

# **A Comprehensive Analysis of Iranian Freshmen Medical Students' Linguistic Competence and Communicative Competence: A Need Analysis Approach**

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Nowadays, English language teaching offers a wide range of approaches and methods toward the instruction of linguistic and communicative competence. This study attempted to investigate the linguistic competence (LC) and communicative competence (CC) needs analysis of Iranian freshmen medical students. For this purpose, two groups totally 80 participants were surveyed. The first group included 60 freshmen medical students and the second group included 20 EAP teachers University of Guilan in Rasht and Islamic Azad University of Tonekabon, Iran. EAP teachers were MA and Ph.D. holders in English Teaching and Applied Linguistic. The data were collected through two semi-structured interviews and two questionnaires for both EAP teachers and medical students. The collected data were analyzed using the SPSS software. The results obtained descriptive and inferential statistics including Kendall's correlation tau-b revealed that there was a strong positive correlation between students' English needs and their linguistic and communicative competence, which was statistically significant. Also, the findings of Mann-Whitney U Test indicated that there was statistically significant difference between EAP teachers' perceptions of Iranian medical students' English needs and medical students' perceptions of their own linguistic and communicative competence needs. Therefore, it was concluded that EAP students' prosperous career path needs a compatible curriculum design to prepare them not only for the domestic job market but also for the international works.

**Keywords :** Teaching English, Teaching Linguistic Ability, Communication Ability

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