

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES NEEDS AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS OF HANOI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY – A SURVEY REPORT

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### ABSTRACT

**Methods:** In a cross-sectional survey utilizing a self-reported structured questionnaire, a sample of 516 postgraduate students from Hanoi Medical University agreed to be enrolled.

**Results:** All participants see the necessity of learning foreign languages, especially English, in the medical field. Moreover, 90.7% of students thought that it was of utmost necessity for them to be involved in the revision course before their final foreign language exam. 64.2% of participant saw reading as “very important”, while this percentage seeing listening, speaking and writing important is 41.5%, 37.4% and 25.2%. Regarding to the time duration of the foreign language revision course in their program, half of them considered it to be reasonable. The course was considered to be effective by only 15.3%. The majority of students expect the high frequency of practicing four English sub-skills in classroom. Many students “very often” and “often” have difficulty in practicing the four sub-skills. Two thirds of participants have high frequency of “very often” “often” of practicing listening, speaking and writing. The number of students who “hardly” or “never” meet with trouble in practicing these four sub-skills is very low. In term of the participants’ wants relating to a future foreign language course, 72.9% and 21.7% of students agreed that foreign language should be one compulsory and optional subject, respectively. Besides, 22.9% of students wanted to attend courses organized by the University, 22.9% of students wanted to submit the standardized test results.

**Keywords:** Learning needs, wants, post graduate medical students, Medical University, Vietnam.