

HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR THE SPANISH SPEAKING PATIENT

Since 2002 professionals of different fields and from different Hispanic Origins have volunteered their time and dedicated great effort in improving the quality of life of Latinos in Acadiana and our integration with the local residents. We have focused on becoming a part of the community we reside in, while retaining our Identity, Cultural Values and Heritage.

While we are mostly recognized for the Latin Music Festival, celebrated yearly the first Saturday of October, we are involved in the support and expansion (to Latin Community) of many services that affect our way of life and constantly try to do more.

This is an expansion, to better inform you, of an article published in the July of 2011 edition of the regional periodical "**La Voz**". In this article we wish to educate you in what Healthcare services are available to the Spanish Speaking Population and how to reach it.

Since 2008 ACLA has work diligently in creating a network of Healthcare Services to Spanish speakers without enough English to communicate with their healthcare providers. We wish for our community to be able to receive care without needing a family member or friend to translate.

By law all hospitals have to offer language assistance around the clock. You just have to know to ask for it. In Lafayette, Lafayette General Medical Center and Our lady of Lourdes have a telephone translation service in every section of the hospital so that you and their personnel both pick up a phone and someone elsewhere translates for you this third party is absent and does not know or see you (for your privacy). Regional Medical Center, University Medical Center and Women's & Children's Hospital also have made accommodations.

ACLA has located Latin Physicians all over the Acadian area. Some Doctors have secured Spanish speaking employees to attend your telephone calls and front desk needs. Some of the medical offices with Spanish speaking staff are (in no particular order):

- **Hector Robles, MD** (INTERNAL MEDICINE)
337-237-7997
501 W. St Mary Blvd, St Francis Medical Office Building, Ste 11
Lafayette, LA 70506
- **Alfredo Lebron, MD** (PEDIATRICIAN)
337-981-8486
4540 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy, Building D, Ste B130 (By Women's & Children's Hospital)
Lafayette, LA 70508

- **YOUNGSVILE MEDICAL CLINIC (INTERNAL MEDICINE)**
It employs Spanish speaking Doctors: Galeno Sibilia, MD & Jorge Belgodere, MD and also a Spanish speaking Nurse Practitioner, in addition to staff who can help you in Spanish.
337-837-3615
310 Youngsville Hwy (next to LTAC of Louisiana)
Lafayette, LA 70508
- **Juan R. Paredes, MD, FACS (GENERAL SURGEON)**
337-261-1171
501 W. St Mary Blvd, St Francis Medical Office Building, Ste 302
Lafayette, LA 70506

Other Spanish speaking Physicians, who may not have Spanish speaking staff, are (among others and to be updated periodically):

- **CANCER CENTER OF ACADIANA (ONCOLOGY & HEMATOLOGY Group of Lafayette General Medical Center)**
It employs Spanish speaking Doctors Victoria Panelli, MD and Luis Meza, MD
337-289-8400
1211 Coolidge Blvd, Ste 100
Lafayette, LA 70503
- **ACADIANA RENAL PHYSICIANS (INTERNAL MEDICINE AND NEPHROLOGY)**
It employs Spanish speaking Doctors: Maximo Lamarche, MD, FACP; Juan Zeik, MD, FASN; Alfonso Lebron, MD; Federico Del Toro, MD and Carlos Mendez, MD
337-233-6593 (main number in Lafayette)
Multiple locations in and around Lafayette
- **Fernando Alemany, MD (INTERNAL MEDICINE)**
337-594-0750
3975 I-49 South Service Rd, Ste 200
Opelousas, LA 70570
- **Daniel Salmeron, MD (INTERNAL MEDICINE)**
337-988-8810
4809 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy, Ste 200 (New Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Office Building)
Lafayette, LA 70508
- **John Anthony Gonzalez, MD, FACOG, FAACS (OBGYN)**
337-785-2006
1325 Wright Ave, Ste D
Crowley, LA, 70526
- **Luis Alvarez, MD (GASTROENTEROLOGY)**
337-364-9225

1100 Andre Street, Ste 301
New Iberia, LA 70563

- **Luis C Dearaujo, MD (NEUROLOGICAL SURGEON)**
337-269-6004
116 Hospital Dr, Ste A
Lafayette, LA 70503

ACLA has also secured guarantees of Healthcare services in Spanish from other Providers like “Concepts of Care Home Health” among other Home Health Agencies and “Paradise Adult Day Care”. For all of these is important to know that when a Doctor refers you to another or a type of Healthcare Agency you have the right to request one in particular and if your English is not good enough to truly understand your Healthcare Provider and be understood by them, you should seek services in Spanish.

While we do not have all the information on Healthcare Professionals who can provide services in Spanish, we hope that the included information can help you as the members of ACLA strive in improving the quality of life and preservation of Latin Culture and Heritage in Acadiana.

Written by Juan A Paredes

