



Medical English studies are an increasingly significant component of university life, in both medical and biomedical degree courses as well as medically-oriented research projects. Nowhere is this truer than in Italy. This volume records the state of the art in this area of knowledge and teaching as discussed in the First National Conference on Medical English held in Foggia in April 2010 and from which the papers in this volume ultimately derive. *Teaching Medical English: Methods and Models* is thus a record of up-to-date research and thinking in the worldwide scholarly community as well as a guide to current teaching activities and best practices.

The 15 papers in the volume are representative of the main theoretical and applicative trends characterizing the study of, and research into, English in medical and biomedical contexts. The editors and authors of the volume have attempted to provide a comprehensive survey of a fast-evolving ESP field, marking conceptual and thematic boundaries and providing new insights into research modes that will prove useful for the current generation of researchers, teachers and students in today's globalized reality of medical sciences. Topics dealt with include medical texts, genres and corpora, linguistic analyses of Medical English, syllabus design, teaching strategies based on new technologies, interdisciplinary co-operation within and beyond Italy, and much more. The contributions are by Maurizio Gotti; Giuseppe Guglielmi and Maria Teresa Cascavilla; Arcangelo Liso; Margherita Ulrych; Daniele Russo; Giuliana Garzone; Anthony Baldry; Anna Loiacono; Jaana Helena Simpanen, Linda McMillan, Federica Luparello and Antonina Ausilia Uttilla; Tatiana Canziani; Marianna Lya Zummo; Cristina Guccione; Paola Clara Leotta; Barbara Cappuzzo; Christopher Taylor.



€ 26,00

Teaching Medical English

TEACHING MEDICAL ENGLISH
Volume 8 - 8th edition

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Teaching Medical English

Methods and Models

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editors

Polimetrica
International Scientific Publisher

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**Teaching Medical English:
Methods and Models**

Selected papers from the
First National Conference on Medical English
Foggia and Barletta 28th - 30th April, 2010

Polimetrica
International Scientific Publisher

2011 Polimetrica ® S.a.s.
Corso Milano, 26
20900 Monza – Italy
Phone ++39.039.2301829
www.polimetrica.com

ISSN 1974-0603 Printed Edition
ISSN 1974-0670 Electronic Edition
ISBN 978-88-7699-225-4 Printed Edition
ISBN 978-88-7699-226-1 Electronic Edition

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Printed by DigitalPrint Service Srl Segrate (MI)

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Foreword

The origins of this volume lie in a selection of the plenary lectures and papers presented at the First National Conference on Medical English held in Foggia (*Palazzo Dogana*) and Barletta (*Sala Rossa del Castello*) from April 28th to 30th 2010. The Conference was convened by Anna Loiacono, Associate Professor of English in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Foggia, and Giovanni Iamartino, Professor of English in the Faculty of Arts, University of Milan, who chaired the Scientific Committee. Kim Grego, a tenured Assistant Professor also working in Milan and a member of the Scientific Committee, provided support in preparing the event and liaising with all the participants.

The Scientific Committee organized the event, encouraged by the feeling that the time was ripe for a wider-ranging and more systematic discussion of the methodologies, modalities, theoretical and applicative perspectives involved in teaching and learning for medical purposes, and in particular in the many health contexts where English is taught as a curricular discipline at university level: nursing, health professions, postgraduate courses and so on.

As a matter of fact, the *Teaching Medical English: Methods and Models* Conference cannot be defined as a one-off, since it was preceded by two meetings that helped raise awareness that change needed to be monitored, experiences discussed and best practices encouraged. The first – perhaps significantly held at the “Ettore Majorana Centre for Scientific Culture” in Erice as a session in a 2007 medical conference – succeeded in bringing together a small group of medical experts and linguists, Giovanni Iamartino among them, in order to deal with ongoing institutional changes and new teaching opportunities in Italian Medical Faculties as well as to consider why and how linguists might profitably make Medical English their own field of research.

The same range of topics was taken up two years later when a well-attended two-day conference was organized in Palermo by Tatiana Canziani, one of the few *ricercatori* (or tenured assistant