INTERPRETER PREP- MODES OF INTERPRETING

1) SIGHT TRANSLATION
2) CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING
3) SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETING

1) SIGHT TRANSLATION: is the oral translation of a written text. Seems simple enough...but not that easy to perform. One must read the document at a steady pace without any lengthy pauses making it sound natural as if the interpreter were just reading it out loud in the target language. In contrast to other modes of interpreting, what characterizes sight translation is that the input is visual rather than oral. It is necessary to have some knowledge of the appropriate legal terminology as applied to healthcare matters as many medical documents contain legal terms. Hospital discharge instructions, consent forms are examples of documents that a medical interpreter will need to sight translate.

2) CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING: along with sight translation, consecutive interpreting is the most commonly used mode of interpreting. Consecutive involves a relay in which the speaker says a couple of sentences and then pauses for the interpreter to interpret and then the other party responds and pauses and the interpreter interprets what they say. Simply said, the parties involved in the conversation take turns talking. Consecutive is less confusing than simultaneous and is the most common mode of interpreting in healthcare because it resembles the way in which people usually talk to each other.

3) SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION: here the interpreter must “shadow” each speaker by interpreting at the same time that the speaker is speaking staying only a few words behind. It is used in conferences and may be appropriate in healthcare when a patient or provider refuse to pause for the interpreter to interpret (during a heated discussion for example) or when time is of essence. It is similar to sight in that there is no time for pauses but different because the input is oral instead of visual.