



National Association of Medical Spanish  
Asociación Nacional de Español Médico

*Working together for healthier communication*

## POLOM LITERATURE

- **Development of a Tool to Assess Medical Oral Language Proficiency**  
[https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/fulltext/2023/04000/development\\_of\\_a\\_tool\\_to\\_assess\\_medical\\_oral.17.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/academicmedicine/fulltext/2023/04000/development_of_a_tool_to_assess_medical_oral.17.aspx)
  - **Article summary:** Describes the development and refinement of the POLOM and presents the results of the reliability study, demonstrating that the POLOM can be reliably used by highly trained raters with linguistic or medical backgrounds.
  - **Highlights:** Table 1 contains the full POLOM.
  - **Citation:** Diamond LC, Gregorich SE, Karliner L, González J, Pérez-Cordón C, Iniguez R, Alberto Figueroa J, Izquierdo K, Ortega P. Development of a Tool to Assess Medical Oral Language Proficiency. Acad Med. 2023 Apr 1;98(4):480-490. doi: 10.1097/ACM.0000000000004942. Epub 2022 Aug 30. PMID: 36484536; PMCID: PMC10373794.
- **Development and Effectiveness of a Rater Training Curriculum for Evaluating Student Medical Spanish Oral Proficiency Using the Physician Oral Language Observation Matrix**  
[https://gbl.digital.library.gwu.edu/articles/volume\\_23/10\\_4079\\_gbl\\_v23\\_3.html](https://gbl.digital.library.gwu.edu/articles/volume_23/10_4079_gbl_v23_3.html)
  - **Article summary:** Describes the development of the POLOM Rater Training Course and presents the results of new trainee rater reliability, demonstrating that the course can effectively train new raters with linguistic or medical backgrounds to reliably rate using the POLOM.
  - **Highlights:** Table 3 contains the POLOM rater training course module descriptions.
  - **Citation:** Ortega P, Iñiguez RX, Gregorich SE, Pérez-Cordón C, Figueroa JA, Izquierdo K, González J, Karliner L, Diamond LC. Development and Effectiveness of a Rater Training Curriculum for Evaluating Student Medical Spanish Oral Proficiency Using the Physician Oral Language Observation Matrix. Global Business Languages. 2023; 23:14-39. <https://doi.org/10.4079/gbl.v23.3>

- **Validity Evidence for the Physician Oral Language Observation Matrix as a Measure of Medical Spanish Proficiency** <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11606-023-08391-1> or download PDF here: <https://rdcu.be/dlqC2>
  - **Article summary:** Describes the convergent and criterion validity evidence for the POLOM, demonstrating that the POLOM is a valid tool to measure medical Spanish oral proficiency in medical student-standardized patient encounters.
  - **Highlights:** Table 2 shows the correlations between POLOM ratings and student performance on other measures, including the Clinician Cultural and Linguistic Assessment (CCLA) phone-based exam and the Interagency Language Roundtable for healthcare (ILR-H) self-reporting scale.
  - **Citation:** Ortega P, Gregorich SE, Karliner L, González J, Pérez-Cordón C, Iñiguez RX, Izquierdo K, Diamond LC. Validity Evidence for the Physician Oral Language Observation Matrix as a Measure of Medical Spanish Proficiency. J Gen Intern Med. 2023 Sep 5. doi: 10.1007/s11606-023-08391-1. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 37670071.
- **Current State and Proposal of Best Practices of Standardized Patients for Spanish-Language Objective Structured Clinical Encounters in US Medical Schools** [https://journals.lww.com/simulationinhealthcare/abstract/9900/current\\_state\\_and\\_proposal\\_of\\_best\\_practices\\_of.93.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/simulationinhealthcare/abstract/9900/current_state_and_proposal_of_best_practices_of.93.aspx)
  - **Article summary:** Reports on the process for Spanish-language standardized patient recruitment, language skills assessment, selection, and training, and provides recommendations.
  - **Highlights:** Table 1 proposes the new Spanish-Language Standardized Patient Oral Language Observation Matrix, a modification of the POLOM intended to evaluate standardized patient candidate's language readiness to be trained for simulated clinical encounters where medical student proficiency can be rated using the POLOM.
  - **Citation:** Iñiguez R, Figueroa JA, Diamond LC, Gregorich S, Karliner L, González J, Pérez-Cordón C, Shin TM, Izquierdo K, Ortega P. Current State and Proposal of Best Practices of Standardized Patients for Spanish-Language Objective Structured Clinical Encounters in US Medical Schools. Simulation in Healthcare [published online ahead of print, 2023 Nov 13]. Simul Healthc. 2023;10.1097/SIH.0000000000000756.