Interpreting as mediation for the bilingual dialogue between foreign citizens and institutions in Italian healthcare settings

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What is known on this subject
- Migrant patients may encounter severe difficulties in presenting their case histories, concerns and worries to healthcare professionals.
- Where a doctor and patient do not share a common language, the interpreter is the only participant in the conversation who can be fully aware of all of the elements of the interaction. Consequently, the interpreter can have a strong influence on the communicative process.
- The interpreter may become an intercultural mediator who facilitates intercultural communication by promoting the active participation of the people involved in the interaction.

What this paper adds
- In the Italian context, the dual function of interpreter and mediator can make positive contributions to patient-centred care and treatment.
- When the interpreter acts effectively as a mediator, otherwise hidden factors, such as the patient’s emotional expressions, can be relayed to the doctor, thus creating opportunities for him or her to respond.
- If the interpreter does not act in this way, the patient’s feelings may be neglected.

ABSTRACT
This article presents an analysis of 55 conversations between doctors and patients, who did not share a common language, in the Emilia Romagna region of Italy. Interpreters took part in each of these conversations to interpret Italian and Arabic. The findings suggest that whether or not the patient’s voice, wishes and feelings are heard by the doctor is largely dependent on the interpreter’s actions. In some instances, the interpreter may exclude the patient or the doctor from relevant healthcare information. Conversely, the emotional rapport between the patient and the doctor may improve if the interpreter conveys implicit content to the doctor, thus creating opportunities for him or her to respond. These findings indicate that interpreters are expected not only to interpret what is said but also to act as mediators to enable both parties to communicate effectively.

Keywords: Italy, Northern African migrants, office visits, personal communication, women’s health

Introduction
Studies of interpreting from the field of applied linguistics have shown that interpreters are active participants in the interaction between the other individuals in the conversation (Davidson, 2000, 2001, 2002; Bolden, 2000; Mason, 2001; Wadensjö, 1998). Wadensjö (1998) has suggested that the interpreter’s activities can be seen as primarily oriented towards the joint construction of meaning by interpreting both what is said and what is implied. Interpreters therefore need to consider the meanings and purposes that are
achieved through a conversation, and thus they play a double role, as they both interpret and coordinate communication. For this reason, interpreting may be understood as a form of mediation. The interpreter–mediator is the only participant in the interaction who is able to understand everything that the others in the conversation say. Therefore he or she can define the context of the encounter, draw attention to the production of shared topics, and manage misunderstandings. This paper focuses on this dual role as it emerged from analysis of conversations between interpreters, patients and doctors in an Italian healthcare setting.

Background

Mediation

Mediation is a strategy that is used to enable individuals who are in conflict to resolve their differences and modify their relationship (Carnevale and Pruitt, 1992). The intervention of a third party, namely the mediator, does not seek to establish who is right or wrong (Bush and Folger, 1994; Mulcahy, 2001). Rather, the mediator intervenes as a provider of opportunities to talk, inducing both parties to introduce and deal with particular issues (Fisher and Shapiro, 2005; Katz Jameson et al., 2006; Schulz, 2006) and construct acceptable solutions (Picard and Melchin, 2007; Winslade, 2006; Winslade and Monk, 2000). However, doubts have been raised about the effectiveness of mediation in promoting balanced power relationships. Welsh and Coleman (2002, pp. 345–6) have observed that mediators may ‘become de facto agents of the status quo invested in maintaining the stability of the current social system and stopping the conflict before it moves beyond the affected institutions.’ Therefore an important question concerns the effectiveness of mediation in challenging the status quo and in empowering the less influential (Gwartney et al., 2001) in helping the patient to comply with treatment (Kiesler and Auerbach, 2003; Mangione-Smith et al., 2003; Robinson and Heritage, 2005; Stivers, 2002). In this respect, healthcare providers are invited to observe illness through the patient’s lens and to ‘treat the patient, rather than just the disease’ (Heritage and Maynard, 2006, p. 355).

