



How a Medicine Travels the World

And what translation has to do with it? From lab to patient, across languages, regulations, and borders.

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The Journey of a Medicine

Every stage in the pharmaceutical lifecycle produces documents that must be translated, reviewed, and localized for each target market.



Research & Development

Scientific protocols, trial designs



Clinical Trials

Informed consent, investigator documents



Regulatory Registration

Technical submissions per market



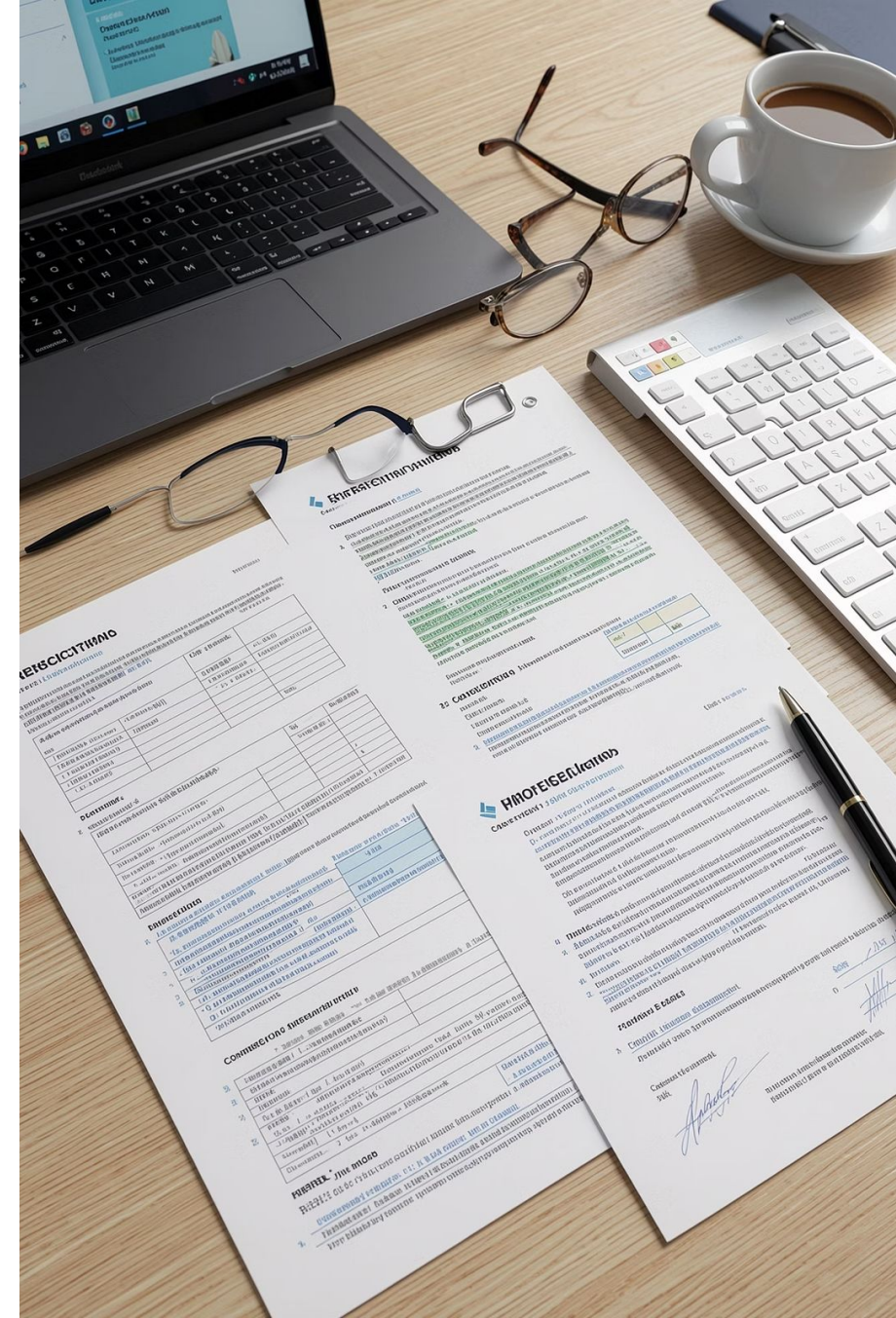
Packaging & Launch

Labels, leaflets, training, digital

Translation Enters at Every Stage

Clinical trial materials, regulatory dossiers, prescribing information, patient leaflets, and training content - each document type demands specialist knowledge alongside linguistic precision.

