

Diagnosis:
medical translator

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Agenda



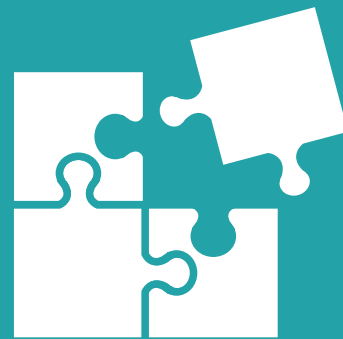
Symptoms

What does it take?



Profile

Who translates?



Challenges

What are some of the difficulties faced?



Tools & tips

How to overcome challenges



Prognosis

What does the future hold?



Recommendations

Words of wisdom

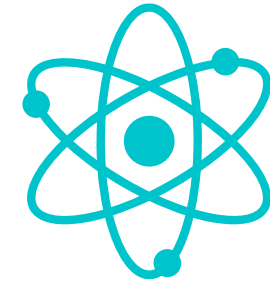


Symptoms

What does it take to be a medical translator?



excellent language skills



knowledge of life sciences



discipline and time management



sound subject knowledge

What does it take?

What skills are essential for a medical translator?



good command of the translation process



a logical mind



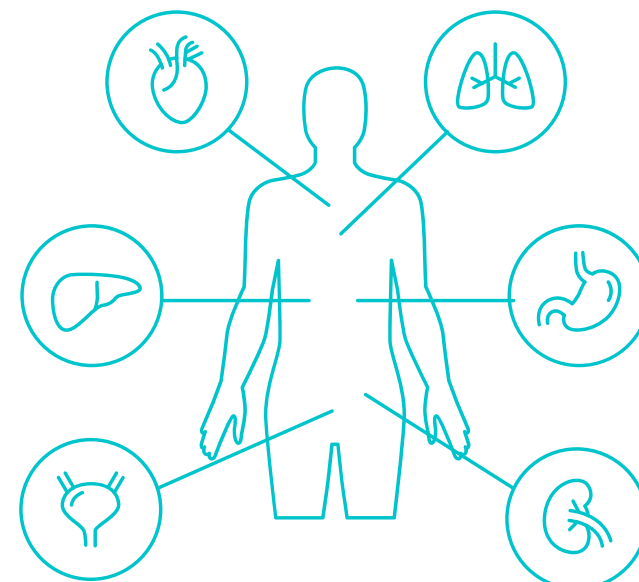
accuracy



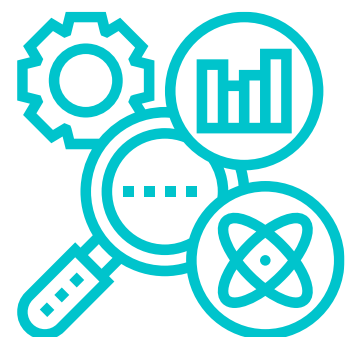
curiosity



business know-how



knowledge of human anatomy and physiology



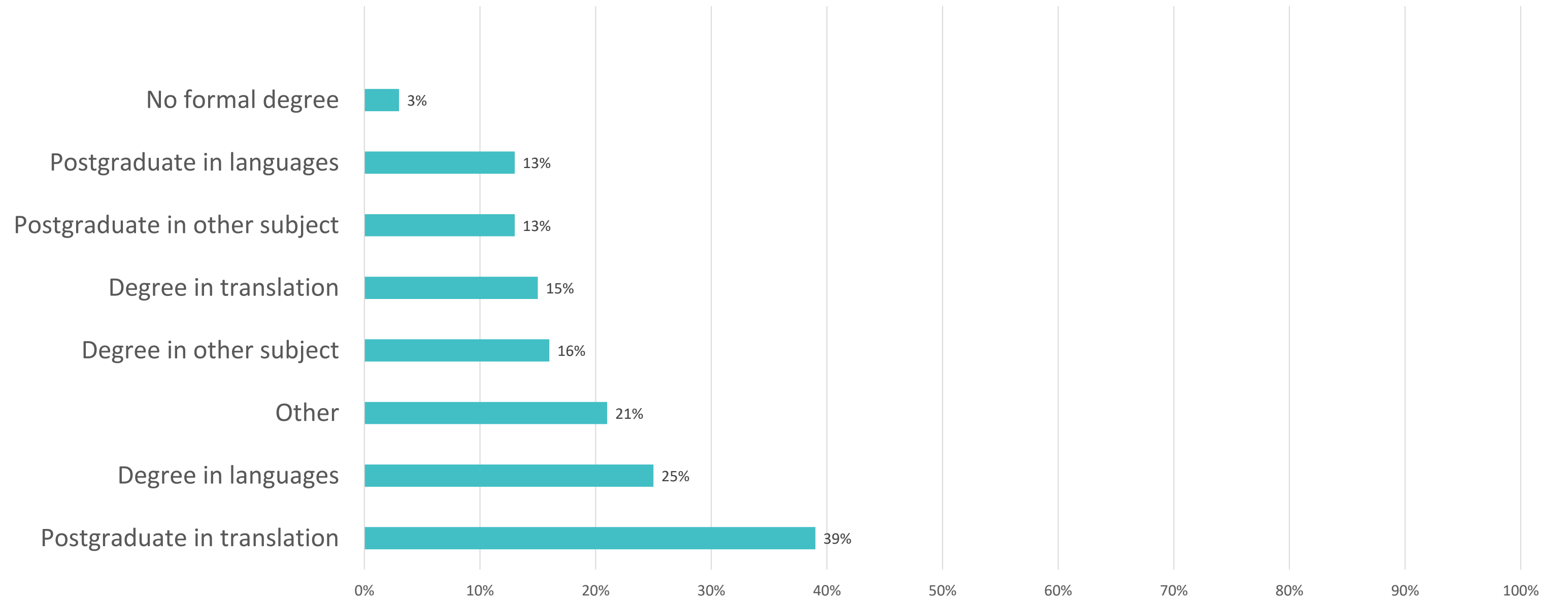
solid research skills



Profile

Who translates
medical content?

Background and education of medical translators



Source: <https://inboxtranslation.com/resources/research/freelance-translator-survey-2023/>

Emma Goldsmith

Spanish into English

- Registered General Nurse
- DipTrans (Chartered Institute of Linguists Diploma in Translation)
- Fellow of the Institute of Translation & Interpreting (ITI)
- Vice-chair of Mediterranean Editors & Translators
- Tremédica (International Association of Translators and Writers in Medicine and Life Sciences)
- ITI Medical & Pharmaceutical Network



emma.goldsmith23@gmail.com

Gabriella Buki

English into Hungarian

Hungarian into English

- MA in Translation (equivalent)
- MSc in Molecular Biology
- Member of the Institute of Translation & Interpreting (ITI)
- ITI Medical & Pharmaceutical Network
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIOL)



buki.gabriella@gmail.com

Pavla Dohnalová

English into Czech

Czech into English

- MA in Czech language and literature, history and pedagogy
- Diploma in Translation
- Member of the Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIOL)
- Member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI)
- ITI Medical & Pharmaceutical Network



pavla@pdczechtranslations.co.uk

Sarai Pahla

Japanese, German, Dutch into English

- Medical doctor (MBChB)
- Master's degree, Regulatory Affairs (medical devices)
- Machine Translation courses
- Natural Language Processing (NLP) courses
- Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society
- Member of Bundesverband der Dolmetscher und Übersetzer e. V. (BDÜ)
- Member of the European Society of Cardiology
- Member of Japan Association of Translators