These western expectations mean that migrant patients may encounter severe difficulties in presenting their case histories, concerns and worries. The difficulties involved in handling emotional expressions in interpreter-mediated patient–doctor interactions have been reported in several studies (Bolden, 2000; Cambridge, 1999; Davidson, 2000; Hsieh, 2010; Po¨chhacker and Kadric, 1999). Instead of relaying the patient’s concerns in full to the doctor, interpreters tend to summarise what the patient has said, focusing on medical problems and treatments. Consequently, emotional expressions may be overlooked or omitted. Thus interpreters become gatekeepers, controlling what is passed between doctor and patient, and fuelling asymmetrical power relationships between the two parties (Davidson, 2000, 2001; Bührig and Meyer, 2004).

Interpreters as mediators in healthcare

Interpreter-mediated interaction is a triadic interaction involving an interpreter as the third party in a communication process between individuals who do not share a common language. Interpreter-mediated interactions help to create an effective form of intercultural communication, giving voice to cultural diversity in the interaction (Baraldi, 2006). Situations that require interpreters are increasingly common in western medical systems where healthcare providers encounter migrant patients (Angelelli, 2004; Baraldi and Gavioli, 2007; Cambridge, 1999; Bührig and Meyer, 2004; Po¨chhacker and Kadric, 1999; Tebble, 1999). The development of rapport between doctors and patients is considered very important for the successful outcome of treatment and care (Barry et al., 2001; Charles et al., 1999; Epstein et al., 2005; Heritage and Maynard, 2005, 2006; Mead and Bower, 2000; Zandbelt et al., 2005, 2006). The patient’s feelings and wishes and the doctor’s affective involvement in the interaction are considered of primary importance (Barry et al., 2001) in helping the patient to comply with treatment (Kiesler and Auerbach, 2003; Mangione-Smith et al., 2003; Robinson and Heritage, 2005; Stivers, 2002). In this respect, healthcare providers are invited to observe illness through the patient’s lens and to ‘treat the patient, rather than just the disease’ (Heritage and Maynard, 2006, p. 355).

Migrants in this research

Recent data (from 2011) indicate that there are 89 346 immigrants (12.7% of the resident population) in the Modena district, and 69 060 immigrants in the Reggio Emilia district (13% of the resident population). In both cases, the majority of migrants originate from Morocco and Albania. Modena also has a population of Tunisian migrants, and Reggio Emilia has quite large Indian and Chinese communities.

The major driver for institutional change in healthcare systems is the requirement to provide appropriate services for migrant women who are pregnant or who already have children. When using healthcare services, migrant women encounter different and unfamiliar cultural constructions of health, disease, therapy, sexuality and motherhood which their husbands and fathers may not understand or approve of, and which may therefore be a source of conflict. As a result, healthcare providers are being encouraged to reorganise
their services in innovative and creative ways based on migrant-friendly models, which may potentially be extended to all patients. For example, intercultural mediators have been appointed by the General Hospital Board and Local Health Board in Modena to help in reception, obstetrics, nursery, pediatrics, gynecology, neonatology and the family advice bureau. Reggio Emilia Local Health Board uses intercultural mediators in the outpatients’ departments and specialised units for the care of women and children.

Outline of the study

This paper is based on a project undertaken in Emilia Romagna, Italy, entitled ‘Interlinguistic and intercultural communication: analysis of interpretation as a form of mediation for the bilingual dialogue between foreign citizens and institutions.’ The aims of this project were as follows:

1. to create a method of analysing healthcare practices
2. to draw up specific criteria to identify good practices
3. to develop criteria for selecting models of good practice for evaluative analysis, pointing out the indicators of effectiveness concerning their functionality, correspondence to patients’ needs, and opportunities for access
4. to develop instruments to monitor these models, with reference to the reduction of inequalities and barriers
5. to develop guidelines to be used in personnel training.

