

My primary patient was a Spanish only speaking women. She had a family member in the room with her, a daughter, who only spoke Spanish as well. The first day of clinical (05-03-22) we used the ipad Spanish translator with her most of the day which was neat! The second day (05-04-22) of clinical the new patients nurse I was following used me as the Spanish translator. The experience was very cool and intimidating. Every time I was in the room I translated for the nurse to patient and vice versa. When the doctor and Physical therapist came into the pt's room I ended up being the translator for them we well. I was nervous at first because I didn't think I was competent enough to translate for them but I under-mind my ability to speak the language. I have a Spanish only speaking grandma who fears going to the doctor for the fear of being in a place where she can't understand anyone. It was a good feeling to be able to ease the pt's mind even if it was the slightest bit over the language barrier. After witnessing both I have come to realize how much more effective in-person translating is than over the phone. I was able to pick up on facial q's of how much pain she was in and even just reading body language on what she was trying to tell me helped. That was something the telephone translator had trouble doing because of the over the phone barrier. Of course the tela-translator is awesome and it is amazing we have those readily available but knowing another common language makes nursing care so much more effective, better, safer, and just awesome! My nurses were great and they did their best with my primary patient in making her feel more heard.