saraip@gmail.com

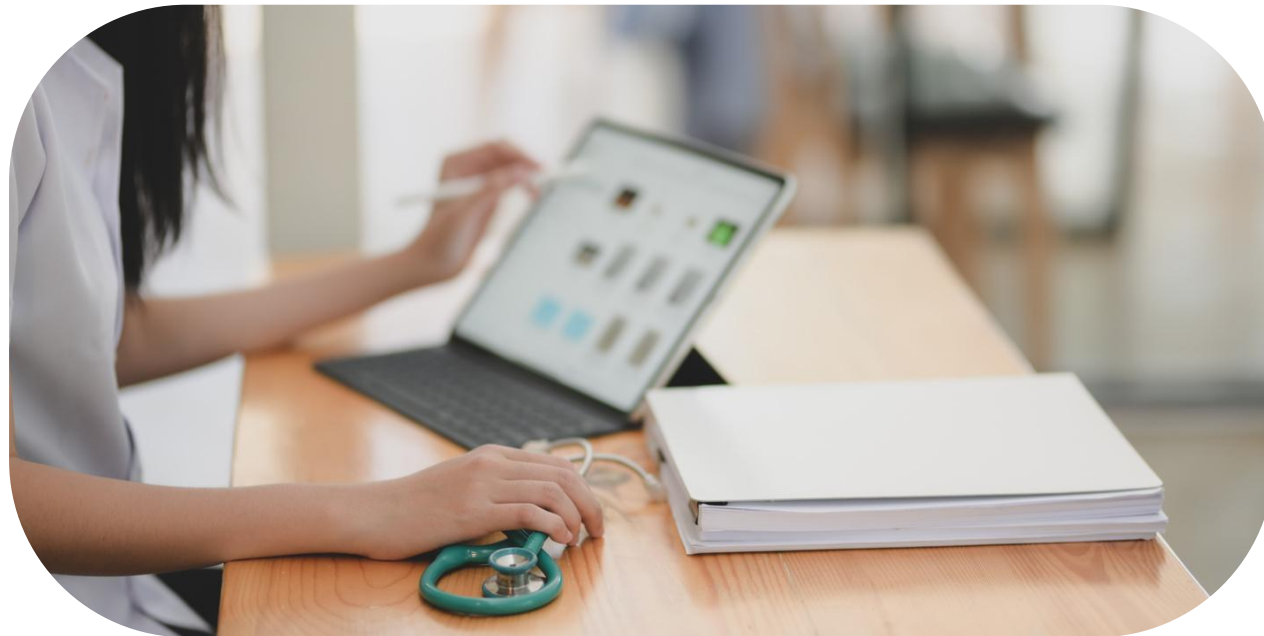
Elvira Daraban

English, French, Russian into Romanian

- BA in Translation Studies
- Sworn translator
- Technical background

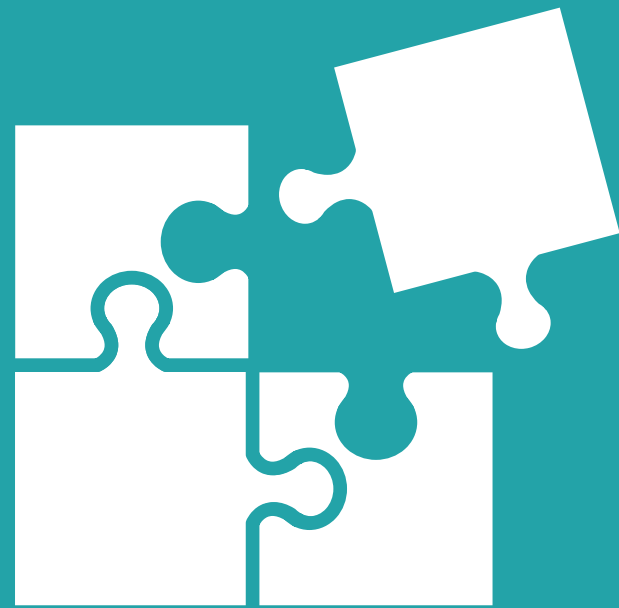


translate@elviradaraban.com



What do we translate?

