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Рожанська Наталія

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MEDICAL TRANSLATION IN CONTEMPORARY INTERCULTURAL PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION

Translation is a crucial factor in exchanging knowledge and new discoveries in the medical field. It can also be a critical factor in providing healthcare services to foreigners or minorities. The translators of medical texts face a number of challenges, some of which are the subject of research. This article offers a general overview of the major peculiarities and issues in medical translation. It briefly presents certain characteristic features of medical terminology, medical communicative situations, main medical genres and the most important aspects of education of professional translators. Considerable attention is devoted to such problems as sensitiveness and accuracy in this field of translation.

Key words: scientific and technical translation, medical translation, communicative situations, compound terms, abbreviations.

Translation has always played a major part in communication between languages and cultures. Without translation modern technology could never have been transferred between nations. Translation can be applied to all fields of language including legal, religious, literary language etc. Among these fields there is scientific and technical translation, which covers the specialities which are relevant to science and technology. The act of expressing scientific concepts and content is usually challenging and serious as it requires accuracy, knowledge and understanding of the ideas behind the terms [1, p. 22].

The aim of this article is to consider medical translation as a branch of scientific and technical translation, to study main peculiarities of medical terminology, medical genres and medical information sources.

Analysis of recent publications showed that various aspects of the medical translation were stated at the researches of Kostiantyn Averbukh, Viacheslav Karaban, Volodymyr Veichik, Eduard Skorokhodko and a lot of other terminologists. The problem of rendering the features of pharmaceutical texts found reflection in the manuscript of Andriy Botsman «Structural, Semantic and Pragmatic Peculiarities of Pharmaceutical Texts (a Study of English pharmaceutical leaflets)». In 2018, Roksolana Povorozniuk made a significant step in medical translation research by publishing her qualifying academic paper «Theoretical framework of the English-Ukrainian translation and interpreting of medical texts». The object of research is translation of medical texts as a special type of interlingual and intercultural mediation for medical knowledge exchange. The research promotes development of theoretical and methodological grounds of medical translation, especially useful for practical translation of medical texts.

Medical translation is one of the most active types of professional translation [2, p. 26]. Nevertheless, it shares many features with other types of translation. It involves adaptation of cultural differences, specialists also make use of technological tools such as translation memories and electronic dictionaries; their main purpose is also to facilitate communication between different linguistic communities; and so forth. Now, though, let us turn specifically to medical translation and consider what distinguishes it from other types of translation.

Medical translation involves the communication of knowledge generated and needed in various specialties including among many others:

- Internal Medicine: the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, infections, and diseases affecting the heart, blood, kidneys, joints, and digestive, respiratory, and vascular systems; disease prevention.
- Obstetrics and Gynecology: the medical and surgical care of the female reproductive system and associated disorders.
- Orthopedics: investigation of the form and function of the extremities, spine, and associated structures; problems including trauma, infections, tumors, degenerative diseases of the spine, hands, feet, knee, hip, shoulder, and elbow.
- Pediatrics: diagnosis and treatment of infections, injuries, genetic defects, malignancies, and many types of organic disease and dysfunction in children.
- Psychiatry: prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental, addictive, and emotional disorders, mood, anxiety, substance-related, sexual and gender identity, and adjustment disorders.
- Surgery: care for a broad spectrum of surgical conditions affecting almost any part of the body.
- Pharmacology: drug composition; mechanisms of drug action; therapeutic use of drugs.

When translating medical texts, we may also have to deal with knowledge from anthropology, psychology, sociology, economics and law, among many other disciplines [5, p. 24].

Terms for anatomical parts, diseases, syndromes, drugs, medical equipment, and so forth are specific to medical translation. Becoming familiar with the particular terminology in the languages involved and being able to solve all sorts of terminological problems – neologisms, synonyms, polysemy, register mismatches – are not only central activities in

medical translation but key aspects in the life-long education of professional translators. It should be noted that in the translation process more than half of the time is invested in detecting and solving terminological problems [4, p. 33].

