

Back Translation: A Specialized Market for Spanish to English Medical Translators
Resources for Study and Reference
Danielle Maxson, CT

Articles about back translation:

“Back Translation for Clinical Trial Documentation – Informed Consent Forms.” Global Health Trials, June 9, 2011. <https://globalhealthtrials.tghn.org/articles/back-translation-clinical-trial-documentation-informed-consent-forms/> (an explanation of the back translation process and guidance on how to conduct a review)

Grunwald, David and Norman M. Goldfarb. “Back Translation for Quality Control of Informed Consent Forms.” Journal of Clinical Research Best Practices, Vol. 2, No. 2, February 2006. https://www.magiworld.org/resources/journal/92_Back.pdf

Klein, Celeste and Scott Van Til. “An Approach to Back Translation of Medical/Pharmaceutical Texts.” *ATA Chronicle*, March 2014, pp. 12-15. https://www.ata-chronicle.online/wp-content/uploads/4303_12_klein_til.pdf

Paegelow, Richard S. “Back Translation Revisited: Differences that Matter (and Those that Do Not).” *ATA Chronicle*, August 2008, pp. 22-25. <http://www.inlinela.com/assets/back-translation-revisited-differences-that-matter.pdf>

Many LSPs address back translation on their blogs. Examples may be found here:

<https://scriptis.com/back-translation/>

<https://www.languagescientific.com/the-what-and-why-of-back-translation-and-reconciliation/>

<https://www.pactranz.com/back-translation/>

Background on ethics in medical research:

Evelyn Shuster, Ph.D. “Fifty Years Later: The Significance of the Nuremberg Code.” *N Engl J Med* 1997; 337:1436-1440, DOI: 10.1056/NEJM199711133372006.

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJM199711133372006>

WMA Declaration of Helsinki. <https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects/>

International Council on Harmonisation – Good Clinical Practice. Can be accessed with other guidelines at <https://www.ich.org/page/efficacy-guidelines>

World Health Organization, *Handbook for Good Clinical Research Practice (GCP): Guidance for Implementation*. https://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/safety_efficacy/gcp1.pdf

US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45 Part 46 (on ethical treatment of human subjects). Can be found in more than one place, but links and explanations are available here:

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/regulations/45-cfr-46/index.html>

Belmont Report. <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/belmont-report/index.html>

Spanish-English resources:

ATA Spanish Division Website Resources Page. <https://ataspd.org/glossaries-and-other-resources/> (several useful links, including a couple of articles from *Panace@* on clinical trial terminology)

ATA Medical Division Resources Page. <https://ata-md.org/resources/#spanish-resources>

Panace@, A journal on medical translation by Tremédica, an international organization focusing on English-Spanish translation in life sciences and related fields. All issues available at <https://www.tremedica.org/revista-panacea/>

Cosnautas, a website that offers fee-based access to a variety of resources, including Fernando Navarro's *Libro rojo*. A free account allows access to the database of medical abbreviations. cosnautas.com

Diccionario de términos médicos. A comprehensive medical dictionary. Available in print form and online. <https://dtme.ranm.es/index.aspx>

John Butt, Carmen Benjamin and Antonia Moreira Rodríguez. *A New Reference Grammar of Modern Spanish*, 6th edition. Routledge: 2019. Available at <https://www.routledge.com/A-New-Reference-Grammar-of-Modern-Spanish/Butt-Benjamin-Rodriguez/p/book/9781138124011> (Earlier versions are available elsewhere, can be less expensive, and will also be very good references).