

Aigerim (Aya) Aliakparova
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EDUCATION

2024 – expected to graduate summer 2026 **Duquesne University**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
PhD, Global Health Ethics

2016 **Pavlodar State University**, Pavlodar, Kazakhstan
Master of Economics and Business
Specialty: Management, GPA 4.0

2010 **The University of Birmingham**, Birmingham, United Kingdom
Bachelor of Science (BSc), Biomedical Material Science
Honor Class II Division I

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

08/2024 - present **Duquesne University**
Gallagher Chair Graduate Assistant within Ph.D. program in Healthcare Ethics
A highly competitive position reserved for outstanding students. Only one student is selected and appointed every two years

- Assist professors with graduate courses preparation and teaching.
- Lead discussion sections, labs, or tutorials.
- Manage student communications

10/2024; 09/2025 **Duquesne University**
Guest lecture
Lecturing for undergraduate student at Rangos School od Health Science, group HADM 101

- Deliver a lecture or presentation on a Ethical significance of the language access within healthcare.
- Engage students in discussion, answer questions, and provide career or research insights.
- Answering questions of the students and faculty after the lecture.

08/2023 – present **Spectria, USA**
Founder/Director
The first U.S. agency specializing in medical interpretation for neurodiverse pediatric patients, ensuring culturally responsive and equitable care

- Oversee strategic growth, partnerships, and training programs that integrate ethics, cultural awareness, and language access in healthcare.
- Develop AI-driven educational tools to train healthcare professionals and refugee communities on cultural competence and communication in clinical settings.
- Advocate for patient-centered care through national collaborations, research, and interpreter workforce development.

05/2023 – 07.2024	LanguageLine Solutions, USA <i>Interpreter (English-Russian)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreted via video, phone, or in-person • Areas of focus: Medicine, insurance, life-threatening emergency situations 911, 311, financial, legal, and transportation
04/2021 - 11/2021	MediCell Bank, Medicare Healthcare JSC, Almaty, Kazakhstan <i>Medical Director</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed full cycle program delivery for MEDICELL - the first and only stem cell bank in Kazakhstan • Successfully launched the project and met the financial targets in the first 6 months due to effective planning and optimal team deployment • Increased brand recognition of the company within the medical services market by developing an effective marketing and PR strategy based on initial accurate market research
01/2019 – 11/2021	Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan <i>Erasmus+ programs manager</i>
	<p>Improvement of Children care teaching as a template for upgrading medical education in Central Asia – ChildCA (01/2019 – 01/2023) aimed at enhancing children's care across Central Asia:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated the project implementation according to the projects' work plans; managed the communications between partner Universities, worked with documentation, data collection, recorded meeting minutes, reporting, and quality control • Participated in the design of an integrated curriculum for the postgraduate training of medical professionals in Pediatrics, Pediatric Surgery, and Child Neuropsychiatry within Central Asia universities • Introduced ICT technologies within the University to implement an effective virtual interaction among international educational entities
	<p>Building academic capacity in global health in Eastern Europe - Central Asia - BACE (01/2021 – 01/2024) aimed to bolster the higher education systems of Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine by integrating Global Health (GH) into their academic curricula:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated the project implementation according to the projects' work plans; managed the communications between partner Universities, worked with documentation, data collection, recorded meeting minutes, reporting, and quality control • Developed curricula for accredited courses on 6 GH topics and 2 GH research methods • Participated in establishing the Eastern Europe – Central Asia Regional Alliance for Global Health (https://allianceforglobalhealth.net/)
11/2018 – 05/2020	Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Almaty, Kazakhstan <i>Lecturer, Molecular Biology</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered lectures on molecular biology to a diverse group of over 60 first-year international medical students at the Higher School of Medicine. The student cohort comprised individuals from countries such as India, Pakistan, Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Egypt

- Conceived and structured the course curriculum, in addition to creating the lecture materials
- Administered and graded examinations for the students

07/2013 - 07/2017

Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan

• *Project Manager, Department of Integrated Academic Healthcare System*

- Navigated the project team in establishing the new medical entity **National Research Oncology Center** – the joint international project under the supervision of **UPMC International**, 300-bed inpatient care hospital with an outpatient clinic, diagnostic and imaging departments, acute care, and 96-bed family-house (Project cost c. \$300mln), by monitoring project progress, managing the budget, ensuring required resource availability and timely reporting every milestone of the project;
- Supervised the multicultural team of construction, engineering, finance, marketing, human resources, operation, physicians, technicians and nursing;
- Incorporated international operational medical standards within the oncology system of Kazakhstan (Patient registration process; Medical Oncology patient flow; Radiation Oncology patient flow; Surgical Oncology patient flow; Ancillary patient flows; Outpatient patient flow);
- Organized and hosted the First International Oncology Symposium in Kazakhstan.