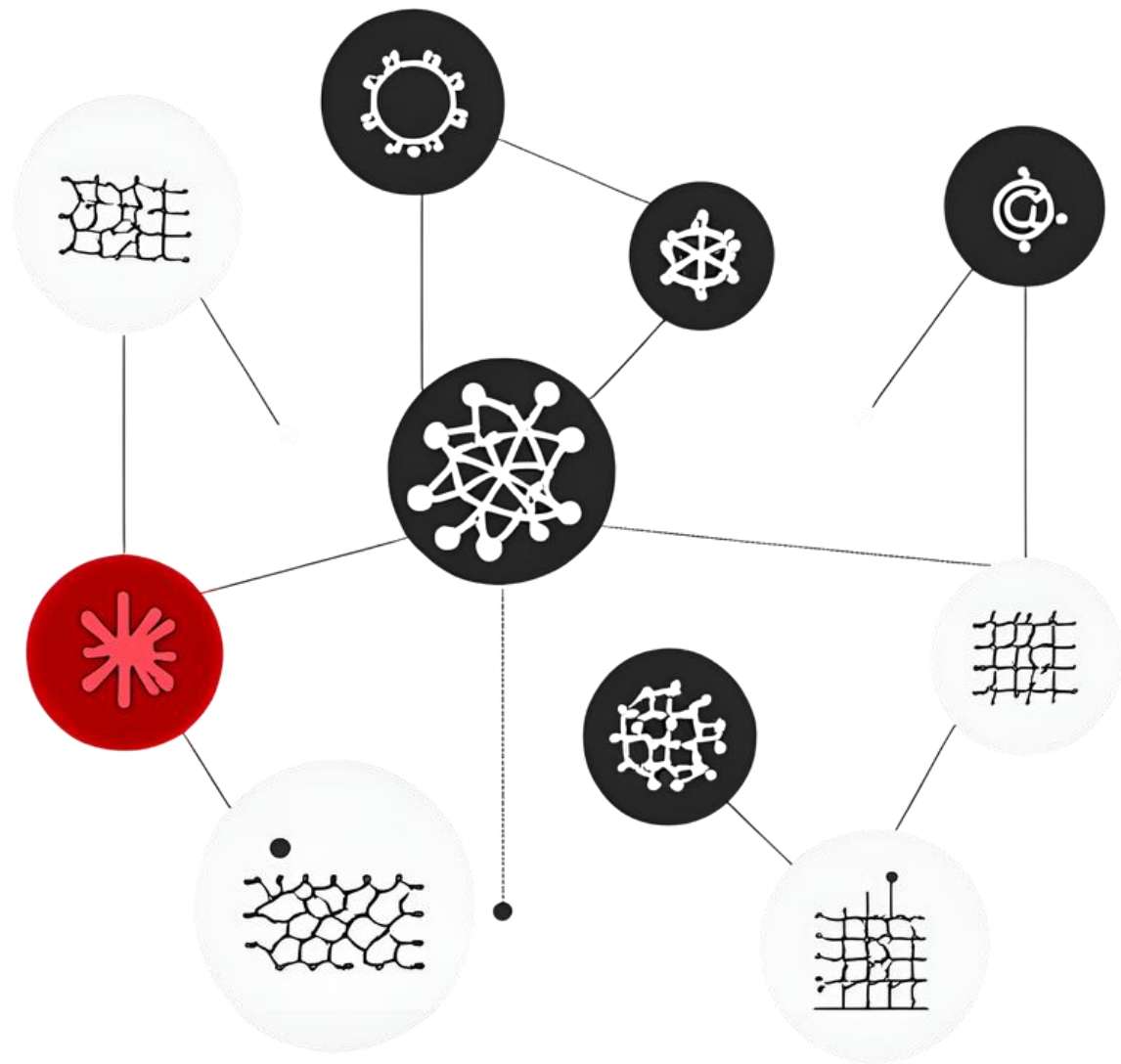
- Research articles
- Clinical trial documentation (protocols, agreements, reports)
- Hospital reports
- Patient information documents (leaflets, guides for participation, informed consent forms, patient diaries, instructions)
- Medical records
- Medical devices and equipment user manuals
- Second opinions for private patients
- Regulatory documents (product information, SmPC, labels, PIL)
- Marketing authorisations
- Nonclinical and clinical study reports
- Literature reports



Challenges

What are some of the difficulties faced by medical translators?

Challenges and solutions



Challenge

Too many alternatives

Solution

Subject knowledge and experience

Challenges and solutions



Challenge

Unknown terms and complex terminology
Terminology related to disruptive technologies

Solution

Extensive research and precision
Understand the science behind the product
Network of medical professionals

Challenges and solutions

BONSGDEFAS ONVECOEVLFHSS CFEORICOF
REIDEICAD IVEROTT CEDEIENOSOVEIIVOUBE
PBREESLWTFEDESHICOPINEREVESTTTO
CPILOB5UVERTSSDOD TONMLIUCUMESI
CONIOVLICUCONFIEE FRREDJITAIIBKILFD
T ILYN OTHE MCON ODD THS THE MU GO A PCT WB
BUE GHIVECALIYTOMSIK ABYONNIGELIION UOHT
CONNESIS DESAPRESLUF, DISTIMO LOIEESA T
DRYV WRT TYBEAVNTIITEPTO LIT SD IYRLICHT PTI OES
COFDUAFLOS DEIMON DEBL O5IB6TPIELIOLTE
TO OOU CIVLICE IT IYJCOGOP RPHF DE BET BERBTICR
SORTTISE NISNIVEBIEMORS IISAVOV BHURES
ORTOLREGLRIVBBAVU)EDYE UNDEA NLD BEACD.

