

Aleksandra Wojnarowska

Summary

Nomination Tendencies in Bulgarian and Slovak Ophthalmology Terminology.

A Comparative Approach

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Naming *res novae*, related to the human body, has been accompanying humanity since the dawn of time. Nomination processes within the terminology of one of the oldest fields of human activity – which is medicine – seem to be an ongoing research problem. This is caused by the continuous development of the science of the human body. This dissertation aims to show the nomination tendencies in Bulgarian and Slovak ophthalmology terminology (understood as a subsystem of medical terminology), and to compare them as well.

The specific tasks of the work includes: 1) creating the theoretical framework necessary to characterize ophthalmology terminology; 2) making an adequate methodological choice; 3) analyzing and comparing the extracted terms and 4) formulating conclusions regarding nomination tendencies.

The object of the research are clinical ophthalmology terms, understood as a unit of *clinical ophthalmology terminology*. The research scope was limited to single-word terms, mainly due to their primary, elementary character, and because at the same time they lack a satisfactory elaboration in the literature.

The dissertation consist of two main parts: a theoretical and analytical one. The theoretical part aims to place the research in the term theory. In the first chapter, the basic unit of description is defined due to assumptions made on terminology. This chapter also highlights the most relevant features of an ophthalmology term as such.

Chapter two outlines the linguistic and extra-linguistic context of the study. The issue of nomination within ophthalmology terminology is directly related to the process of normalization and conventionalization of medical terminology, so it requires the citation of specific facts that affect the formation and functioning of ophthalmology terms in particular

Slavic languages' terminologies. The initial stage of the research showed a great variety of material, which required the presentation of a general characteristic of the units taken from the corpus.

The occurrence of foreign units in analyzed material, and at the same time their legibility in other terminological systems due to classical etymology, suggests a reference to the topic of internationalization of language. Dependence relations may be observed between international (foreign) term and the system absorbing it. This prompts attention to the issue of adaptation and integration within terminology, which is discussed in chapter three.

The fourth chapter deals with the topic of the formal structure (external form) of a term as a sign of a concept. The units analyzed in the thesis contain foreign elements in their structure, which present carry a certain semantic value and take part in the process of terminological nomination. In accordance to primary literature they are called *term elements*. Based on the structural-functional division, three positions were determined that they can take: *initial*, *mesoposition* and *final*.

Chapter five deals with the most important issue from the point of view of the terminology – the linguistic motivation of the term. Bulgarian and Slovak terminologists place that problem among the question of internal form, which, in this thesis, is understood as the relation of the term's structure to its relevance.

The analytical part is preceded by a presentation of chosen methodology. This chapter presents a detailed characteristic of the corpus from which medical terms (with a conceptual and formal structure related to the eye) were extracted. They were extracted from two types of material sources 1) professional lexicography (terminography), and 2) professional: textbooks, online publications, online terminology databases, etc. The next section presents the principles of excerpting the research material, while a separate section presents the parameters according to which the actual research procedure proceeds.

After isolating 54 term elements included in the analyzed terms, the study confronts Bulgarian and Slovak units. This proceeded in two stages: 1) the compilation of the extracted units due to their formal similarity, with an analysis of the external form, and 2) an analysis of the internal form in order to confirm the motivation from which the equivalence of form and terminological meaning can be established. The procedure for each element consisted of three basic parts 1) presentation of term-element and its meanings in dictionaries, 2) presentation of extracted Bulgarian and Slovak terms containing the element, and 3) presentation of the internal form of the terms (their definitions). The last two steps are completed with conclusions.

The analysis included 717 terms (342 Bulgarian and 375 Slovak). The dissertation ends

with a summary in which conclusions have been drawn about nomination trends in Bulgarian and Slovak ophthalmology terms. The most significant of these are:

- A tendency to internationalization; each of analyzed term elements is internationalized, as are the units which those are building;
- The tendency to specialize and conventionalize meanings;
- Frequent variability of terms' forms, which, however, is related to a general tendency of clinical terminology to vary and update, which, at the same time, demonstrates the dynamics of nomination processes;
- Preservative tendency; the names of new disease units, equipment, tools and medical activities (as a result of advances in the science of the human eye) are coined by using Greek and Latin constructions;
- A tendency to economize the form of a term – terms become condensed and shortened which is leading to the conventionalization of the meanings they express;
- The tendency to unification and harmonization – both systems of ophthalmology terminology finally seem to be moving toward standardization and internationalization.

The nominative trends in Bulgarian and Slovak eye terminology are largely coherent.

The following work, as an analysis of several hundred Bulgarian and Slovak ophthalmology terms, fills a gap in the research on Slavic specialized languages (in terminological approach, not the medical one) and thus indicates the need to improve nomination processes in order to achieve greater homogeneity, precision, and relevance. Nomination processes in Slavic specialized languages are adapting to the requirements of international communication, thus trying to move closer to world terminologies and drawing from classical sources.

Wojnowski