- ❏ A small change in meaning across a dosage instruction or contraindication can have serious consequences. Consistency is non-negotiable.



Regulatory Differences Across Asian Markets

Translating into three Asian markets is not simply producing three versions of the same file. Each market has its own regulatory authority, language requirements, and submission rules.



Japan - PMDA

Submissions must be in Japanese. English translations serve as reference only. Legal effect rests with the original Japanese text.



Singapore - HSA

Therapeutic product dossiers must be submitted in English, with specific requirements for dossier organization, electronic submission, and product labeling.



Vietnam - DAV

Drug registration, labeling, and information materials require Vietnamese-language compliance, with regulations continuing to evolve.

Cultural Localization Matters Too



A technically correct translation can still feel unfamiliar or confusing to its intended audience. Patient-facing content requires a different register, sentence structure, and level of explanation than physician-facing material.

- Text expands or contracts in translation, affecting label space
- Asian writing systems require different spacing, punctuation, and line-break rules
- In Thai, medical localization must manage the absence of word spaces and standardized terminology carefully

Building a Better Pharma Translation Workflow

At 1-StopAsia, the process is structured around the specific requirements of each product, document type, market, and client workflow, not a one-size-fits-all approach.

- 1

Establish Terminology First

Client-approved glossaries and translation memories preserve product names, preferred medical terms, and regulatory wording across all documents.
- 2

Match Specialists to the Content

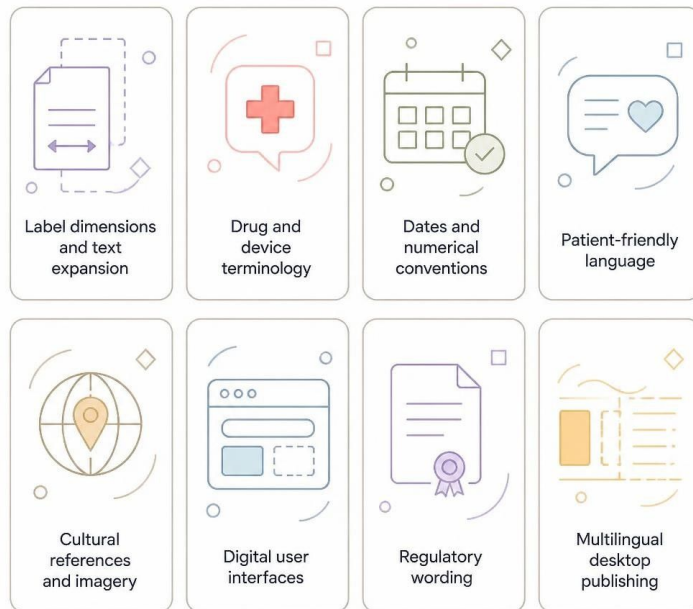
Clinical documents, patient leaflets, and safety materials each require different linguistic approaches and subject-matter expertise.
- 3

Use Technology Where It Improves Consistency

CAT tools, QA checks, and translation memories support large multilingual projects, always combined with specialist human review.

Localizing the Final Experience

Localization continues well after words have been translated. The translated content must work in the real environment where patients and professionals will encounter it.



Each of these elements can affect usability, regulatory compliance, and patient safety. A translation that passes linguistic review may still fail when printed on a physical label or displayed in a digital interface.

- ❏ Multilingual desktop publishing is often overlooked, but layout failures can render critical instructions unreadable.

Medicine Translation Is a Lifecycle Function

Labels, clinical documentation, regulatory submissions, and patient communications keep traveling long after a product leaves the facility. Each new market is a new linguistic and regulatory environment.

Planning a pharmaceutical launch or multilingual regulatory project?

Contact 1-StopAsia for a consultation on medical and pharma translation services.