Challenge

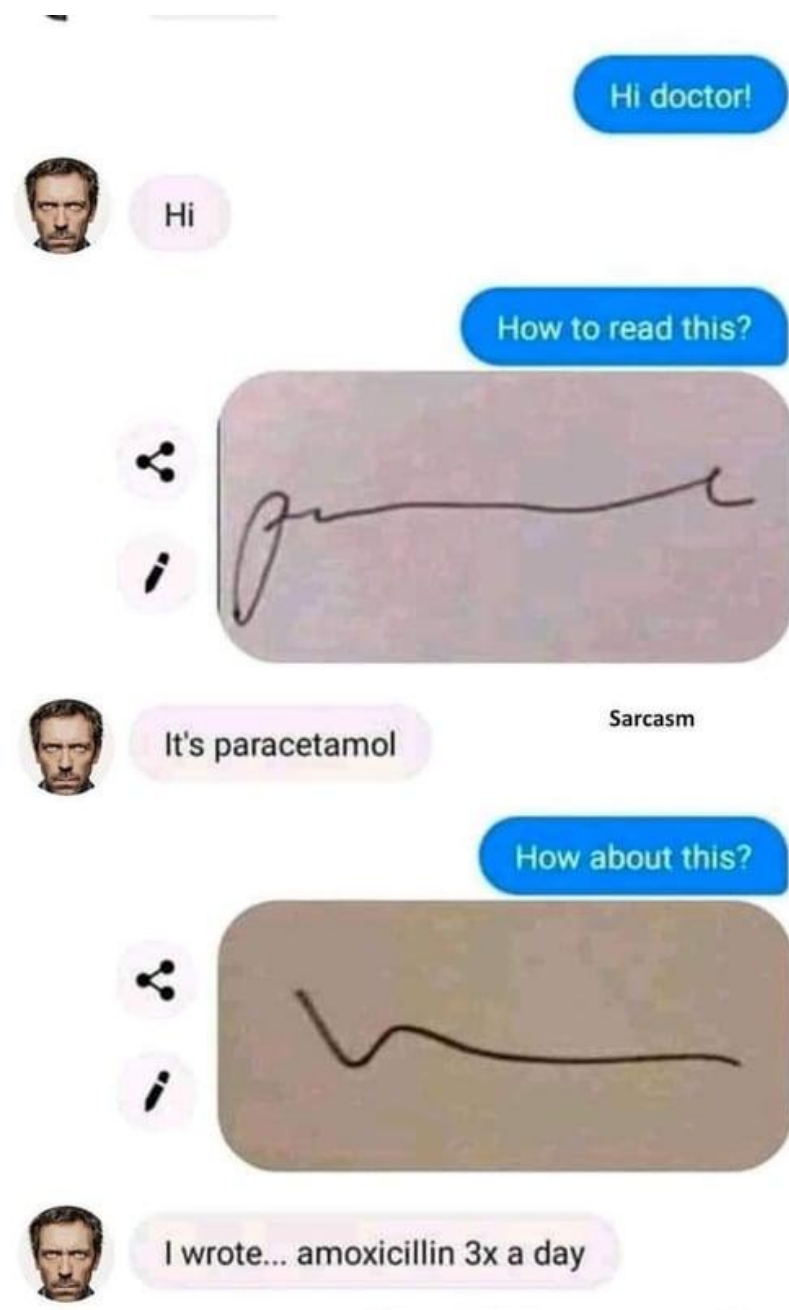
Convolutedsourcetexts

Solution

Excellentwriting skills

Good communication with the client

Challenges and solutions



Challenge

Handwritten texts

Abbreviations (sometimes a mix of languages)

