

**A STUDY OF WRITTEN SCIENTIFIC
DISCOURSE OF MEDICAL TEXTBOOKS
PRESCRIBED IN MYANMAR**

PhD DISSERTATION

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ABSTRACT

ESP is a special field to be considered seriously in the academic discipline in Myanmar as there are great developments in the economic, educational and health sectors and EMP (English for Medical Purposes) is one of the sub-branches of ESP. This dissertation sets out to establish certain theoretical considerations for the teaching of English to medical students who need English to pursue their specialist studies. The objective is to show that there are rhetorical features employed in written scientific discourse which need to be taken into account when teaching the language as well as the content subjects. To do this, three textbooks of three medical subjects, prescribed for the preclinical year in the Medical Institutes in Myanmar were analysed. Moreover, two sets of questionnaire, one for specialist teachers and one for medical students, were given out to gather information about the level of language (English) of their specialist textbooks. The results of the analysis showed that there are rhetorical functions and patterns in written scientific discourse as there are in General English. The study has the pedagogical implications that the teaching of these rhetorical features should be given as much attention as the teaching of the contents of the medical textbooks.