Ethical considerations

The project was reviewed and approved by a Management Coordination Committee consisting of the research coordinator and the coordinators of the healthcare service. The Committee was in charge of decision making on knowledge protection, ethical and legal issues.

Written information about the project was provided for doctors, interpreters and patients. This included details of the aim of the project, a request for permission to audio-record each conversation, and details of how the results would be used. Written permission was requested from patients, interpreters and doctors. The privacy of participants was preserved according to the Italian Data Protection Act 675 (31 December 1996).

Before each recording, the participants were reminded about the aims of the research, what taking part involved, and their right to withdraw. Assurances about anonymity were important to avoid anyone being blamed or stigmatised as a result of taking part in the research. Removing or changing names was not always enough to ensure anonymity. In such cases the ethical need for anonymity was prioritised over scientific considerations about documentation. These ethical considerations are not and cannot possibly be exhaustive. Ethical research practice requires continuous reflexivity and coping with ethical problems as they arise. This requires dialogue at two levels, between researchers as a means of collectively sharing experience, and between researchers and participants in the ongoing research project.

Participants

Four doctors, four nurses and four interpreters took part in the research. All of the healthcare professionals were of Italian origin and were native speakers of Italian. The interpreter originated from Tunisia and Jordan, spoke Arabic, and had been living in Italy for at least 6 years at the time of this research. Other interpreters who took part in the project originated from Ghana and Nigeria and spoke English. All of these professionals had undergone formal training to enable them to work as intercultural mediators. Resolution 265 of the Regional Government of Emilia Romagna (2005) establishes training standards for intercultural mediators. In order to be qualified as intercultural mediators in public services, it is necessary to follow courses organised by training centres approved by the regional authorities. The minimum duration of such a training course is 200 hours, including at least 40 hours of traineeship. The interpreters involved in this research were professional mediators who were officially recognised by the Emilia Romagna regional authorities. Although the research involved patients who spoke various languages other than Italian, this paper is based on Arabic–Italian interactions. Thus the 55 patients who were involved in the interactions that we discuss in this paper are Arabic speakers, most of them from Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt.

As the mediation service is used predominantly in the areas of nursery, infant care and women’s health, most of the patients involved in the research were women. With regard to the present paper, 51 patients (92.72%) were women, and only 5 patients (7.28%) were men.

Data collection and analysis

The data consisted of 55 conversations, in Arabic and Italian, in two public healthcare services, namely the Centro per la Salute Delle Famiglie Straniere (Healthcare Support Centre for Foreign Families) in Reggio Emilia, and the Consultorio (Local Centre for
Health and Social Services) in Vignola (Province of Modena). In most cases (47 cases, 85.4%) these conversations concerned issues related to obstetrics, nursery, paediatrics, gynaecology and neonatology. The conversations took place in general hospital settings, between Italian doctors who did not speak Arabic, Arabic-speaking patients who did not speak Italian, and interpreters, acting as intercultural mediators, who spoke both languages and who facilitated communication between the other two parties. Each conversation was audio-recorded, transcribed and analysed using two socio-linguistic methods of analysis. The first was based on conversation analysis (CA) and the ways in which participants in a conversation talk according to a coordinated system of turn-taking (Sacks et al., 1974). CA looks at the mechanisms that invite participants in a conversation to talk, and at the acceptance or rejection of their contributions in subsequent interaction (Schegloff, 1980; Pomerantz, 1984). CA suggests that responses to contributions are very important in explaining how each participant reacts and how they achieve an understanding of what is going on (Mason, 2006, p. 364). What we gained from CA was an understanding of the system through which the speakers achieved their understanding.

The second analytical approach was derived from studies on intercultural communication (e.g. Gudykunst, 2005; Samovar and Porter, 1997; Ting-Toomey and Kurogi, 1998), as we considered interpreter-mediated interaction to be a form of intercultural communication. We analysed the use of language and language diversity from the perspective of intercultural communication, observing whether the features of bilingual or multilingual talk in the interaction reproduced and/or tackled particular cultural aspects of the interactions.

