



**Healthcare
Phrases
That Are
Almost Always
Misunderstood**



**Phrases That
Physicians
Say to Patients**

Unclear

Take two pills, twice daily.

Clear

Take two pills in the morning
and two at bedtime.

Unclear

Practice social distancing.

Clear

Stay at home. Go grocery shopping only once a week. Wear a mask.

Unclear

Your ultrasound came back positive.

Clear

You have bladder stones.

Unclear

Your results were negative.

Clear

You don't have skin cancer.

Unclear

Avoid strenuous activity.

Clear

Don't have sex, go for a run,
or lift anything heavy.

Unclear

Follow-up with me in two weeks.

Clear

Make an appointment to see me again in two weeks.

Unclear

I'm going to perform
a laparoscopy.

Clear

The surgery will be
minimally invasive.



**Phrases That
Patients
Say to
Physicians**

Unclear

I think I have arthritis.

Clear

My joints hurt.

Unclear

I have pain in my groin area.

Clear

I have pain in my testicles.



**Any other
phrases?**