



## **Position Statement on Supporting Training in the Appropriate Use of Medical Interpreters**

**Approved by the Board of Regents on June 16, 2025**

- 1. The American College of Physicians (ACP) encourages voluntary training on the appropriate use of medical interpreters for all health care professionals involved in patient care.**
  - a. ACP urges medical education programs to offer training opportunities on medical interpreter utilization for medical students and residents.**
  - b. ACP urges health care facilities to provide voluntary medical interpreter use training for all employees, integrate interpreter training during initial onboarding processes, and eliminate barriers to medical interpreter training and utilization.**
- 2. ACP recommends that training on medical interpreter use should encompass:**
  - a. evidence of impact on patient outcomes and safety;**
  - b. cultural humility and health equity considerations;**
  - c. procedures for accessing in-person and virtual interpreters;**
  - d. strategies for effectively incorporating interpreters into patient encounters;**  
**and**
  - e. guidance on documentation and billing procedures.**
- 3. ACP urges relevant federal health agencies to develop, publish, and disseminate evidence-based resources on appropriate medical interpreter utilization.**
- 4. ACP supports continued research into training in the appropriate use of medical interpreters among health care professionals to identify the prevalence of such training, effective training methods and approaches, and barriers to training uptake.**
- 5. ACP reaffirms the critical importance of medical interpreters in healthcare settings as essential to promoting high-quality patient care and outcomes, clear comprehension of health communications, health equity, and the prevention of medical errors. ACP asserts that public and private payers must provide appropriate and adequate reimbursement for medical interpretation services, including sign language interpreters.**