

## Development and Pilot Testing of a Blended-Learning Program for Medical English

**Naoko Ono**

Juntendo University, Faculty of International Liberal Arts  
Tokyo, JAPAN

### Abstract

There is a growing need for effective English communication in medical settings in Japan, especially with Tokyo having been selected as the host city of the 2020 Summer Olympics. With the development of education in information and communication technology, blended-learning systems have attracted attention for medical English tuition; however, research in this field is scant. The goal of this study was to design and pilot-test a training program in medical English using blended learning. We implemented 3-month face-to-face and blended-learning classes, and we compared them using written tests and a questionnaire. In all, 51 participants (28 female, 23 male) were included in the data analysis; all of them were allocated to both the intervention group and control group. The subjects were mainly aged 18 years. The intervention group had a significantly higher test score than the control group. The questionnaire results indicated a positive response toward e-learning among the students; they had no difficulty in inputting Japanese on the computer nor with other aspects of using a computer. Our findings demonstrate the effectiveness of the present program and indicate that it may be a useful starting point for future studies related to revised versions of the program. However, additional research is necessary to determine the most effective type of training in this regard.

*Keywords:* blended learning, e-learning, English education, medical English