07/2012 - 07/2013

Republican Research Center for Emergency Care, Astana, Kazakhstan

Director for marketing and business development

- Forged partnerships with prominent international insurance entities, including Bupa and SOS Medical Assistance.
- Spearheaded developing and launching a fee-based outpatient department, significantly boosting the center's financial performance.
- Crafted a comprehensive marketing strategy to bolster the clinic's reputation.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES

08/2025 - present

Member, American College of Healthcare Executives, USA

09/2024 – present

Member, National Council on Interpreting in Health Care,

Faculty member of NCIHC Research Work Group

09/2024 – present

Member, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities

09/2024 - present

Member, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics

09/2024 - present

Faculty member for the American Academy of Pediatrics ECHO telementoring program “Integrating Language Access into Your Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs,” designed to strengthen healthcare providers’ skills in language access

09/2023 - present

Member of Culturally Responsive Committee, Promoting Equitable access to Language Services (PEALS) project, led by Family Voices, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Minority Health

08/2022 – 08/2024

Ambassador of the Russian Speaking Families, Irvine International Academy, Irvine CA, USA

02/2023 – 03/2024

Volunteer, The Beads of Courage NICU Program, Children's Hospital of Orange County, CA, USA

08/2023 - present

Member, Association for Behavior Analysis International, USA

07/2013 - present **Expert**, Association of parents of children with autism “TAMSHYLAR”, Astana, Kazakhstan

PRESENTATIONS

08/2025 Pannelist, Webinar “*Promoting Access to Language Services in Health and Human Services (PALS) / Promoción del Acceso a los Servicios de Lenguaje en los Servicios Sanitarios y Sociales (PALS)*”, hosted by Family Voices, USA

07/2025 Lecture for 3rd year medical student, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Boston, USA. Lecture topic: “*Bridging the words and worlds: The power of the interpretation in patient-centered care.*”

06/2025 Panel presentation, title “*Bridging the Gap: The Art of Collaboration*”, the Paving the Way to Health Care Access Conference 2025, University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA

04/2025 Panel and poster presentation, title: “*Advancing Language Accessibility in Healthcare: The Role of AI in Supporting Medical Interpretation*,” Wimmer Symposium, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

04/2025 Panel presentation, title “*Bridging the Cultural and Ethical Gaps: The Role of Interpreters in Facilitating Hindu End-of-Life Decision-Making*,” the Conference on Medicine and Religion’s Nurturing Hope: Expanding Holistic Care at the Margins in Costa Mesa, CA

04/2025 Lecture within American Academy Association Integrating Language Access into Your Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs ECHO session. Lecture topic: “*How to Integrate Culturally Responsive Care into Clinical Encounters with Language Access Services.*”

03/2025 Poster presentation, title: “*Bridging Healthcare Disparities Through Effective Communication*,” 2025 HEC Annual Conference under the theme Shaping the Future: Healthcare Ethics 2035, Atlanta, Georgia

03/2025 Panel and poster presentation, title: “*Equitable Healthcare for all*,” 10th Annual Presidential Conference on the Integrity of Creation: Climate Change: Global Perspectives, Pittsburgh, PA

03/2025 Panel and poster presentation, title: “*Ethical Frameworks to Guide AI Use in Medical Interpretation: Balancing Challenges and Opportunities*,” California Healthcare Interpreting Association’s 25th Annual Educational Conference, Los Angeles, CA

03/2025 Panel and poster presentation, the winner of the **Graduate Research Award**, sponsored by the Center for Global Health Ethics. Work title: “*Bridging Healthcare Disparities Through Effective Communication*,” the 2025 Graduate Research Symposium, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

03/2025 Lecture within American Academy Association Integrating Language Access into Your Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs ECHO session. Lecture topic: “*Dealing with Unique Language Access Situations: Strategies to Troubleshoot & Support.*”

02/2025 Lecture within American Academy Association Integrating Language Access into Your Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs ECHO session. Lecture topic: “*Implementing an Effective Clinical Encounter with Language Access Services: Do’s and Don’ts.*”

02/2025	Panel presentation, title: “ <i>Empowering Voices: Reimagining Community Resources for Effective Communication in Healthcare</i> ,” the <i>34th Annual APPE International Conference</i> in Norfolk, Virginia.
01/2025	Lecture within American Academy Association Integrating Language Access into Your Practice for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs ECHO session. Lecture topic: “ <i>Developing a Language Access Plan: How to Integrate Language Access into your Clinic Workflow.</i> ”
11/2024	Panel presentation, title: “ <i>The Ethical Implications of AI-Powered Medical Interpreters: Analyzing the Optical Model of Communication</i> ,” APPE Symposium on Bridging Disparities in Health Care Using Artificial Intelligence, St. Louis, MO
10/2024	Winner of the poster presentation – Crowd Favorite , Grefenstette Center 2024 Tech Ethics Symposium, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

CERTIFICATION

09/2023	Medical Interpreter Certificate, Medical Interpreters Training School
12/2022	Project Planning: Putting it All Together, Google, Certificate of course completion
11/2022	Foundation of Project Management, Google, Certificate of Course completion
11/2022	Project Initiation: Starting a Successful Project, Certificate of course completion, MAGEN Correctional Center, Almaty, Kazakhstan
04/2021	Behavior correction and speech initiation specialist, Certificate of course completion, MAGEN Correctional Center, Almaty, Kazakhstan

REFERENCES

Available upon request