“Can you ask her about chronic illnesses, diabetes, and all that...?”

Language Mediation and Patient Centered-Communication

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Outline of the talk

- Medical communication and patient centredness
- Existing paradigms in medical and medical cross-cultural communication research
- Brief review of medical interpreting research
- Inter-disciplinarity in medical interpreting
- Two examples of language mediation in medical cross-cultural communication: at micro and macro level
- Conclusions
- Implications
Medical interpreting research: a brief review

- Bolden, 2000
- Cambridge, 1999
- Corpas Pastor, 2005
- Gavioli and Baraldi, 2012
- Kaufert & Putsch, 1997
- Metzger, 1999
- Pöchhacker, 2000 (et. al)
- Prince, 1986
- Wadensjö, 1998

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Inter-disciplinarity in Medical Interpreted Communication

A set of lenses to look at a problem
Lens of Social Theory: the ICE at the level of institution and society

Interpreted Communicative Event

Lens of Linguistic Anthropology: the ICE at the level of discourse

Lens of Sociological Theories: the ICE at the level of interpersonal relation
The Medical Interpreter’s Agency

AFFECT - AGE - ETHNICITY - GENDER - NATIONALITY - POWER - RACE - SES - SOLIDARITY

SOCIETY

INSTITUTION

Interpreter

Interlocutor Language A

Interlocutor Language B


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Example 1: micro level (from Angelelli 2004 & 2011)

“Can you ask her about chronic illnesses, diabetes and all that...?”

Contextual information

Setting: California Hope (US public hospital); medical history phase
Participants:
1. Female patient: middle aged; Mexican origin; not feeling well, suffering from insomnia.
2. Female nurse: permanent staff at CH; works regularly with interpreters.
3. Male interpreter: permanent staff at CH; lived in US for 20 years; physician in Peru where he worked before coming to the US.
A Study on Public Service Translation in Cross-border Healthcare in the EU


Angelelli, 2015
Implications

- Implications for Cross-linguistic communication in healthcare settings and patient centerdness
- Implications for a Theory of Interpreting
- Implications for the Professional Organizations
- Implications for the Education and Certification of Interpreters
- Implications for the Education of Health-care providers
- Implications for Research in Medical Interpreting
Thank you!

Questions?

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