

*Interviewer:* Where are you from?

*Interviewee:* Colombia.

*Interviewer:* How long have you been to the United States?

*Interviewee:* 30 years.

*Interviewer:* Many. Do you usually communicate in English?

*Interviewee:* Yes. It depends. At home, I usually communicate with my husband in Spanish. I have to communicate in English every day for working matters related to physicians.

*Interviewer:* When you make an appointment for yourself, do you usually go to Spanish speaking physicians?

*Interviewee:* No, I generally do it in English.

*Interviewer:* How come you don't have a preference for Spanish?

*Interviewee:* I would like to find a physician who spoke only Spanish; I like that very much. But the specialists I see are here in the city and they all speak English. Although most of them have Hispanic people in their offices.

*Interviewer:* How about non-Hispanic physicians? How has your experience been, positive, negative?

*Interviewee:* It's been positive because I think they try, but I would prefer them to do it in Spanish. I find it easier to express in Spanish. There are terms I would like them to understand in Spanish. Many times, I don't know them in English.

*Interviewer:* Which are the terms?

*Interviewee:* Terms, for example— there's one that my father used a lot— here you go to the physician because sometimes you come out a bit warm and then you get those chills. You get some sort of spasms. I remember that my father used to say, "El penetro", "I got the 'penetro'." Then, for us, "El penetro" is common.

*Interviewer:* I don't know the— is it like a cold?

*Interviewee:* It's like a cold in the muscles, in the bones, that makes you feel bad; when you have a muscular spasm. People used to say, "I got 'el penetro'." Then if I have a back ache or pain in my neck, in Colombia, it's common for physicians to understand that as "el penetro." It's very funny, but that's the term.

*Interviewer:* The people who speak Spanish here, not everybody speaks the Colombian dialect, so they may not understand "el penetro."

*Interviewee:* Yes, they won't understand it at all. It's going to be very hard to tell them. It's very difficult.

*Interviewer:* There are other terms, right? very Colombian or perhaps Hispanic that are like the symptoms but we may not understand. Coming from another country.

*Interviewee:* I forgot the term at this moment. The "patatus". The "patatus" is when you have been doing a lot of exercise, you get dehydrated and you pass out. Then you say, "He got the 'patatus'." It's falling unconscious to the floor. It's a 'patatus'.

*Interviewer:* A "patatus" is a faint?

*Interviewee:* It's a faint. You can also say, "He sat down and got 'patatus'." It's a little like when he starts to tremble a bit. That's a "patatus".

*Interviewer:* Like convulsions?

*Interviewee:* It can also be a small convulsion.

*Interviewer:* What would an attack be? Is that not a convulsion too?

*Interviewee:* An attack, well. For us Colombian people, there are so many attacks. "I got an attack." Besides, we're dramatic. "Doctor, I got an attack, I felt like an attack." What we mean by this is like panic. "I got an attack, an attack" We get attacks for everything.

*Interviewer:* Like an anxiety attack, right?

*Interviewee:* It can be an anxiety attack, or an attack of—

*Interviewer:* A mental or physical attack?

*Interviewee:* Yes, but I haven't found a doctor that can understand the term, "I got an attack" then, difficult.

*Interviewer:* Then the attack is a mental one not a physical one?

*Interviewee:* Well, you can say that. I would consider it a mental attack. If I go to the doctor and say "I got an attack" I would be referring to a mental attack, more than a physical attack.

*Interviewer:* Besides those terms, do you feel you could communicate well with your physicians? Hispanic and non-Hispanic?

*Interviewee:* Well, yes and no because the truth is the terms change a lot. What for me is a physical or mental attack, it's a different thing for him. Then you realize that although we're all Latin people, the term changes from country to country. As simple as an attack.

So, it's been relatively— at the beginning, it was very difficult. It was very difficult for me because I didn't speak English at all. I was looking for a Latin doctor. I remember that the first physician that I found was from Argentina and the terms are very different.

*[End of Audio]*