

Symbols for Use in Health Care

Hablamos Juntos, an initiative of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, was launched to eliminate language barriers and improve the quality of health care for people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). In a research endeavor with JRC Design, they examined the history and usage of visual symbols as communication tools in health care settings throughout the world.

The research showed that symbols can be an effective communications tool, particularly for LEP individuals. Further, a thoughtful, well-designed symbol system could assist English speakers as well as LEP people of many languages and cultures.

The symbols shown on this poster are the results of rigorous design and testing. It is a system with broad aesthetic, as well as practical, appeal.

Symbols are not the panacea for a poor signage system, nor will they solve wayfinding issues. But they can be part of a viable and dynamic system that can assist all people, regardless of their reading skill level, to feel more comfortable and confident within a health care facility.



Ambulance Entrance
Ingreso de Ambulancias



Billing Department
Departamento de Facturación



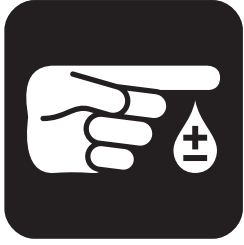
Cardiology
Cardiología



Care Staff Area
Área del Personal de Cuidado



Chapel
Capilla



Diabetes (Education)
Diabetes (Educación)



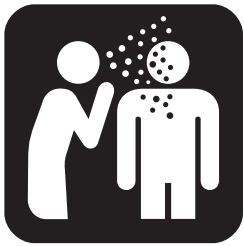
Emergency
Emergencia



Family Practice Clinic
Clínica de Práctica Familiar



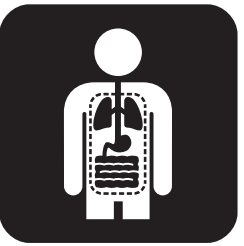
Immunizations
Inmunizaciones



Infectious Disease
Enfermedades Infecciosas



Intensive Care
Cuidado Intensivo



Internal Medicine
Medicina Interna



Interpretive Services
Servicios Interpretación



Laboratory
Laboratorio



Mammography
Mamografía



Medical Records
Archivos Médicos



OB Clinic
Clínica de Obstetricia



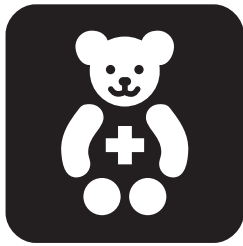
OB/GYN
Obstetricia/ Ginecología



Oncology
Oncología



Outpatient
Paciente Ambulatorio



Pediatrics
Pediatría



Pharmacy
Farmacia



Physical Therapy
Terapia Física



Radiology
Radiología



Registration
Registro



Social Services
Servicios Sociales



Surgery
Cirugía



Waiting Area
Área de Espera