

# THE RELEVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEMS FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

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**Research relevance:** Due to constant development in scientific world, medical students should have at least pre-intermediate level (B1) of English. It is important because the vast majority of published scientific researches, articles, brand-new textbooks and news are mostly in English and to prevent misunderstanding and missing valuable pieces of data medical students should know English. Moreover, having a certificate of language skills (such as IELTS, CEFR, TOEFL) is relevant in terms of attending in international conferences, internships and postgraduate studies.

**Objective:** To prove the value of testing systems in professional aspects of education of medical students.

**Materials and methods:** studies of researches and questionnaire among students of medical universities: 119 responses in total from students of all courses of education (1<sup>st</sup> year students - 23,5%, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 38,7%, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 10,1%, 4<sup>th</sup> - 17,6%, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years - 4,2% and 5,9%, respectively)

**Results:** According to the results of questionnaire among students answering to questions about international language testing systems, it is necessary to meet more students with the information about their relevance for achieving various educational goals. The charts demonstrate the following data: 59.8% of respondents are familiar with international testing systems, whereas 18.3% and 1.8% have little or no knowledge on this topic, respectively. 64.2% of students who participated in questionnaire are planning to have postgraduate studies (e.g., master's degree) abroad. Approximately two thirds of respondents (62.4%) espouse the view that having certificate of language skills is valuable for their future career in medical field. Only 5.6% has an opposite opinion. However, the level of students passed international language exams is still low. So, it is important for others to prepare for these exams. However, most of medical students still need a great support from their schools.

**Conclusions:** The importance of receiving results of testing systems (IELTS or TOEFL) as a way to validate the level of English skills finds support in a variety of aspect of medical students' studies starting from meeting the requirements for postgraduate programs (master's degree) and summer internships abroad ending with the increase the likelihood of being chosen in these programs.

## References:

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