The range of communicative situations where medical translations may be required is very broad, covering not only communication among researchers but also any kind of communicative interaction about health that involves health professionals, patients, and the general public. Medical translation fulfills the following communicative functions:

- the exchange of biomedical research among specialists; the dissemination of the most relevant research in the mass media;
- the education of health professionals at Universities; the education of patients; the approval of new drugs;
- the regulation of all kinds of health products; the advertising of health services;
- the communication in hospitals and other health centres; the campaigns carried out by health institutions in the national and international contexts, such as the World Health Organization; and so forth [3, p. 19].

Thus, medical translation covers a wide spectrum of genres: from research articles published in highly specialized journals, to clinical guides for physicians, text books for University students, patient information brochures, press releases, and TV documentaries about health [7, p. 61]. From a professional point of view, it should be stressed that medical translation is not restricted to highly specialized genres but also includes more general ones.

Professional translators in the health sectors are in constant need of up-to-date sources of medical information of all kinds: explanations of concepts (including pictures, drawings, films and animations), specialized definitions, lists of terms in different languages, nomenclatures, classifications of diseases, lists of drugs with non-proprietary names, trade names and national names, texts belonging to the broad spectrum of medical genres, medical data bases, health directories, online professional forums, information about the clients, information about writing and document style, and so forth. Research for printed, electronic and personal sources is a key feature in medical translation for two reasons: 1) the translator may not have enough knowledge to understand the source text, and 2) the translator may have insufficient terminological, and phraseological information as well as inadequate familiarity with target genre conventions to write the target text in an acceptable way [6, p. 358].

The translation of medical terms generally throws up many challenges. Although some medical terms can be translated without any difficulty, others are tremendously difficult to translate. What makes the translation of some medical terms more complicated is their complex structure, e. g. as shown in such terms as *hypergammaglobulinemia*, *video fluoroscopy*, *gastroesophageal* etc. Additionally, there are medical compound terms and abbreviations (that can be ambiguous) which make it hard for the untrained translator to grasp the intended interpretation, e. g. *CNS* – *central nervous system* and *UTI* – *urinary tract infection* etc. Many medical abbreviations cannot be found in bilingual dictionaries and computer translation tools [7, p. 85].

Translators sometimes find it difficult to cope with these structures in English, which might result in mistranslations. Furthermore, there are problems of ambiguity as many English terms are either new or so technical that untrained translators cannot understand their meanings in the source language [5, p. 47].

All of the above emphasizes the importance of training for the translators to be able to work in the medical field.

To sum up, the study shows that the translation of medical terms is problematic for two main reasons: the first reason is that some medical terms have complex structures and can

give rise to various semantic, lexical and grammatical interpretations, through which the job of a translator is considered very hard. The second reason emerges from a lack of clarity of, or because of ambiguity in, some medical terms or expressions in the source language which, in turn, has a great effect on the translation process. Often such ambiguity derives from the fact that many English medical terms have Latin or other language origins. Medical translation is a very sensitive field as it deals with human beings' lives and health; thus, translators of medical texts have to work hard and proficiently as they have to understand the source text and then find the appropriate lexical equivalent in the target language. The translation of medical texts should be as accurate as possible.

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ОСОБЛИВОСТІ АМЕРИКАНСЬКОГО ГУМОРУ ТА СПЕЦИФІКА ЙОГО ПЕРЕКЛАДУ (на прикладі ситуаційної комедії «Дві дівчини без копійчини»)

Статтю присвячено виокремленню особливостей американського гумору та аналізу способів, які обрали перекладачі при відтворенні комічного у ситуаційній комедії «Дві дівчини без копійчини». Значну увагу приділено факторам збереження комічного ефекту при перекладі.

***Ключові слова:** гумор, кінокомедія, ефект комічного, стилістичні засоби, генералізація, одомашнення.*

Постановка проблеми. Переклад гумору, без сумніву, займає важливе місце з сучасному перекладознавстві та вважається одним із найскладніших завдань для перекладачів. Перед ними стоїть мета одночасно зберегти і відтворити як гумористичну, так і культурну складову, без яких спотворюється зміст та сутність оригіналу, тим самим зменшуючи у цільового глядача можливість пізнати іншу культуру та сповна насолодитися нею, зокрема її гумористичним аспектом.