

## Resource Review

*The Languages of Limited Diffusion Work Group, part of the Home for Trainers project of the STC has been working on finding resources and ways to share those resources. To view the database go to <http://www.ncihc.org/languages-of-limited-diffusion>. The LLD Work Group will also present a review of one resource through the ListServ about once every three months. We know that not all of the ListServ readers will be interested in every resource, so please don't respond; just, delete the information that doesn't interest you. If you have resources you would like to add to the database, and/or if you would like review a resource, please contact us at [lld@ncihc.org](mailto:lld@ncihc.org).*

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|---------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>Title:</u></b>            | MedlinePlus [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US)                          |
| <b><u>Type of Resource:</u></b> | Web site: <a href="http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/">http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/</a> . |
| <b><u>Last accessed:</u></b>    | Updated June 28, 2013; cites June 28, 2013  |
| <b><u>Reviewer:</u></b>         | Esther Diaz <a href="mailto:mediaz@austin.rr.com">mediaz@austin.rr.com</a>                        |
| <b><u>Language:</u></b>         | English and Spanish   |

I have found MedlinePlus extremely useful for training interpreters of all languages. The interactive tutorials (found under "Videos and Cool Tools") are my favorites. These are available in English and Spanish. The English version is particularly useful for interpreters of languages of limited diffusion because the content is presented in audio and visual format. Each slide includes a written script that helps students understand the spoken script, and the audio script helps them learn how to pronounce medical terms in English. The anatomical illustrations are very simple and clearly labeled. In addition, a printed summary of each tutorial can be downloaded. Students can label the anatomical charts in their language and can prepare short glossaries in English and their language from the summary text. I encourage students to find out the reason for consultation (e.g., diabetes, heart disease, respiratory problems) when they are scheduled for an interpreting assignment and look up the tutorial for that particular condition to prepare in advance. The tutorials can also be used for self-training in medical terminology. Students can watch one tutorial per day (20 minutes), download the summary and prepare a short glossary. In this way, they can slowly build their medical vocabulary.

In addition to the tutorials, MedlinePlus has articles on health topics in multiple languages (bottom of home page, "Multiple Languages"). These include languages of limited diffusion; although some have fewer articles than other languages. I use these materials for sight translation practice and glossary preparation. I give the students a document in English to sight translate into their language. Then, after they have struggled to find the right words, I show them the document in their language and ask whether they like their terms or the ones that appear in the prepared document better. At the end of practice, they can prepare a glossary of terms from that text.

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There are many other features on this website. If you use MedlinePlus for training in another way, please share your experience. We welcome your contribution.