Professionalization of Medical Education in Minority Languages to Prevent Misuse of Limited Language Skills and Ad hoc Interpretation

Population
Medical students taking a medical language course

Problem
Lack of a professionalized, standardized course structure

Unregulated second language use

- Medical errors
- Miscommunication
- Exacerbated health inequities for minorities

Proposal
1. Periodic, standardized self-assessments
2. Individualized feedback after assessments with standardized patients
3. Revised institutional policies for bilingual skill use and partnering with medical interpreters

Madhura Shah, Bita Naimi, John D. Cowden MD, Pilar Ortega MD

BU School of Medicine