

Medi-Sign Credits

—TEXT BOOK—

ASL Research
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD
Jer Loudenbach
Lisa Lundy
Billy Seago
Clyde Vincent
Juliet Vincent
Medical Information Research
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD
David Lundy, MD
Patrick Smith, MD
Text Editors
James Bertolino
Anita Boyle
Dara Burrows
Translation Editors
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD
Jer Loudenbach
Billy Seago
Juliet Vincent
Review Editors
Kerri Burch, CI, CT,
NDAIV
Katie Humes
Juliet Vincent
Glossary
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD
Christine Keiper CI/CT

Text Layout	Firefighters
Stephanie Hopkinson	Captain Elson Caspar
Terry Stratton	John Fowler
	Scott Hammond
Final Text Design and Layout	Gene Smith
Anita Boyle	Jubal Wilson
	Captain Bob Young
Cover Design	John Zimmerman
Anita Boyle	Washington State Patrol
Hogie McMurthrie	Gene Dana
	Roger Hansberry
—DVD—	Electronic Media Editing
Film Director	John Mortensen,
Sam Albright	Think-a-Tron Media
	Filming Support Staff
Music	Ren Albright
Sam Albright	Dara Burrows
	Greg Maes
Camera Operator	Heather Nystrom
Mike Nelson	Special Thanks
	Joel Talerico, Ellensburg
ASL Models	Fire Department
Carol Carrothers	Kittitas Valley Community
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD	Hospital
Jer Loudenbach	
Marilyn Schwab	
Paul Schwab	
Billy Seago	
Judy Warchol	
Introduction Actors	
Herbert Bentz	
W. Joseph Garcia, EdD	
Terry Stratton	

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4-12b Patient's Response .. 236
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5-4b Patient's Response 266
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5-6a Patient's Response..... 272
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6-3c Patient's Response..... 300
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7-4a Patient's Response..... 356
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7-6a Patient's Response..... 362
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7-6b Patient's Response 363
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7-7a Patient's Response..... 366
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9-2b Patient's Response 454
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9-2c Patient's Response..... 455
It was fine, normal.

9-3 Doctor's Question..... 456
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9-3a Patient's Response..... 457
I don't know.

9-4 Doctor's Question..... 458
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9-4a Patient's Response..... 459
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9-5a Patient's Response..... 460
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11-5 Doctor's Question 433
Have you had a heart attack before?

11-6 Doctor's Question 434
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11-7 Doctor's Question 435
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11-8 Doctor's Question 440
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11-9 Doctor's Question 442
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12-1c Patient's Response... 479
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12-1e Patient's Response... 480
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12-2 Doctor's Statement... 480
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12-3 Doctor's Question 482
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12-4 Doctor's Question 482
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13-8 Doctor's Question 508	A cat bit my finger.
How long have you had a rash?	13-15f Patient's Response . 536
13-9 Doctor's Question 509	A skunk bit my hand.
Does your rash itch?	13-15g Patient's Response 537
13-10 Doctor's Question .. 510	A spider bit my neck.
Did someone give you the rash or did you contract it while walking in the woods?	13-15h Patient's Response 538
13-11 Doctor's Question .. 513	A bee stung my ear.
How did you get the burn?	13-16 Doctor's Question .. 538
13-11a Patient's Response. 514	What color was the spider, snake or insect?
I was using a chemical and spilled it on myself. Now my skin is burned and peeling.	13-17 Doctor's Question .. 539
13-11b Patient's Response 516	Did you catch what bit you?
I was lighting a fire and some gasoline on my clothes ignited.	
13-11c Patient's Response. 520	
I fell against a hot stove.	
13-11d Patient's Response 522	

Introduction

American Sign Language (ASL) is a versatile, intricate language that allows the communicator infinite expressive possibilities. Learning ASL can be inspirational. Learning to express yourself visually, without using your voice, develops your communicative resources in new and different ways. Although most people experience a little short-term frustration when learning any new language, and ASL is no exception, the stimulation to the senses that comes from learning ASL is unlike spoken languages. After a little experience using ASL, you will begin to understand signs without first having to translate them into English. I've heard many hearing people who've learned sign remark that the "moment of understanding" is an intimate and wonderful life-enhancing event.

For many hearing people, at first glance, sign language may seem mysterious. I've often heard new students wonder if they will ever get their hands to flow. Some may even feel content with just watching others sign. However, watching sign language versus learning to sign is like looking at a picture of a strawberry versus experiencing the taste, texture, and gratification that comes with its nourishment.

The Medi-Sign course combines practical daily health care communication with a systematic introduction to ASL grammar and structure. Each topic I discuss during this introduction is brief. Additional resources covering all aspects of ASL should be sought as you become more familiar with this new language. As a medical professional, your journey through Medi-Sign and other sign classes will help you better communicate with and serve deaf people. Along the way, I encourage you to learn more about the Deaf community's rich culture. As you make the transition from a spoken to a visual language, I hope you get excited at your increased communication skills and feed off the excitement to continue learning ASL to the interpreter skill-level.

How to Approach Learning Medi-Sign

Demands placed on health care providers result in limited available time. However, Medi-Sign is designed so that a busy person can start, stop, or continue as his or her schedule allows. Learning sign language is similar to learning a musical instrument. It is cognitive and physical, requiring thought and practice. As you begin Medi-Sign, you will find more success if you commit to short fifteen to thirty minute sessions once or twice each day, rather than attempting to reserve an hour at the day's end. Watching sign can be exhausting until your eyes and mind become accustomed to receiving language through a visual rather than auditory channel. As your endurance builds, you will be able to watch sign for