



Specialist Language Courses

in partnership with
Centre of English Studies



ENGLISH LEVEL: B2 & C1
Upper-intermediate & advanced

2ND EDITION

English for International Doctors

ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Revised, Re-organised, Updated

Communicating accurately and effectively is critical to the safety, care and wellbeing of patients.

This 100-hour, online course teaches the English that enables international doctors to deliver outstanding levels of practice and care, build strong relationships with patients and colleague, and lead and participate in successful healthcare teams.

The course is designed for doctors with an upper-intermediate or advanced (B2 or C1) level of English who work, or are preparing to work, in an English-speaking environment.



“The course was very helpful... to improve my medical English [and] develop my communication skills. I’m sure that it will help me a lot in my medical practice and I recommend this course to everyone who is going to work in the UK medical system.”

Horatiu, Doctor, Romania



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. On course completion, learners receive an End-of-Course Achievement Certificate confirming **80 CPD points**.



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