

**AN EVALUATION OF THE MEDICAL ENGLISH MATERIAL FOR  
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**ABSTRACT**

The current ESP material has been used for second-year students at Hanoi Medical University for four years without any evaluation. Moreover, needs analysis had not been carried out thoroughly before the course started. It was, thus, necessary to conduct an evaluation on the textbook used for second-year students to see if it matched with the objectives of the course and with students' needs. Some principal criteria listed in Hutchinson and Water's model, such as the aims, the content and the methodology were the focus of the study. Data was collected by two instruments: document analysis and questionnaires. Documents were analyzed including the English curriculum, the English reading passages given by specialist lecturers and ex-students, and the textbook. The questionnaires were delivered to second year students, ex-students, ESP lecturers and specialist lecturers. The results of the study showed that the textbook properly matched with students' needs in terms of vocabulary. It provided students with a wide range of medical words which were practiced thoroughly through a variety of exercises. Although the textbook could provide students with grammatical structures frequently used in medical documents, there were few exercises for practicing. The textbook was weakest at providing students with reading skills. Despite some limitations, the findings of this study could provide a practical implication. Combined with the literature, it is recommended that Hanoi Medical University (HMU) should make some changes in the current curriculum and in the textbook so that the revised one could meet students' needs. Along with the existing curriculum, ESP lecturers should provide students with more grammar exercises in the form of extra handouts. Besides, reading sub-skills must also receive more attention by designing supplementary reading materials with some topics in the textbook and with some topics suggested by specialist lecturers and ex-students. Moreover, the study also provided information on the direction of making changes in the English curriculum in the future. The newly developed curriculum should take reading skill into consideration because medical students wanted to be equipped with reading skills.

**Keywords:** ESP material evaluation.