

# Symbols for Use in Health Care

Hablamos Juntos, an initiative of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, was launched to eliminate language barriers and improve the quality of health care for people with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). In a research endeavor with JRC Design, they examined the history and usage of visual symbols as communication tools in health care settings throughout the world.

The research showed that symbols can be an effective communications tool, particularly for LEP individuals. Further, a thoughtful, well-designed symbol system could assist English speakers as well as LEP people of many languages and cultures.

The symbols shown on this poster are the results of rigorous design and testing. It is a system with broad aesthetic, as well as practical, appeal.

Symbols are not the panacea for a poor signage system, nor will they solve wayfinding issues. But they can be part of a viable and dynamic system that can assist all people, regardless of their reading skill level, to feel more comfortable and confident within a health care facility.



Ambulance Entrance  
*Ingreso de Ambulancias*



Billing Department  
*Departamento de Facturación*



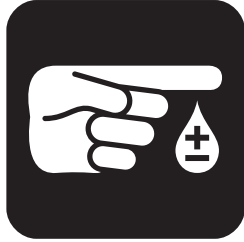
Cardiology  
*Cardiología*



Care Staff Area  
*Área del Personal de Cuidado*



Chapel  
*Capilla*



Diabetes (Education)  
*Diabetes (Educación)*



Emergency  
*Emergencia*



Family Practice Clinic  
*Clínica de Práctica Familiar*



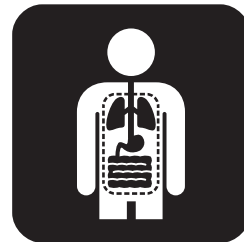
Immunizations  
*Inmunizaciones*



Infectious Disease  
*Enfermedades Infecciosas*



Intensive Care  
*Cuidado Intensivo*



Internal Medicine  
*Medicina Interna*



Interpretive Services  
*Servicios Interpretación*



Laboratory  
*Laboratorio*



Mammography  
*Mamografía*



Medical Records  
*Archivos Médicos*



OB Clinic  
*Clínica de Obstetricia*



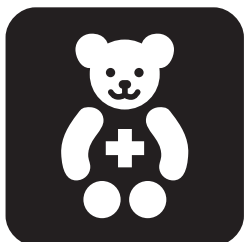
OB/GYN  
*Obstetricia/ Ginecología*



Oncology  
*Oncología*



Outpatient  
*Paciente Ambulatorio*



Pediatrics  
*Pediatría*



Pharmacy  
*Farmacia*



Physical Therapy  
*Terapia Física*



Radiology  
*Radiología*



Registration  
*Registro*



Social Services  
*Servicios Sociales*



Surgery  
*Cirugía*



Waiting Area  
*Área de Espera*