

CHAPTER 5

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

Address terms work at a number of levels within the medical interview. They are used within the greeting and closing sequences by both doctors and patients. Both doctors and patients used address terms in pre-TCU, mid-TCU and post-TCU to achieve certain purposes. Pre-TCU is usually used by patients to mitigate their requests and questions and to express appreciation. However, doctor used pre-TCU to solve the overlap that occurs between them and patients as well as to acknowledge the patient about h/her illness. However, Mid-TCU is used by patients when they elongate their talk, hesitating to respond to the doctor, showing acknowledgement or in disagreement.

Post-TCU addresses terms are also used by patients to mitigate the requests. In other hand, Doctors used post-TCU to mitigate their requests. Doctors also use first name to show solidarity and friendliness, while the patients try to keep the distance between them and the doctors. Therefore, the level of address term used by doctors towards patients is indicative of an asymmetric relationship between the two parties- doctors always use first names to address patients (e.g. Fatima), whereas patients seldom use first names to address doctors. Such an argument might be a plausible explanation of the way in which address terms are used within the opening and closing sequences, as both doctor and patients balance the institutionality of the interaction within a relaxed, medical interview context. however, 'doctor' are used, for example, when used in opening and closing environments, when attached to, agreements, acknowledgements or appreciations, or when mitigating a speech act. The common

address terms that are used by the doctors are “haja, akht for the female and “ustaz” for the male, while patients usually use “doctor” or “doctor plus name”.

5.2 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This study focuses on address terms in Sudanese doctor- patient in communication a certain area in Khartoum. Therefore, the findings will not be generalized to be an example of all Sudanese doctors-patients, due to the reasons that Sudanese people have different culture that makes address terms also different depending on the region.

5.3 FUTURE RESEARCH

Sudanese culture is very rich of address terms, that due to their ethnic varieties. However, there are penalty of studies can be conducted on address terms in deferent area of Sudanese doctor-patient or other area in the future, for example doctor-patient in West Sudan, North or East Sudan. The sample of this study is limited to small area in Khartoum; hence, in the future studies wider samples can be taken which include variety of participants. Moreover, there are many Pragmatic studies that can be done in Sudanese doctor- patient, such as speech acts and politeness. Finally, the pragmatic of Sudanese doctor- patient is a wide area and need to be considered.

