

**Medical Interpreting Services Newsletter**

**International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of Holocaust**

*On January 27 each year, the United Nations (UN) remembers the Holocaust that affected many people of Jewish origin during World War II. This day is called the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. It also commemorates when the Soviet troops liberated the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland on January 27, 1945.*

**What do people do?**

Holocaust survivors and various leaders make their voices heard on the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. Many of them speak publicly about the Holocaust or their experiences around the event, its aftermath and why the world should never forget what happened in Europe in the 1930s and 1940s. Many statements emphasize the need for future generations to learn about and remember the Holocaust and for everyone to work towards preventing genocide.

The UN organizes and supports events such as: concerts by musicians who survived the Holocaust or are survivors' descendants; art exhibitions influenced by the Holocaust; presentations of special stamps; the introduction of special educational programs; and film screening and book signing focused on the Holocaust.

Israel and many countries in Europe and North America mark the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. Many academics present discussion papers or hold seminars or round table discussions on the Holocaust and its legacy in the modern world. Schools or colleges may also have special lessons on the Holocaust. The Holocaust and how people commemorate it receive special attention on the Internet, television, radio, print media.

On January 24, 2005, the UN General Assembly commemorated the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps. Following this session, a UN resolution was drafted to designate January 27 as the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. The resolution called for education programs on the Holocaust to help prevent genocide. It also rejected denials that the Holocaust occurred. On November 1, 2005, the assembly adopted this resolution so the day could be observed each year. It was first observed on January 27, 2006.

Many Jewish groups, particularly in Israel, also observe Yom HaShoah, which is a day of mourning for Holocaust victims on 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which falls in April or May of the Gregorian calendar.

The International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust is a global observance and not a public holiday.

Source: <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/commemoration-of-holocaust-victims>

Volume 17, Issue 1  
January 2019



*"For the dead and the living,  
we must bear witness." –  
Elie Wiesel*

**January 2019 Calendar**

*Braille Literacy Month (US)  
Volunteer Blood Donor Month (US)*

- 1 – New Year (International)
- 4 – World Braille Day
- 6 – Epiphany / Thee Kings Day (Western Christian)
- 7 – Christmas Day (Orthodox Christian)
- 11 – Human Trafficking Awareness Day (US)
- 16 – National Religious Freedom Day (US)
- 21 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (US)
- 21 – Tu Bishvat (Judaism)
- 27 – Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of Holocaust (International)



## Medical Interpreting Services Newsletter

### Role of Cultural Beliefs in Healthcare

Culture influences thoughts, communication, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of racial, ethnic, religious and social groups. Culture refers to the norms & practices of a particular group that are learned & shared, and guides thinking, decisions, and actions.

**Culture may also influence:**

- ✓ Understanding of health, healing & wellness;
- ✓ Diseases & their causes;
- ✓ Patient behavior;
- ✓ Attitudes toward healthcare providers;
- ✓ Delivery of services by providers, who look at the world through their own cultural prism.

Healthcare services that are respectful of and responsive to the health beliefs, practices & cultural & linguistic needs of patients. The concept of cultural respect has a positive effect on patient care delivery according to NIH.

**Questions to ask your patients:**

- ✓ Who is the decision maker in this family or for this patient?
- ✓ What does the patient believe is the root of his/her illness?
- ✓ How is this illness treated in patient’s culture?
- ✓ What steps has the patient already taken to treat his/her illness?



### Staff Interpreter Profile: Ana Benavides

Ana Benavides joined UC Davis Health Medical Interpreting Services Department in April of 2018. She was born and raised in Lima, Peru. She is the youngest in her family. Ana studied art and graphic design at the Catholic University in Lima for five years. She moved to the US in 1989 to join her family in Florida. She got married, and the family moved to California to pursue education. “I always wanted to do something that makes a difference in people’s lives and that I love,” – said Ana. She signed up for the 40 hours “Connecting Worlds” medical interpreting course at UC Davis Health in the summer of 2017, which radically changed her career path. Ana is very passionate about patient care, and she loves going home happy after a fulfilling day of work. “Fulfilling a purpose and working alongside UCDH staff and providers who go above and beyond their duties in order to help patients makes my life complete and makes me proud of working here,” – said Ana.



In her personal life, Ana loves hiking, cycling, and yoga. She volunteered at the Front Street animal shelter because she loves dogs. She adopted her Labrabull in 2017. Ana is also a very talented cook; she keeps herself busy baking and cooking for family and friends.

Welcome onboard to our Spanish-language team, Ana!

This issue was produced by UC Davis Health Medical Interpreting Services Department editorial team. Questions? Comments? Please call Medical Interpreting Services at 916/734-2296 or e-mail [enmorrow@ucdavis.edu](mailto:enmorrow@ucdavis.edu)