

The following Healthcare related stories were collected under the Task Force's "Tell Us Your Story" initiative. Tell us yours at www.TheTaskForce.ca. Linguistic discrimination exists in Quebec's healthcare system and people need to know about it.

- A middle aged woman went to Glen Hospital Emergency to have a wound and its surrounding cellulitis assessed. The triage nurse refused to speak to her in English. She left and went to Queen Elizabeth health care complex where they immediately sent her to the Montreal General. She had gotten sepsis from the untreated wound which triggered a cardiac event which sent her to ICU. She almost died.
- A nursing home refused to serve in English, was interviewed with CTV, global news (March 17/18 2019) <https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/verdun-hospital-facing-language-issues-again-1.2820614>
- An individual called 811. They were transferred 3 times and then hung up on when speaking English.
- While being treated for terminal cancer Doctors had to instruct nurses and orderlies to provide care in English to the patient after they had refused.
- Woman was injured and was made to wait an additional 3 hours in the waiting room for an English doctor, in the end she still only received care in French.
- A 77 year old man, born in Quebec and had been refused French public education because of his Jewish faith. He claims he has been served in French only at multiple hospital visits despite being a historical Anglophone.
- Someone acting on an Indigenous person's behalf was denied service in English by a provincial public office in their attempt to help them get a health card.
- An individual had post-operative instructions provided only in French and told they are not permitted to provide them in English anymore.
- Prior to Bill 96, a woman underwent a complex 6 hour surgery at the Notre Dame Hospital in 2021 and, upon awakening in the recovery room, was told they did not help English people at the hospital. Despite her surgeon being fluently bilingual, none of the staff could speak English nor did they offer translation assistance.
- A woman was in excruciating pain after a violent fall that resulted in a dislocated arm, a broken shoulder and a broken hip. When the ambulance arrived, one of the EMTs turned to his partner and in utter disgust told him to take over as he didn't want to help someone who didn't respond to his question in French. At hospital emergency, the EMT tossed his clipboard onto her leg causing her to scream in pain. He had to be told by the attending nurse to remove it. She had never encountered such hatred before and was appalled to realize it was because of language.