



# English for Medicine

**Course Ref: EM**

**Entry Level:**

Minimum Level CEFR B1+  
except by special arrangement.

**Language of tuition: English**

**Course Duration**

According to each client's  
requirements.

**Minimum age for entry 18**

**30 lessons (22.5 hours) per  
week**

**Maximum class size:**

**Morning General English 14\*  
Afternoon EM 6**

\*General English maximum class  
size is 14. However, where  
classrooms permit and are suitably  
equipped, lit, heated and  
ventilated, we reserve the right to  
use these rooms to their maximum  
capacity. No classes will exceed 18  
students

**Course information &  
enrolment:**

**Shadows-Switzerland Sàrl**

Séjours - linguistiques  
Chemin du Noiret 7  
1893 Muraz (Collombey)

Tel: + 41 (0) 79 287 81 53

[info@shadows-switzerland.ch](mailto:info@shadows-switzerland.ch)

[www.shadows-switzerland.ch](http://www.shadows-switzerland.ch)

**This course is of significant benefit to:**

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Other health practitioners from Europe and around the world.
- Many clients are medical specialists from leading hospitals and clinics.
- Those in training in a medical context.

**Aims of the Full Course**

Four start dates per year for full courses, flexible dates for short courses.  
Those choosing shorter stays will follow that part of the full programme delivered during the weeks chosen.  
Please ask for details of any optional external examinations/certificates.

- To enable clients to communicate effectively in a range of medical situations and to give clients the skills necessary for them to perform effectively in English in their specific context..
- The Medical English course is designed to help improve knowledge of the sort of English required in the fields of human biology, medical science, nursing, etc.
- To improve language skills to advance career prospects and allow more fluent communication with counterparts (and perhaps prepare for work in other countries).

We are a 'Specialised Language College' and as such, specialise in 'language'. We fully appreciate that you are experts in your own field, as we are experts in ours and expect to work together in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.

**Preparation**

- Needs Analysis and educative background profile
- Online resources for pre-course, arrival and cultural information
- Online language level assessment.

**Practical Arrangements**

- Course tutor
- Pedagogic learning materials
- Setting of learning objectives
- Ongoing assessment and evaluation including feedback on progress
- Guidance and advice on homework exercises
- Accommodation service and pastoral care: 24hr emergency contact
- Optional additional language workshop every day
- City orientation tour and welcome activity
- Access to school study and media centre.

**Follow up provided**

- A Certificate of Attendance and Achievement
- End of course test and programme evaluation
- Post-course forum.

## General English

The 4 skills of reading, writing speaking and listening are all developed systematically through activities games, roleplays and more. This approach integrates both receptive and productive skills practice.

## English for Medicine

Sample Activity Types:

- Communicating effectively with patients and professional colleagues*
- Studying the language as it relates to medical treatment: medical treatment, physiotherapy, surgical treatment, giving and understanding instructions
  - *Discussing treatments* Presenting opinions and assessments
  - *Developing a winning CV* and using interview English
  - *Joining a professional team* successfully in the UK
  - *Making applications*
  - *Taking and understanding a patient history*, asking about symptoms, recording and communicating information accurately
  - *Examining a patient*, rephrasing, explaining, prompting, investigations.
  - *Using a medical dictionary*, medical documents.
  - *Interpreting a diagnosis*, explaining and discussing a diagnosis.
  - *Understanding medical diagrams and documents.*
  - *Using general medical reference books* and a pharmacology reference.
  - *Case histories.*
  - *The British National Health Service*, including a discussion of the British hospital system.
  - *The future of medicine.*

## Course Structure (Mon to Fri)

General English 20 lessons (15 hours)

English for Medicine 10 lessons (7.5 hours)

## Course Content and Strategies

### General English

Language classes are communicative with students encouraged and facilitated to use the language learned on the course. This covers all aspects of English language skills. Class work includes individual, pair and group work, discussions, debates, roleplays, presentations, writing exercises.

### English for Medicine

The course covers the main stages of medical communication, from the initial case-taking, to medical examination, investigation, diagnosis and medical and surgical treatment.

The course introduces relevant general English vocabulary and functional language, elements of style and register found in medical texts, specialist terminology, and the grammatical and phonological components of medical English.

The course highlights the difference between North-American medical English and British medical usage, and introduces common abbreviations, presents medical news and the British medical system.

Spending time at a UK doctor's clinic (at additional cost).

- Specialised vocabulary related to key areas of medicine
- Key grammatical and syntactic structures, as related to important functional areas.
- Role play and task-based learning exercises (individual, pairs and group)
- Communication skills.
- Formal presentations and simulations.
- Expressing opinions and agreement/disagreement.
- Introduction, practice/of key vocabulary, abbreviations & acronyms.

## Outcomes

- Improved General English: all language skills, fluency and accuracy
- More effective communication in a range of medical situations.
- Increased accuracy and clarity in common work-related topics
- Use of appropriate communicative strategies
- increased ability to recognise and resolve misunderstandings
- Improved handling of the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events that occurs within the context of a routine work situation or communicative task with which they are otherwise familiar