Solution

Experience

Medical professionals, colleagues

Challenges and solutions



change

Challenge

Keeping abreast of changes

Solution

Read, CPD

Challenges and solutions



Challenge

Challenging deadlines

Solution

Time management

Challenges and solutions



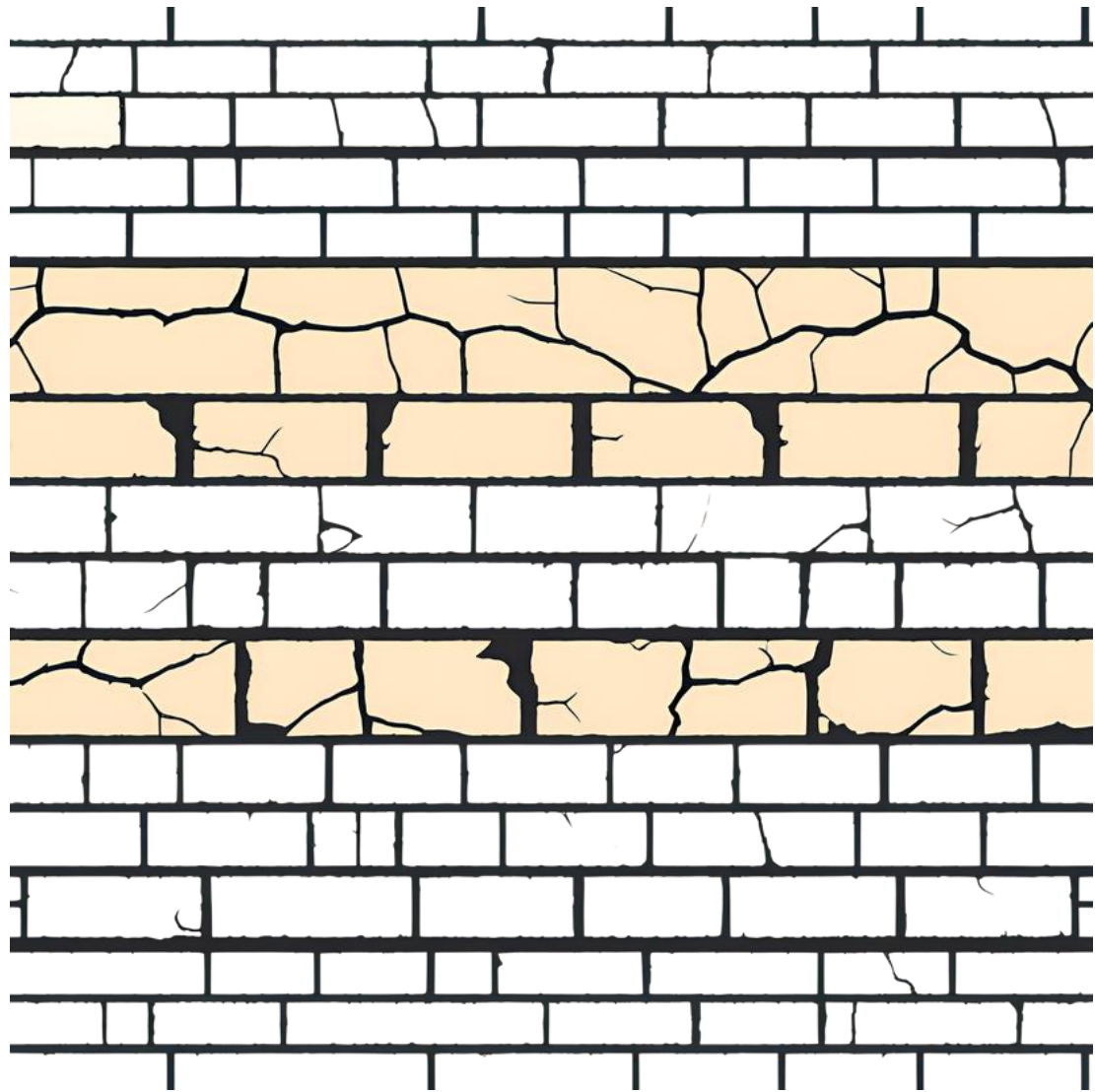
Challenge

Emotional challenges translating serious diagnoses or grim prognoses

Solution

Coping strategies

Challenges and solutions



Challenge

Poor quality translations from translation memories and machine translation (MT)

Solution

Correction or rejection (experience and excellent subject knowledge)

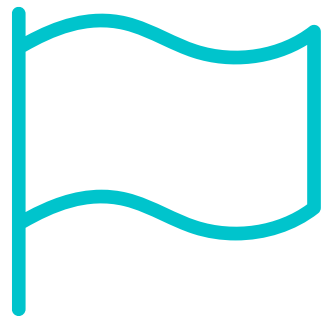


Tools & tips

How to overcome challenges



AntConc



flagging unclear content to clients for clarification



translator communities



ask for help



work-life balance

Tools, tips & tricks

What helpful tools and resources are at hand?



keeping a personal vocabulary of new terms



know your audience



Prognosis

What does the future hold in the
face of AI?



Prognosis in the face of AI



- Confidentiality breaches
- Errors and inaccuracies
- Regulatory issues
- AI is often trained on non-specialist data

Medical translation is less impacted by AI





Recommendations

Words of wisdom

Some final thoughts



Lifelong learning

Specialise and never stop learning. The field is always changing and evolving, new technologies are developed all the time.

Be curious and know your science.

Network

Network with colleagues, network with clients.

Ask for feedback, ask for help. Set up rev clubs (revision buddies).

Join a professional association.

Useful links

AntConc:

<https://www.laurenceanthony.net/software/antconc/>

<https://signsandymptomsoftranslation.com/2022/02/28/antconc-4/>





Thank you

Alina Cincan

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