



# INforMHAA: Interpreter-mediated Mental Health Act Assessments

Best practices for Approved Mental Health Professionals and Interpreters working together

## RESOURCE R10: Guidance on commissioning interpreting services and working with interpreters in related areas of practice

### Introduction

This resource signposts people to written guidance on commissioning interpreting services and working with interpreters in relevant related situations in the UK and internationally. Each resource can be used as a stand-alone document in relation to the relevant activity, but also serves as a useful comparison with, and companion to, the INforMHAA evidence-based guidance for gaining a better understanding for the specific characteristics of interpreter-mediated MHAAs.

All of the resources are free to download and all links were checked on 25.09.2023. They are arranged thematically according to subject area and also professional role.

### A. Guidance on interpreting in general mental health settings

**For service providers:**

[Best Practice Guide for Mental Health Practitioners Working with BSL/English Interpreters](#)

(created by Esther Rose Bevan for ASLI 2018)

[Good Practice Guide: Working with an Interpreter](#)

(created by Heriot Watt University, revised 2018)

[Good Practice in Action Fact Sheet](#)

(created by British Association for Counselling)

[Guidelines for Working effectively with interpreters in mental health settings](#)

(Created by the Victorian Transcultural Psychiatry Unit, Melbourne Australia 2006)

**For Interpreters:**

[Mental Health Interpreting Guidelines for Interpreters](#)

(created by Dr Jim Hlavac, Monash University, Melbourne, 2017)

[Best Practice Guide for BSL/English Interpreters Working in Mental Health](#)

(created by Esther Rose Bevan for ASLI 2018)

### B. Guidance on interpreting for Domestic Abuse victims

**For Service Providers:**

[Guide for Staff at Women's Aid on Working with Interpreters](#)

(created by Rebecca Tipton 2020)

[Tips for police on working with sign language interpreters](#)

(created as part of the Justisigns 2 project)

[Toolkit and factsheets for service providers and interpreters in domestic abuse settings](#)

(created as part of the Justisigns 2 project)

[A Guide for Spoken Language Interpreters Working with Adult Survivors of Domestic Abuse](#)

(created by Rebecca Tipton 2020)

[Interpreting in Situations of Sexual Violence and Other Trauma](#)

(Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, Ireland)

[SOS VICS: Resources and guidance for Spanish-speaking interpreters](#)

(created by the University of Vigo, Spain)

## C. NHS guidelines

### For Service Providers:

[Guidelines for Working with British Sign Language / English Interpreters in Mental Health Settings \(2017\)](#)

[Guidance for Commissioners of Interpreting and Translation Services in Primary Care \(2018\)](#)

(Based on a research project co-led by SORD, University of Manchester)

### For Interpreters:

[Interpreting Guidelines for Psychiatric Assessments](#)  
(Sylheti)

## D. Guidelines for psychologists

[Working with interpreters: Guidelines for psychologists](#)  
(created by the British Psychological Association 2017)

## E. Guidelines for social care settings

[Best Practice Guide for BSL/English Interpreters Working in Social Care Settings](#)

(created by Caron Wolfenden for ASLI 2020)

## F. Guidelines for police

[ASLI Legal Interpreting Best Practice](#)

(edited by Karen Newby and Jason Weald for ASLI 2015 with input from Heriot-Watt University and Justisigns project)

# INforMHAA: Interpreter-mediated Mental Health Act Assessments

Best practices for Approved Mental Health Professionals and Interpreters working together

## Document Description

This document is an **extracted section** from **INforMHAA Project Guidance & Resources** for use as a handy reference.

## Acknowledgements

This document has been developed through a three-year research study funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research School for Social Care Research (NIHR SSCR), featuring a research team, an advisory board and active participation from service users and carers. The authors of this document gratefully acknowledge the NIHR SSCR for funding the Interpreter-mediated Mental Health Act Assessments study (also known as the Interpreters for Mental Health Act Assessments(INforMHAA) study) that underpins this guidance (Grant reference P172).

## Disclaimer

Disclaimer: This document does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the National Institute for Health and Care Research School for Social Care Research.

## Licence

The resource is available to use under the Creative Commons Licence:

CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 

This license enables reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format for noncommercial purposes only, and only so long as attribution is given to the creator. If you remix, adapt, or build upon the material, you must license the modified material under identical terms. CC BY-NC-SA includes the following elements:



**BY:** credit must be given to the creator.



**NC:** Only noncommercial uses of the work are permitted.



**SA:** adaptations must be shared under the same terms.

## To cite this extract, please use the citation for the full guidance and resource document:

Young, A., Tipton, R., Napier, J., Vicary, S., Rodriguez Vicente, N. & Hulme, C. (2023) Interpreter-mediated Mental Health Act assessments: Best practices for Approved Mental Health Professionals and interpreters working together. University of Manchester. Online Resource.

If you are viewing a printed version of this Resource, there is a digital version of the full Guidance available by scanning the QR code.



Funded by

**NIHR** | School for Social Care Research

Research partners

**MANCHESTER**  
1824  
The University of Manchester

**HERIOT WATT**  
UNIVERSITY

**The Open University**

**University of Essex**

March 2024

[sites.manchester.ac.uk/informhaa](https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/informhaa)

DW.3853.04.24