

# Informed Consent Form Translation Cheat Sheet

## Introduction

If you're a linguist in training, this cheat sheet is ideal for you.

### We'll explain:

What's an informed consent form?

What's the purpose of an informed consent form?

What's the anatomy of an informed consent form?

The greatest challenge of this type of translation

2 alternatives to professional medical translation



## What's an Informed Consent Form?

Informed consent form: A document in which a subject confirms that they understand the implications of a medical procedure they're about to undergo.

## What's the Purpose of an Informed Consent Form?

Medical consent forms are both provided to patients in health-care settings and to study subjects in the context of clinical trials. Informed consent forms guarantee fair treatment to the patient /study subject while reducing liabilities for the practitioners /researchers.

## The Anatomy of an Informed Consent Form

In healthcare contexts, an informed consent form usually includes:

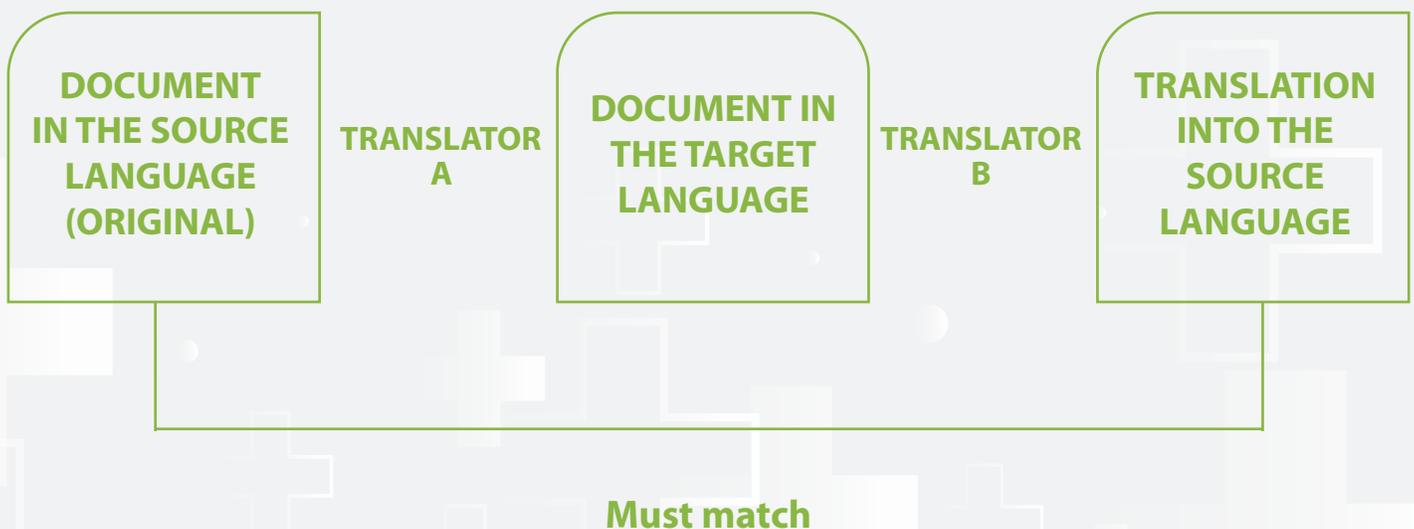
- A detailed diagnosis of the medical condition.
- The name and purpose of the treatments.
- The possible risks, benefits, and treatment alternatives.
- The risks and benefits of such alternatives.

# The Greatest Challenge of Informed Consent Form Translation

Medical research and procedures tend to involve specific terminology use, and consent forms are written in a sort of hybrid registry: They're not as technical as patents, since the person reading them is not a medical specialist, but they can't be vague either.

## Back Translation: A Note-Worthy Alternative Translation Method

This process consists of having a linguist translate the original document, and then having the output re-translated by another translator, who hasn't seen the original. Then, the people in charge compare the original to the re-translated text. This process aims to verify translation quality.



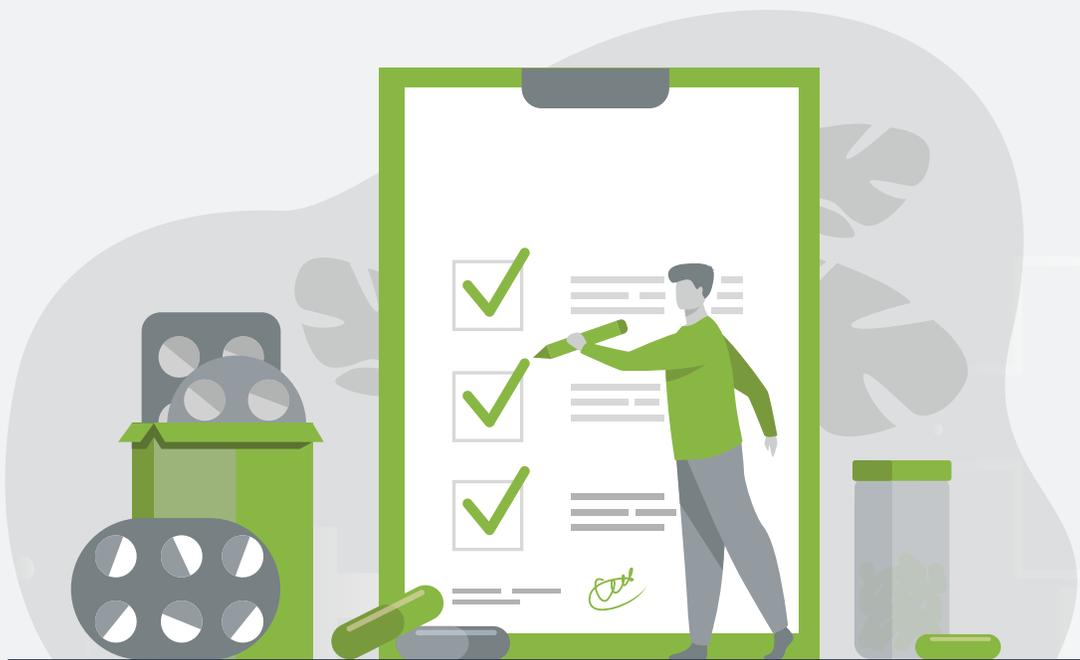
## Short-form Consent Documents

When a specialized medical translator is not available, and the subject or patient has some degree of proficiency in the local language, medical professionals may create short-form consent documents. These documents explain the procedure and its consequences in "plain language". The usage of short-form documents is rarely recommended, since it may result in unclear communication, thus defeating the purpose of a consent form.

## Interested in Medical Translation?

Check out our blog for professional insight into the process.

[www.bayan-tech.com/blog](http://www.bayan-tech.com/blog)



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