

## Medical Translation for Medical Writers

### Medical Writing (MW) and Medical Translation (MT) have a lot in common:

- ✓ The content is very **valuable** and **important**. In some cases, **lives are at stake**.
- ✓ In **MW**, as in **MT**, errors can have **serious consequences**.
- ✓ Medical Writers and Medical Translators both work to **communicate health messages** to **different audiences**, ranging from specialists (e.g. oncologists, researchers) to the general public.
- ✓ Therefore, they have to handle **different registers** and **adapt** to their audience.

### What is medical translation?

- “**Translators** are **communication and language experts** who **read, comprehend and translate** written messages from one language to another.
- Translators usually **specialize** in and work with two languages, their mother tongue and any other chosen language.”<sup>1</sup>
- “Medical translation is translating various types of documents, such as **training materials for healthcare, medical device or pharmaceutical fields, marketing or clinical, regulatory, and technical documentation**.
- The translation of medical text is **very important for clinical trials** in order for patients, local clinicians and representatives of regulatory organizations to understand them. Likewise it is usual for regulatory approval submissions to be translated.”<sup>2</sup>

### How to find a good translator?

- If you're looking for evidence of a **translator's professionalism**, read [this article](#) to know the important things you should look for.
- **Professional Associations:** [ATA \(American Translators Association\)](#), [SFT \(Société Française des Traducteurs\)](#), [ITI \(Institute of Translation and Interpreting\)](#).
- **Personal Training:** a **Master's degree** in translation AND **continuous training in the field of expertise** (eg. oncology, cardiology)

*If you have further questions on Medical Translation, contact me directly at [aureliegobet@medpharmatranslator.com](mailto:aureliegobet@medpharmatranslator.com)*

I'd be happy to help!

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<sup>1</sup> <https://neuwoo.ca/neuwooPedia/en/translator/>. Accessed on March 28th 2019

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.daytranslations.com/blog/2017/12/medical-translation-tips-doctors-10280/>. Accessed on March 28th 2019