In the following section we discuss three types of interaction, namely those which exclude or inhibit the patient from communicating with the doctor, those which include the patient but not the doctor, and three-way interactions that include the patient, the doctor and the interpreter/intercultural mediator. In each instance we present extracts from our data using transcription conventions set out by Jefferson (2004) (see Table 1). In each extract the following code applies: D = Italian healthcare provider of the institution; IM = Arabic-speaking interpreter/intercultural mediator; P = Arabic-speaking patient.

### Interactions that exclude or inhibit the patient

The most common types of exclusion were reduced renditions, a term that refers to situations in which the IM cut out some of the patient’s and doctor’s talk (Wadensjö, 1998). Reduced renditions usually occurred when the interpreter was passing information from the patient to the doctor, and vice versa. In excerpt CS5 (see Appendix) the patient asks two questions (turns 3 and 5) to try to find out whether the doctor is going to treat her leg in the office. Instead of translating the patient’s questions, the interpreter responds directly, hindering patient–doctor communication.

In turn 2, the interpreter produces a reduced rendition of the doctor’s contribution in the previous turn (‘she is giving you the ointment’), leaving out the information about the drug not being available at the doctor’s office. This reduced rendition indicates a doctor-centred culture (Barry et al., 2001) in which the patient is expected to follow instructions and the doctor does not have to account for his or her decisions. In this excerpt, reduced rendition creates some concern for the patient, who is told that the doctor is going to treat her leg with the ointment and to buy the drug at the pharmacy in the same turn (turn 3). The interpreter uses the word ‘give’ instead of ‘prescribe’, so the patient understands ‘giving you’ as ‘treating you with the ointment.’

### Table 1 Transcription conventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>Brackets mark the start and end of overlapping speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(.)</td>
<td>A micropause, hearable but too short to measure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>Colons show degrees of elongation of the previous sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tex</td>
<td>Hyphens mark a cut-off of the preceding sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>((comment))</td>
<td>Additional comments from the transcriber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td>Italics are used for English interpretations</td>
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</table>

Consequently, the patient is uncertain about the
doctor’s intentions. Moreover, she does not know that
the drug is not available because the interpreter did
not tell her this in turn 2, and she has no reason to
believe that the doctor will not treat her leg in the
office. In order to solve this problem, the patient
initiates a repair sequence in turn 3: ‘Is she giving it
to me?’ The repair is completed by the IM, who
responds to the patient without translating the request
to the doctor: ‘They do not have it’ (turn 4).

The doctor has not said anything to justify the new
piece of information which arrives too late in the
interaction, and the patient understands it as a way
to cover the fact that the doctor does not want to treat
her. The patient’s reiteration of the question in a
different format (turn 5) is evidence of her dissatisfac-
tion. The IM’s actions create distance between the
two parties, making the creation of common ground
between them very unlikely. The IM notices the
patient’s increasing dissatisfaction and tries to miti-
gate it. However, she does not interpret the question
to the doctor but provides a direct response (turn 6),
thus increasing the distance between them. We can
imagine the attitude that the patient will have towards
medical prescriptions if she believes that the doctor is
not interested in her health.

Reduced renditions speed up encounters between
doctors and patients and so appear to support the
functionality of the healthcare system. However, we
may ask what kind of system functionality is sup-
ported by these actions. Recent research (Leanza et al,
2010; Schouten et al, 2007) has confirmed the efficacy
of reduced renditions in keeping the interaction co-
herent by, for example, censoring a part of the medical
discourse that might not be comprehensible to the
patient or a part of the patient’s discourse that might
not be relevant to healthcare treatment. However, the
same research shows that reduced renditions also
hinder the trust-building process between patient
and healthcare provider because they create more
distance between the principal participants. Thus
reduced renditions, interruptions and substitutions
pose a threat to the therapeutic process and, para-
doxically, compromise the core values (i.e. self-
determinism and informed decision making) of the
western medical system (Hsieh, 2010).

