Father’s Day Celebrations Around The World

Most people around the world celebrate Father’s Day, but the dates to honor dads are not the same everywhere. In many countries the customs and traditions may be very different than the ones you know.

The earliest record of Father’s Day was found in the ruins of Babylon. A young boy named Elmesu carved a Father’s Day message on a card made out of clay nearly 4,000 years ago. He wished his Babylonian father good health and a long life.

No one knows what happened to Elmesu or his father, but the tradition of having a special day honoring fathers has continued through the years in countries all around the world.

In many countries, where the Catholic Church has had a important influence on the culture, Father’s Day is celebrated on St. Joseph’s Day (March 19). In recent times a secular celebration, not associated with any religion, has been celebrated in many of these countries to reflect the increased diversity of the people who live there. Some families choose one of the dates to celebrate Father’s Day and ignore the other day, but some lucky dads actually get to celebrate Father’s Day twice every year!

Argentina - the third Sunday in June
Australia - the first Sunday in September
Belgium - St. Joseph’s Day & the second Sunday in June
Brazil - the second Sunday in August
Bulgaria - June 20
Canada - the third Sunday in June
Chile - the third Sunday in June
Denmark - June 5
Finland - the second Sunday in November
France - the third Sunday in June
Germany - Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter)
Japan - the third Sunday in June
Lithuania - the first Sunday in June
Netherlands - the third Sunday in June
New Zealand - the first Sunday in September
Norway - the second Sunday in November
Portugal - St. Joseph’s Day March 19
Spain - St. Joseph’s Day March 19
Sweden - the second Sunday in November
Taiwan - August 8 (in the Mandarin dialect of the Chinese language which many people speak in Taiwan, the numbers for this date – 8/8 – make the sound “ba ba”...and that is the same sound as the word father!)
Thailand - December 5 (This is the birthday of King Bhumibol Adulyadej)

United Kingdom - the third Sunday in June
United States - the third Sunday in June

JUNE 2013 CALENDAR
Cancer From The Sun Month
Cataract Awareness Month
Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome Awareness Month (APS)

2- National Cancer Survivors Day
2-8- National Headache Awareness Week
3-10- (World) Dystonia Awareness Week
9- Multicultural American Child Day
10- Alcoholics Anonymous (Founders) Day
13-20- Nursing Assistants Week
14- (World) Blood Donor Day
16- Father’s Day
19- World Sickle Cell Day
21- National Daylight Appreciation Day
23-29- National Mosquito Control Awareness Week
27- National HIV Testing Day

http://www.chiff.com/home_life/holiday/fathers-day-international.htm
Medical Process in Singapore
By Rollyne Wong (UCDMC MIS Medical Interpreter)

Singapore is the size of Rhode Island with a population of over 4 million diverse inhabitants. Also known as the “little red dot” located at the end of the Malay Peninsula, separated by the Straits of Johore.

Its rapid progress owes its thanks to a stable government who strongly prioritized social and economic equity while achieving high growth rates and standard of living and excellent medical standard. Its progress owes its thanks to the Singapore government who exhibits a strong passion to basic and clinical research and medical progress.

Singapore’s medical field keeps abreast of the modern world’s technological and medical knowledge and equipment with the aim of achieving superb patient care. Scientific and medical research is a vibrant culture there and this leads to the attraction and influx or world-renowned experts/specialists to be employed there; thus contributing their valuable expertise to Singapore.

Many specialty institutes have been established in the last decade or two in the fields of biomedicine, genomes, bioengineering and nanotechnology, molecular and cell biology as well as stem-cell research. Clinical sciences and pharmacological researches have also given rise to the research and manufacture of cutting edge drugs and clinical trials. Various medical products ranging from research and scientific analytical equipment are also manufactured in this little red dot of a country.

The amazing phenomenon that occurs there is that of traditional and western medicine, which exists side by side and is well tolerated. One can find Chinese herbs sold on a different floor in the same building as the hospital. No doubt this unique marriage of traditional and modern medicine will march hand in hand on this very unique tropical island together in the future.

Tips for Working With Health Care Interpreters
By Cynthia E. Roat, MPH

Working With Any Interpreter:

1. Greet the patient first, then greet the interpreter.
2. Focus on and speak to the patient, not the interpreter.
3. Speak at an even pace and pause often to allow the interpreter to interpret.
4. Pay attention to the patient’s body language.
5. Ask one question at a time.
6. Use plain English; avoid slang, jargon, technical/medical terms, and acronyms.
7. Pay attention to cultural issues.
8. Assume that everything you say and everything that the patient says will be interpreted.
9. If you need to talk directly to the interpreter about an issue of communication or culture, tell the patient first what you are going to be addressing with the interpreter.
10. Do not hold the interpreter responsible for what the patient does or doesn’t say; the interpreter is the medium of the message, not the source.
11. Understand that the interpreter may need to “paint word pictures” of some of the terms you may use; this may take longer than your original speech. Many concepts you express have no linguistic, or often even conceptual, equivalent in other languages.
12. If your patient is focusing excessively on the interpreter, you can use the following techniques to get the patient to focus on you:
   • Use the patient’s name. People respond to their name regardless of the language in which it is said.
   • Move your chair closer to the patient.
   • Make sure you are making eye contact with the patient as often as possible.
   • Use facial expressions and body language that communicate interest and attentiveness.
   • If you feel it is appropriate, a light touch on the patient’s knee will bring his/her attention back to you.
13. Make no assumptions about the patient’s educational level. A patient’s inability to speak English does not necessarily equate with a lack of education.
14. A professional interpreter’s area of expertise is cross-lingual communication. Respect his or her role.