

When family members interpret

In this film, a health visitor is making a home visit to a patient with a new baby. She had booked an interpreter, but at short notice, the interpreter will no longer be able to attend. A family member has agreed to be present to assist with the appointment.

Practical issues

- background noise and disruption
- seating arrangements
- dealing with issues of privacy in the home space

Practice issues

- gender match
- shifting roles of family member and information disclosure
- omissions and inclusions
- potential for confrontational context
- power relationships and equal participation
- ethical considerations
- body language
- good practice
- time pressures

Strategies

- influencing the direction of what is said, when and to whom
- managing information flow and shift in direction of discussion
- taking control