



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters Welcomes New Board Directors

Boston - September, 2014 - The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters is proud to introduce three new board directors who will be serving the 2014-2016 term.

Christopher Dimmick holds a degree in Spanish Translation and Interpretation and has trained over 3,000 interpreters across the nation, who work in more than 40 languages. *"Patients' health and lives depend upon medical interpreters. The National Board for Certification of Medical Interpreters inspires me as it takes our profession to new heights by ensuring quality and accuracy through testing and certification."*

"It is really exciting to be part of such an essential project. This is an aspect of healthcare that gets overlooked and shining a light on it through training and certification is vital," stated Kelly Hoover-Navarro who will be heading the National Board's Development Committee. Kelly joins us from Brooklyn, NY where she is an interpreter trainer and educator. She is enthusiastic about educating healthcare workers on working with Limited English Proficient patients.

"Improving access to high-quality medical interpreters is not only a critical feature of proper, safe, and effective health care – it is also a matter of social justice. Working with the NBCMI is a way to advance all of these agendas," stated Michael Paasche-Orlow, Associate Professor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine. Dr. Paasche-Orlow is a general internist and nationally recognized expert in the field of health literacy.

"The National Board continues to pioneer rigorous certification for medical interpreters of all languages, streamlining the certification process in a rapidly developing field," says Chair of the Board, Samuel Pino. The National Board will be present at a national event in Little Rock, Arkansas in October to further promote certification.

About the National Board

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters, a special division of the International Medical Interpreters Association, is a non-profit organization, formed from an independent group of industry professionals who represent all key stakeholder groups, including professional medical interpreters, trainers, employers, providers, and regulators. The National Board developed the first and most comprehensive national medical interpreting certification program to date. It serves as the certifying entity and has independent authority over all essential certification decisions. The purpose of certification is to ensure limited English proficiency patient safety by rigorous evaluation and assurance of the competency of medical interpreters, through written and oral exams. Those who pass the written and oral exams are bestowed the CMI credential which stands for Certified Medical Interpreter. The formation and structure of the National Board of Certification adheres to the standards and requirements for certification program governance. For more information and to learn more about our board directors, visit www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org.