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## Burmese/Karen Medical Glossary

*The Cross Cultural Health Care Program*  
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**The Cross Cultural Health Care Program : Burmese/Karen Medical Glossary** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Burmese/Karen Medical Glossary:

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This glossary contains over 2,400 biomedical English terms translated into Burmese and Karen, with corresponding

English definitions. The first of its kind, this medical glossary supports the work of many dedicated individuals around the country who provide services to limited English-speaking patients in health care and social service settings. In a field where misinterpretation and misunderstanding can be serious and even fatal, finding the "right words" to interpret or translate medical terminology is a tremendous challenge. We hope this glossary helps in that valuable work. The terms and phrases included range from very technical biomedical terms, such as "hysterectomy," to less technical but equally challenging terms to translate, such as "shortness of breath." This medical glossary is not definitive; it is intended to provide a foundation in medical terminology. Each medical term or phrase in the glossary is accompanied by an English definition. Each definition captures the meaning and use of a word or phrase in a biomedical context. These definitions were reviewed and edited by medical professionals.

About the Author Established in 1992, the Cross Cultural Health Care Program (CCHCP) is a response to an increasingly urgent need to decipher and to negotiate the diverse health care needs of the growing non-mainstream, limited English speaking populations. Primarily a training and consulting organization, CCHCP endeavors to enhance the abilities of health professionals to provide culturally competent and linguistically appropriate care. From its inception, the CCHCP has approached the issue of cultural competency from a unique perspective which acknowledges its complex, systemic nature. Consequently, the work of the CCHCP has substantively differed from that of most organizations in the field which focus only on specific pieces of the puzzle of cultural competency. The CCHCP's approach places culture within the context of an interwoven network of relationships between language and tradition, tradition and history, history and economics, etc. This basic but surprisingly atypical understanding of culture has allowed the CCHCP to build innovative programs addressing multiple layers of need within communities. The recognition that health care systems and institutions also operate as complex cultures, with specialized languages, traditions, and codes of conduct, has allowed us to develop similarly focused programs for organizational systems. In 1996 we began a campaign to disseminate our programs and products at the national level, and have been providing trainings at public and private settings across the country. The scope and reach of our programs continue to shift and grow. The strength of our work lies in our commitment to remain grounded within the communities we serve, and our consistent efforts to evaluate the efficacy of our work. We continue to strive to anticipate and respond to the changing needs of our communities and the emerging challenges surfacing in the health care field.