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The purposes of this research were 1) to compare discourse topic in conversation between doctor and patient and 2) to study the doctor's pattern of address terms which varies according to sex and age of doctor and patient.

The data were collected recording 120 conversations of doctors and patients, including conversation of 4 male doctors with 60 patients and conversation of 4 female doctors with 62 patients and interviewing the personal data of doctors and patients about social factors then analyzed.

Two hypotheses are set for this research. The first hypothesis is that Doctor's topic shift differs from patient's. The result partly support this first hypothesis. In topic shift about relationship between old and new topic, doctor's topic shift differs from patient's which the most of doctor's topic shift is noncoherent shift and the most of patient's topic shift is coherent shift. Moreover, In topic shift about meaning new topic, doctor's topic shift differs from patient's which the most of doctor's topic shift is other-oriented topic introduction and the most of patient's topic shift is self-oriented topic introduction. The result does not support this hypothesis. There is no difference in topic shift about turn in conversation which the most of doctors and patient's topic shift are new turn in conversation. The second hypothesis is that doctor's pattern of address terms which varies according to social factors. The result partly support this first hypothesis. Female doctors use the pattern of address term which varies according to age of patient. The result dose not support this hypothesis. Male doctors use pattern of address term which not varies according to age and sex of patient.

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