



CHALLENGES IN LEXICOGRAPHY OF MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY: EXPLORING THE ISSUES

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Abstract

The article delves into the issues surrounding terminography, focusing on both general terminology challenges and those specific to medical language. It underscores the importance of developing a standardized system for specialized vocabulary, along with methods, principles, and techniques for creating bilingual professional dictionaries.

Key words

terminological lexicography, special vocabulary, harmonization of concepts, terminological dictionaries.

The rapid growth of scientific and technical knowledge these days is reflected in the fact that over 90% of words appearing in modern languages are specialized vocabulary. Currently, the special vocabulary of Russian, English and Uzbek languages in most fields of knowledge does not represent an ordered system that would correspond to the modern level of science and the needs of practice. Negative phenomena such as the coincidence of forms of different terms, different interpretations of terms by representatives of different scientific schools and directions, synonymy (reaching 50% of the total number of terms in some areas of knowledge), arbitrary variation are common. Forms of the same terms, unclear definition of many concepts, unreasonable introduction of foreign language terms, proliferation of unmotivated and falsely oriented terms, lack of scientifically based general principles for the formation of terms and specific optimal models for the formation of terms in the vast majority of fields of knowledge.

Streamlining special vocabulary is of great importance for the mutual understanding of specialists, the training of scientific and technical personnel, the publication of scientific, industrial and reference literature, planning and accounting, the development of international scientific and economic relations, the receipt and exchange of information. The ordering of special vocabulary is of particular importance in modern conditions of computerization of research, production and management. It should be taken into account that successful terms can contribute to the development of science, while unsuccessful ones can hinder the development of scientific knowledge. The two main stages of the process of organizing terminology are inventory (search, selection and description of terms) and normalization (working with dictionary definitions, content and form of terms). Already existing dictionary definitions can serve as a reliable basis for the harmonization of concepts and systems in different languages, the purpose of which is to harmonize terminologies for the creation of bilingual dictionaries.

Among the numerous problems of terminological lexicography, the development of methods, principles and specific techniques for compiling translated industry dictionaries plays an increasingly important role. The expansion of international contacts in the field of medicine, the spheres of professional linguistic communication of physicians, the intensification of the exchange of medical information and the growing flow of English-language medical literature raises the task of accurate translation of medical texts and the preparation of bilingual medical dictionaries to a new level.

It is known that in different languages the development of terminologies occurs differently. In order to resolve the problem of differences between systems of concepts in different languages, which complicate communication in a foreign language and lead to inaccuracies in translation, it is necessary to harmonize concepts and systems of concepts in different languages and on the basis of this harmonize terminology.

The two main stages of the process of organizing terminology are inventory (search, selection and description of terms) and normalization (working with dictionary definitions, content and form of terms). Already existing dictionary definitions can serve as a reliable basis for the harmonization of concepts and systems in different languages, the purpose of which is to harmonize terminologies for the creation of bilingual dictionaries. An indispensable condition for the harmonization of terminology should be the establishment of correspondences not of individual terms, but of terminological systems as a whole. At the same time, the more national terminological systems are used in comparative analysis, the greater the possibilities for detailing and concretizing concepts, developing the conceptual system and national terminological systems through national lexical means and mutual, conscious borrowing of terms. Harmonization must presuppose going through the following steps:

- systematic comparison of national terminologies and terminology systems;
- drawing up a compilation (consolidated) classification scheme of concepts, taking into account all the concepts reflected in the compared national terminologies;
- formation and clarification of international definitions and adjustment of national definitions on their basis;
- development of an agreement on establishing an unambiguous understanding and use of equivalent national terms;
- internationalization, which involves mutual borrowing of terms into national languages to fill gaps in national term systems.

Analysis of the definitions of terms presented in three English dictionaries:

1. Butterworth's medical dictionary. London, 1984;
2. Stadman's medical dictionary. Baltimore, 1982;
3. Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary. Philadelphia, 1974

carried out as part of the previously mentioned research, shows that this method can be used to identify basic, functional types of terms to assess the reliability of dictionaries, as well as to check the relationship of the literal meaning term and its conceptual meaning. This is of great importance when compiling terminological dictionaries. Previous studies revealed the following deviations from the requirements in all analyses listed English dictionaries:

- violation of the principle of generic construction of definitions;
- lack of similar definitions for similar concepts;
- lack of indications of the same species characteristic or combination of characteristics when defining subordinate species concepts;
- lack of proportionality in definitions, inconsistencies in the system of references;
- lack of order in the definitions of structural doublets.

All these shortcomings, despite the possibility of eliminating them, reduce the reliability of dictionaries.

Currently, a necessary and most important step towards improving the quality of terminological dictionaries, accelerating their preparation and publication, is the creation of terminological data bank on medicine and related sciences on computer media. The use of computers makes it possible to inventory and organize the maximum amount of information on medicine presented in a large number of sources. Analysis of information, as well as methods of its presentation, i.e. the macro- and microstructure of the already existing large number of dictionaries will make it possible to skillfully develop general principles for presenting vocabulary in a terminological data bank (TDB), to provide reserve fields in the recording format, taking into account the prospects for the development of medical knowledge. In turn, the publication of dictionaries based on the TDB will not only facilitate and speed up the process of their creation, but will also improve the quality of publications and achieve consistency and consistency in the description of vocabulary.

Over the past few years, the theory of lexicography and, in particular, terminography has undergone

enormous changes. The use of computers in compiling dictionaries has led not only to changes in dictionary technology, but also to the idea of identifying optimal types of dictionaries that could be prepared automatically based on information about lexical units of the language entered into the computer.

This, in turn, stimulated work to describe and classify possible types of dictionaries and elements of dictionary information. At the same time, the dependence of some elements of dictionary information (lexicographic parameters) on others was discovered. Thus, it became possible to consciously select the most effective structure and content of the dictionary depending on its purpose. To do this, it is enough to simply look through the lists of elements of the author's installation of the dictionary given here, its macro-composition and micro-composition, gradually determining the most harmonious combination of characteristics of the planned dictionary. In addition, any specialist can choose the least labor-intensive sequence of operations, which makes it possible to make a reliable and high-quality dictionary.

Undoubtedly, in the future the role of a dictionary, especially the dictionary of special vocabulary, will increase as a means of recording and presenting knowledge. Its functions in computer systems will also expand significantly. Thesaurus-type dictionaries may well become the core of artificial intelligence computer systems. In addition, it is already becoming clear that dictionaries can also be used as a means of reconstructing and studying the process of development of human knowledge. Therefore, we should expect further development of theoretical research in the field, although practical application has already been achieved, allowing for a genuine revolution in the traditional work of compiling dictionaries.

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