

# THE ROLE OF EAP WRITING IN THE CURRICULUM OF MEDICAL GRADUATE SCHOOLS IN TAIWAN: A NATIONWIDE SURVEY

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## ABSTRACT

The trend of globalization has given English writing for publication a more and more important role (Wood, 2001). In Taiwan, researchers of TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) have invested tremendous time and energy to explore academic writing for science and technology (e.g., Chen, 2006; Huang & Liou, 2005). However, academic writing for medical purposes has yet received its due attention. To address this need, a nationwide survey was conducted to investigate the role of EAP (English for Academic Purposes) writing in the curriculum of medical graduate schools in Taiwan. A survey study was conducted. A questionnaire consisting of 15 items was mailed to graduate chairs of ten medical schools in Taiwan. The returning rate was about 35%. Among the findings, it is indicated that research article publication is an exit requirement in all the doctoral programs of medical schools in Taiwan. With an average of 4.79, the respondents, via a five-point Likert scale, also showed the great importance of EAP writing. Implications of the study are related to the needs of placing attention to and emphasis on EAP writing curriculum in both Master's and doctoral programs in Taiwanese medical schools.

**Keywords:** English for Academic Purposes (EAP), English for Medical Purposes (EMP), Academic Writing

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