

Role of the Interpreter

Conduit

- Interpreter's primary role
- Interprets from one language to another
- No omissions, additions, subtractions, or other changes/alterations
- 1st person language
- Reflects tone, volume, & inflection of the speaker

Clarifier

- Checks for & promotes understanding
 - Lowering the complexity of speech
 - Intervenes when necessary
- Asks speaker to clarify
 - Requests permission to intervene (signal)
 - Does not clarify on their own
- Establishes a pace

Cultural Broker

- Objective & nonjudgmental
- Explains cultural-specific issues, attitudes, home-remedies, or other concepts to promote understanding
- Bridge between family & provider
- Educates provider before and during a session/meeting

Considerations

Cultural Considerations

- Attire
- Concept of time
- Manner of communication
- Body language, eye contact, gestures
- Religion
- Rituals
- Home remedies
- Family dynamics

Family Considerations

- Family's right to understand
- Selecting a qualified interpreter:
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Social/Ethnic issues
 - Dialects
 - Family/Social ties
- Confidentiality