Health Care
University of Missouri Health System

Waiver of Interpreter Services

University of Missouri Health Care has offered you free interpreter services provided by a qualified medical interpreter who is trained to protect your privacy. That person understands your language and also medical words. There are risks if you choose to proceed without the help of an interpreter or to have a family member or friend interpret for you. That person may:

- Not know the correct medical word and give you wrong information
- Add or leave out information
- Learn things about you that you may not want to share
- Tell others about your health condition
- Misunderstand what your caregiver says

Each of these risks can be a problem for you. They can hurt your medical treatment. So we want to make sure you understand the possible risks.

++

You have explained the risks to me in my own language. I understand these risks and still choose not to have a medical interpreter.

_____ _____
Patient's Signature Date

_____ _____
Provider's Signature Date

_____ _____
Interpreter Signature, if present Date
If interpreted by phone, interpreter name or #

Explanation of Document (for providers and staff)

University of Missouri Health Care policy requires that qualified medical interpreters interpret for Limited English Proficient or Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing patients in order to ensure patient safety and accurate communication between the patient and his/her treatment team. Patients have the right to refuse the medical interpreter and have a family member or friend interpret, but the potential risks of using an untrained interpreter must first be explained to them in their language. They must also sign this form each time they waive interpreter services, and it must be placed in their permanent medical record. If the language is one supported by a UMHC medical interpreter, the interpreter will remain in the room in order to intervene in the event that the family member/friend is unable or unwilling to interpret correctly.