Medical Translation for Medical Writers

Medical Writing (MW) and Medical Translation (MT) have a lot in common:

- The content is very valuable and important. In some cases, lives are at stake.
- In MW, as in MT, errors can have serious consequences.
- Medical Writers and Medical Translators both work to communicate health messages to different audiences, ranging from specialists (e.g. oncologists, researchers) to the general public.
- Therefore, they have to handle different registers and adapt to their audience.

What is medical translation?

- Translators are communication and language experts who read, comprehend and translate written messages from one language to another.
- Translators usually specialize in and work with two languages, their mother tongue and any other chosen language."¹
- "Medical translation is translating various types of documents, such as training materials for healthcare, medical device or pharmaceutical fields, marketing or clinical, regulatory, and technical documentation.
- The translation of medical text is very important for clinical trials in order for patients, local clinicians and representatives of regulatory organizations to understand them. Likewise it is usual for regulatory approval submissions to be translated."²

How to find a good translator?

- If you're looking for evidence of a translator's professionalism, read this article to know the important things you should look for.
- Professional Associations: ATA (American Translators Association), SFT (Société Française des Traducteurs), ITI (Institute of Translation and Interpreting).
- Personal Training: a Master's degree in translation AND continuous training in the field of expertise (eg. oncology, cardiology)

If you have further questions on Medical Translation, contact me directly at aureliegobet@medpharmatranslator.com

I'd be happy to help!