

ENGLISH FOR DOCTORS

ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Revised, Re-organised, Updated

2ND
EDITION



ENGLISH LEVEL: B2 & C1
Upper-intermediate & advanced

Having a high level of professional English enables medical students to engage effectively with the global healthcare sector.

This 100-hour online course covers a wide range of medical terminology, patient and colleague interactions, hospital-based language, grammar, pronunciation and academic language skills.

The course is designed for medical students with an upper-intermediate (B2) level of English. It can be used in tutored environments as well as in blended and flipped classroom courses.



“..this online course is useful not only for students, but also for teachers, as it logically complements face-to-face courses of the English language for medical students. During face-to-face classes there is a good opportunity for teachers to discuss some tasks from the online course and check students’ progress.”

Marina Shirinyan, Senior Teacher,
Sechenov Medical University, Moscow



Course Content

Around the Hospital

- On the ward
- Hospital staff, inc. allied health professionals
- Introducing yourself to patients
- The body: anterior, posterior
- Glossary of body terms

Patient Admission

- Clerking a patient
- Non-verbal communication
- Therapeutic listening
- Wounds and burns
- Hospital charts: patient admission form
- Writing a patient file note

Interviewing a Patient

- The language used in healthcare
- Conducting patient interviews
- The Calgary – Cambridge Observation Guide
- Asking different types of questions
- Cardiovascular conditions

- Respiratory symptoms and conditions
- Describing strokes
- The body: the nose, head, face

Taking Observations

- Blood pressure and pulse
- Temperature
- Neurological changes
- Hospital charts: Early Warning Score
- The body: the arm, hands
- The body: skin, nails, hair

Past Medical History

- Patient centred care
- Allergies and adverse drug reactions
- Taking a sexual history
- Substance misuse
- Describing dementia
- Challenging behaviours in the elderly
- The body: the chest

Talking about Pain

- Types of pain
- Pain severity
- Pain location
- Using pain scales
- Chronic back pain
- The body: muscles, tendons, bones, ligaments

Examining a Patient

- Patient confidentiality
- Putting a patient at ease
- The female reproductive system
- Doing an internal examination
- Protecting vulnerable patients
- Writing GP letters

Explaining Tests

- Blood tests, taking a blood sample
- Radiological tests
- Testing for tuberculosis
- Cervical smear tests
- Taking a urine specimen
- Diabetes tests
- Hospital forms: pathology forms
- The body: the ears

Discussing a Diagnosis

- Discussing different diagnoses
- Discussing injuries
- Discussing IBS
- Infectious diseases and conditions
- Answering a bleep
- The body: intestines, abdomen
- The body: feet, ankles

Explaining Treatment

- Managing diabetes
- Managing constipation
- Managing urinary incontinence
- Managing asthma
- Stoma therapy

- Administering medications, PCA
- Hospital charts: controlled drugs, oxygen therapy
- Writing a discharge letter

Discussing Surgery

- Surgical procedures
- Cosmetic surgery
- Hospital chart: VTE
- Arthritis
- The body: hips, thighs, legs
- The body: shoulders
- Using SBAR

Pre-operative Care

- Consent, infection control, MRSA
- Pre-operative investigations
- Assessing level of risk: anaesthesia
- Healthcare acquired infections
- The kidneys, fluid loss, dehydration
- Inserting an IV cannula
- IV fluids

Post-operative Care

- Giving a post-operative handover
- Endocrine disorders: subtotal thyroidectomy
- Wound infections
- Hospital charts: sepsis screening tool
- Suggesting lifestyle changes
- The body: mouth, eyes, the senses
- Writing a discharge letter

Oncology and End-of-Life Care

- Types of cancers
- Oncology and chemotherapy
- Radiotherapy
- The breast and breast cancer
- Cancer of the cervix
- Lung cancer
- Palliative care
- End-of-life care
- Hospital charts: DNAR orders

This course is accredited by the CPD Standards Office in the UK, whose professional qualifications are recognised worldwide. On course completion, learners receive an End-of-Course Achievement Certificate confirming **80 CPD points**.



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