

**PECULIARITIES OF ENGLISH MEDICAL TERMS TRANSLATION**

The medical language is one of functional subsystems of the standard language. It has its professional orientation and is constantly developing and changing, remaining rather significant for academic and social classes. Various new concepts are emerging in it, causing the need to be nominalized and of new terms to be created. These terms are combined into different term systems which lead to realization of the importance for such systems to be arranged and standardized according to their substantial, logical and linguistic levels.

Due to the situation with pandemics has become a problem for the whole world, the importance of international intercommunication between the medical workers, specialists and Health Ministers is evident. Nowadays Ukraine's foreign policies stimulate the development of healthcare industry as well as of intensive communication with medical specialists from foreign countries. This raises the embrace of reviewing medical terms and the problems which emerge in the process of their translation.

Since medical terminology is one of the branches to develop and widen extremely fast, it is impossible to study this field all the way through. However, over the last few decades the main aspects of medical terminology have been studied from terminological, lexicological and pragmatic perspectives by N. Lytvynenko, T. Kyiak [2], N. Shekera, I. Terletska, I. Kobylchenko [6] and others.

This work is devoted to the problem of translating medical terms from English to the Ukrainian language. The aim of this article is to observe the ways of translation of medical terms introduced by different scholars.

The translation of medical terms is the special branch of this field of study. Mostly these terms have Greek and Latin stems, which makes the process of medical translation a rather complex and time-consuming task. This kind of translation involves several lexical transformations. The main types of them are: transliteration, word-for-word translation and calque [3]. The value of a specialized set of terms lies in the way each term stores a mass of information into a single word or a word combination. That is why, the uppermost goal of any translation is to convey the meaning of a term from the source language into the target language without any perversion and saving the main characteristics of a term: precision, conciseness and emotional neutrality.

As a general matter, medical translation is one of the branches of technical translation. Indeed, the translator who deals with medical terms has no right to make a mistake, because the slightest drawback may result in irrevocable consequences.

Speaking of hardships, which medical translators face, Ye. Solntsev [4] defined such examples:

- terms' synonymy, which is highly objectionable by terminologists. It is thought that synonymy in terminology contravenes the concept and the main requirements for terms;
- discrepancies in classification and nomenclature of different organs and body systems, of methods of investigation;
- abbreviations, acronyms or other types of various shortenings always cause some issues, mostly those, that are not established even in specialized medical dictionaries. Even though there are many specialized dictionaries of medical abbreviations, some of such units may be original, authorial, present only in particular text.

Medical terminology does not have any established mechanisms of word formation. This must be the reason of its wide diversity: Greek and Latin morphemes, metaphors, eponyms, etc. This is mostly caused by rapid development of this sphere: new medical concepts must be nominalized as soon as possible.

Various ways of translation of medical terms have been defined in many studies so far, but there is no single way to create a single full classification. The most widespread interlingual transformations are lexical, grammatical and syntactic [3].

When it comes to medical terminology, which is represented in our study as a complex of words and word combinations that denote medical scientific and technical concepts, the names of illnesses,

physiological processes, organism conditions, methods of prophylaxis and treatment, medical technologies, pharmaceutical compositions are mostly considered.

In modern fictional and non-fictional medical texts, a sustainable trend towards choosing the «shortest» way of conveying the meaning between two languages can be observed. The translators decide on lexical ways of transformation more often, which are transcription, transliteration and calque. The advantages of these types of transformation are rather obvious: unambiguousness, conciseness and simplicity.

Transcription involves sound imitation, whereas transliteration is used in order to imitate the literal form of the original term by means of the alphabet of the target language. Very often these two main types of lexical transformation merge and are denoted with the term transcoding. Sometimes mixed transcoding is used when most of the transcribed word reflects its sound in the original language, but at the same time certain elements of its graphic form are transmitted. The transcoding of medical terms occurs when there is no corresponding notion and corresponding translation equivalent in the culture, and in particular, the science of the country of target language. In addition, due to internationalized character of most medical term, transcoding ousts from all other ways of translation. On the other hand, sometimes using transcoding can lead to the creation of non-sense terms in target language which are inadequate, in this case, calque is used in order to convey the combinative structure of a word. It helps avoid the emergence of so-called false translator's friends. Having analyzed the material of our study, which is the example of a non-fictional medical text by former doctor Adam Kay [8], such examples of the above mentioned lexical transformations were found:

**adaptive transcoding:** orthopaedics [8, c. 48] – ортопедія [1, c. 49], antiphospholipid syndrome [8, c. 23] – антифосфоліпідний синдром [1, c. 25], CTG – cardiocograph [8, c. 15] – КТГ – кардіокотограф [1, c. 14];

**transliteration:** appendix [8, c. 15] – апендикс [1, c. 14], placenta [8, c. 21] – плацента, Eiffel syndrome [8, c. 22] – синдром Ейфеля [1, c. 22];

**calque:** metastases [8, c. 48] – метастази [1, c. 48], ingrown toenail [8, c. 32] – врослий ніготь [1, c. 33], MRI [8, c. 22] – МРТ, blood transfusions – переливання крові [1, c. 22].

In addition to these ways of translation of medical terms, O. Snitovska mentions one more category of terminological units, which all translators have to be aware of. **False translators' friends** are especially tricky in medical texts because of frequent usage of calque. One must be extremely careful with such terms: angina [8, c. 124] - is not «ангіна», but «стенокардія» [1, c. 124], expertise [8, c. 48] – «професійні знання» [1, c. 49], not «експертиза», drug [8, c. 18] – «ліки [1, c. 18], наркотики», not «друг», «glands» [8, c. 27] - «залози» [1, c. 26], not «гланди».

From theoretical perspective regarding the translation of medical terms, A. Superanska and N. Podolska's points of view can be mentioned. [5] They emphasized that a term is unambiguous, it has neither connotative meaning, nor synonyms, and its translation variants remain the same irrespective of the source text. This is the advantage of translating terms – they are standardized and agreed according to specialists' point of view, so it has to simplify the translator's task. But, having conducted our study, we found out that there is no unified established way of translating medical terms as the absence of some equivalents in target language may take place. That is why, it is impossible to say that the process of translation can be conducted without any obstacles, either way, translators have to deal with each particular term differently applying various ways of transformations: both lexical, grammatical and sometimes syntactic in case there is no corresponding term equivalent. Understanding and being well-acquainted with such phenomena is essential for a translator of not only medical, but of any technical terms as it provides accuracy in conveying the message of the source text by means of proper usage of translation transformations.

Therefore, such methods of translation as adaptive transcoding, transliteration, calque and equivalents for so-called false translator's friends are determined as the most productive methods of translation, the implementation of which is able to provide terminological equivalence in the process of translation of terms of the medical texts from English into Ukrainian. It is necessary to make further investigation of given research as there are constant developments and discoveries within the

international field of medicine, the emergence of various new concepts in the field of healthcare which has to be, first of all, nominated and translated into other languages without any distortion of meaning.

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