**Interactions that include patients**

The IM’s actions could promote the patient’s active
involvement in the medical encounter by encouraging
their self-expression, and giving voice to their con-
cerns, doubts, needs and requests. This was achieved
through two types of interational practices, namely
dyadic (patient–interpreter) and triadic (patient–in-
preter–doctor).

In dyadic interactions, the IM supported the voice
of the patient through backchanneling (Schegloff,
1982; Schiffrin, 1999), using short conversational
markers such as acknowledgement tokens (e.g. ‘Si’,
‘Yeah’, ‘OK’), which convey that the stated infor-
mation has been received, continuers (e.g. ‘hmmm’,
‘mhm’), which maintain the flow of conversation and
the desire of the current speaker to continue his or her
turn, and echoing, which serves as a floor-yielding
device that provides feedback to demonstrate that
attention has been paid to what is being said. These
conversational markers provide space for the speaker-
in-turn to go on, adding or completing their contribu-
tion with the help of the IM. Thus the IM and the
speaker are both involved in the interpreting process.

In excerpt CO1 (see Appendix), the IM expresses
her attentiveness and understanding through feed-
back tokens (‘Ah’, ‘mhm’, ‘Ah, I understand you’). In
turn 122, the IM encourages the patient to express her
concerns, making her participation relevant as a
person with specific needs and worries rather than a
generic sick person who is expected to provide a list of
current symptoms. In this excerpt, the IM systemati-
cally encourages the patient to express her doubts
about the therapy, thus promoting her participation in
the conversation. Being empowered as an active
participant, the patient is confident enough to finally
advance a request for clarification (turn 123).

In triadic interactions, all three participants (patient,
doctor and IM) are involved in the conversation. The
IM’s actions bring the doctor into the conversation
through the use of formulations of the patient’s con-
tributions. Formulations are summaries or the gist of
what someone has said (Heritage, 1985). They provide
directions for subsequent turns by inviting responses
in so far as they ‘advance the prior report by finding a
point in the prior utterance and thus shifting its focus,
redeveloping its gist, making something explicit that
was previously implicit in the prior utterance, or by
making inferences about its presuppositions or impli-
cations’ (Heritage, 1985, p. 104). In our study, the
IM’s formulations consisted of interpretations which
followed patient–IM dyadic sequences, but with ad-
aptations to accommodate the doctor. Formulations
enabled IMs to build, expand and recreate the mean-
ings of previous dyadic sequences according to pre-
suppositions and orientations for which they were
responsible. Formulations are not word-for-word
interpretations of contributions in previous dyadic
sequences, but rather they rely on the IM’s discursive
initiative and willingness to create common ground
between the patient and the doctor. Thus the IM acts
as both interpreter and mediator.
Specifically, formulations are conversational resources available to the IM in order firstly to provide an interpretation that highlights content from previous sequences, secondly, to make explicit what was thought in previous turns of talk to be implicit or unclear, and thirdly, to propose inferences about presuppositions or implications of the participants’ contributions (Baraldi and Gavioli, 2008). Formulations are informational when they elicit an explanation from the doctor which the patient is somehow inhibited from requesting, and affective when they bring the patient’s emotions, doubts and concerns into the conversation.

Excerpt CO23 (see Appendix) is an example of an informational formulation. In the course of the examination of a pregnant woman, it becomes apparent that the fetus is not yet in the appropriate position. In turn 59 the doctor reassures the patient about this issue, and in turn 60 the IM offers reassurance and further suggestions to the patient. The doctor is then re-involved in the interaction in turn 63, through an informational formulation which is introduced by the IM to obtain therapeutic recommendations for the patient’s benefit. In CO23, the informational formulation is an initiative motivated by the IM’s interpretation of the patient’s situation.

