
have passed the
OSCE with an
overall mean
score of 83.24%

3 students
failed the
OSCE. 2 of the
students failed
the SP H&P
checklist, one
failed the
computer
component.



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QBS score: HP = High Pass, Pass Level 2. P = Pass, Pass Level 1

† Percentage of Objective Scoring Units that the applicant correctly communicated

‡ Average of section scores

Student	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
QBS score*	HP	HP	HP	P	HP	P	HP	P	HP	HP
CCLA score(%)†	89	89	86	82	82	82	90	84	84	80
OSCE score(%)‡	84.94	90.87	86.82	85.24	86.17	83.31	89.28	91.45	81.41	87.93
Self Described Fluent	X	X	X	X						
Self Described Native Speaker	X				X					

*QBS score: HP = High Pass, Pass Level 2. P = Pass, Pass Level 1

† Percentage of Objective Scoring Units that the applicant correctly communicated

‡ Average of section scores



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CERTIFIED

Estudiante Certificado como Hispanohablante

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY STRITCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Soy un(a) estudiante de medicina certificado/a como bilingüe en Español por SSOM. Por lo tanto, soy competente culturalmente e lingüísticamente para:

- hacer los deberes de un(a) estudiante de medicina en Español sin ayuda de un(a) intérprete.
- facilitar comunicación entre el equipo de asistencia médica y los pacientes que hablan Español.

HABLO ESPAÑOL



Spanish Bilingual Medical Student Certification

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY STRITCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

I have successfully completed the SSOM Spanish Bilingual Medical Student Certification. As a certified student, I am:

- culturally and linguistically competent to complete the duties of a medical student in Spanish without the assistance of an interpreter.
- able to facilitate communication between the health-care team and Spanish-speaking patients.

HABLO ESPAÑOL

**Priority Placement
at Spanish Sites**

ID Tag

Transcript Notation



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STUDENT FEEDBACK

“I think that the certification is a great idea since it gave me more confidence in my Spanish-speaking capabilities, provided useful feedback in methods to improve my Spanish, and will allow me to convey to residencies that I can use Spanish in the clinical setting.”

“I also think it is helpful to define what level of Spanish a student is so that other physicians can trust the interpreting job the student is doing for the safety of the patient.”

“I really appreciated the feedback regarding more cultural approaches to Spanish-speaking patients.”



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FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- SPs will be hired to evaluate videos of those students who did not pass the OSCE to ensure SP reliability
- Students will have an opportunity to see the clinical expectations of the computer component once they have completed their OSCE
- Translate cases into Spanish
- Provide a faculty resource to answer SP or student questions
- Provide certification opportunity for residents and attending physicians
- ADOPT CERTIFICATION ON A NATIONAL LEVEL!



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QUESTIONS?



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