Affective formulations may be understood as discursive initiatives undertaken by the IM to give voice to the patient’s emotions, which in most cases manifest themselves implicitly. Patients rarely talk about their emotions directly and without prompting. Instead they provide clues about their feelings, thus providing health professionals and IMs with ‘potential emphatic opportunities’ (Beach and Dixson, 2001, p. 39). Affective formulations focus on the emotional point of the patient’s utterances, giving the doctor the chance to share and become involved in the affective dimension of the interaction. In this way the doctor is made aware of the patient’s concerns, and the patient assumes an identity that goes beyond the generic social role of being sick.

In excerpt CO11 (see Appendix), the patient reports a delay in her menstrual period, but mitigates the relevance of this information by assuming that her period will start within the next few days. Through affective formulations, the IM brings the patient’s emotions, which have remained implicit up to that moment, to the fore, making them a topic for communication and concern. The IM’s formulation, ‘She’s a bit worried’ (in turn 65), is affective because, while making current symptoms available to the doctor, it highlights the patient’s emotional situation which could otherwise have gone unnoticed in previous turns. The IM’s formulation of affective understanding involves the doctor in the affective exchange, and promotes a shift from a dyadic to a triadic interaction.

The IM’s affective formulation offers the doctor the opportunity to tune into the emotional status of the patient, and to reassure her as necessary. Affective formulations are inclusive because, while highlighting the emotions of the patient, they also involve the doctor in the formation of affective relations. By producing an affective formulation, the IM develops and emphasises an implicit emotional expression as a basis for subsequent interaction. Affective formulation reveals the IM not as a neutral conduit, but rather as an active mediator of the preceding talk. In particular, the IM’s active participation concerns the patient’s implicit, difficult and embarrassed emotional expressions, providing a way to include such expressions in the triadic sequence, and for it to be treated in a patient-centred interaction involving the doctor (Baraldi and Gavioli, 2007).

Conclusion

The dual function of interpreter and mediator can make positive contributions to patient-centred care and treatment. This paper has focused on how these two functions are intertwined and how they affect doctor–patient communication. When the interpreter acts effectively as a mediator, otherwise hidden factors, such as the patient’s emotional expressions, can be relayed to the doctor, thus creating opportunities for him or her to respond. If the interpreter does not act in this way, the patient’s feelings may be neglected.

Analysis of emergency visits in two large paediatric departments in the USA (Flores et al, 2012) suggests an association between the number of previous hours of interpreter training and error numbers, types and potential consequences in English–Spanish mediated interactions. Well-trained professional interpreters demonstrated a significantly lower likelihood of errors than ad-hoc interpreters such as family members or other hospital staff. The study suggests that training for interpreters might have a major impact on reducing interpreter errors and their consequences in healthcare, while improving quality of care and patient safety. Although we agree with the importance of professional training for interpreters, we also argue that the complexity of the mediator’s task needs to be acknowledged. According to the literature on dialogue interpreting (Angelelli, 2004; Baker, 2006; Bolden, 2000; Davidson, 2000, 2001; Mason, 1999, 2006; Wadenståhl, 1998), in triadic interactions the interpreters are the only participants who can effectively understand all of the content and the intentions of the other participants. This implies that interpreters are never neutral conduits, and that errors are not the only issue. Interpreter–mediators necessarily coordinate the contingent and changeable construction of a difference
between cultural presuppositions and the corresponding distribution of communicative resources, through their translation activity in intercultural contexts.

Our data suggest that the dual roles of interpreter–mediators are crucial in enabling patients to make their voices and their wishes heard during medical encounters. We have observed how reduced renditions may exclude the patient or the doctor from the conversation and from relevant healthcare information. On the other hand, we have seen how the use of formulations improves the emotional rapport between patient and doctor, taking the medical encounter well beyond a mere exchange based on standardised roles. In our analysis of patient–doctor conversations, interpreter-mediators contribute to dialogue management in at least two ways, first, as responders, affiliating with the patient in dyadic interactions, and secondly, as coordinators, affiliating with the patient and then involving the doctor. As responders, interpreter-mediators have an opportunity to check and echo the patient’s perceptions and emotions, actively listen to and appreciate their expressions, provide positive feedback, and express personal concern for them. In a more complex interaction, this can form the basis of an important step in patient care.

REFERENCES


**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.

**ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE**

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Appendix

Excerpt CS5: Exclusion

Turn   Speaker Content
1   D:  Allora signora (.) possiamo provare a dare (..) del Fastum gel in pomata (.) che però se lo deve comprare perché non ce l’abbiamo (.) due volte al giorno
So madam (.) we can try (..) Fastum gel ointment (.) but she has to buy it herself because we don’t have it (.) twice a day

2   IM:  بتطلب (.) “بومات” تعملها لاما تشتريها من “الفارماجيا” فيمتني
She is giving you (.) ointment you put it (.) buy it at the pharmacy

3   P:  بتطلبينها؟
Is she giving it to me?

4   IM:  فيمتني خاطر مش موجودة عندهم هنا
They do not have it

5   P:  ما بدأ تطلبينها؟
Doesn’t she want to give it to me?

6   IM:  معد هيمش. معدهم مش مشكل أيه (تينسم) كيف لو عندهم ببطولوك همة بنفسهم يعين (.)
هو مفييهش حاجة عالية فيمتني مش غالي
That’s not the issue ((smiling voice)) they don’t have it (.) really don’t have it

Excerpt CO1

Turn   Speaker Content
115  P:  الفحص وعطوني شي حاجة ورقه مان
(I had to say) I received the paper ((the invitation)) for an examination

116  IM:  اوم (.) ah

117  P:  جتني الورقة وما بغيت نمشي لان لازم نفهمهم اني عملت العملية
I pass the examination for the uterus every three years

118  IM:  اوم
Mmh

119  P:  جتني الورقة وما بغيت نمشي لان لازم نفهمهم اني عملت العملية
I received the paper and I don’t want to go, because I would have to explain I put the coil

120  IM:  اوم (.) فيمت عليكي
Ah (.) I understand you

121  P:  كنت استني اسال
I was waiting to ask it
Yes that they examine me and move the coil or whatever (.) so it’s better if you give me a paper saying I made the operation (.) so they examine me (.) because they examine the uterus

Excerpt CO23

Turn Speaker Content

CO23

59 D: ((sorridendo)) Ma dai che si gira! Come on, he will turn!

60 IM: – trasferirsi e avviare il preghiera
Exercise and take long walks and God willing

61 P: – e prendetelo e vi gira
If I exercise and take long walks–

62 IM: Bisogna
It would help –

63 IM: C’è qualche cosa particolare che aiuta a girare? (.) camminare (.) fare delle – Is there something that helps to turn (.) walking (.) do some –

64 D: No

65 M: Della ginnastica particolare delle cose?
Exercises of some kind whatever?

66 D: No (.) si gira da solo
No (.) he will turn by himself

67 IM: In talchem la cosa in questo non serve a girare, si gira naturalmente
He says that in this case we cannot say it is useful (.) walking or exercising or making specific movements, it will happen spontaneously, he will turn by himself or will stay like this

Excerpt CO11

Turn Speaker Content

55 IM: When did you last have your period?

56 P: جفتني ثلاثين من شهر عشرة
It was 13 October

57 IM: ثلاثين عشرة
13 October?
62 P: 
لليوم كانت تأتي كل شهر تئنيطة (.) الدم ما هبط صار شهر
It comes each month exactly, now it's a month that it's not coming (.) a month today

64 P: 
استن ثلاث ايام والا اربع ايام بش مش عارفة اذائي
I will wait three days or four, maybe it will come

65 IM Ah (.) puŒ darsi che tra 4 o 5 giorni al massimo (.) arriva (.) perŒ (.) lei Ô un po’ preoccupata
(to D): Ah (.) maybe in four or five days at latest (.) it will come (.) however (.) she’s a bit worried