

Characteristic Features Of Medical Terms In Modern English And Uzbek

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Annotation. This article discusses the problems of term and terminology in Modern English and Uzbek. It studies specific features of medical terms in compared languages

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Medical terminology is a specialized language used in healthcare to describe diseases, treatments, and various aspects of the human body. It serves as an important communication tool among healthcare professionals, ensuring clear and standardized exchanges.

In this article, we explore the complexities of medical terminology, including its origins, structure, and importance in healthcare settings.

The evolution of medical terminology throughout history is a captivating journey, punctuated by pivotal breakthroughs and influential figures.

In ancient Greece and Rome, physicians initiated the foundation by naming and categorizing diseases and body parts, introducing enduring Greek and Latin terminology.

The Renaissance period and the advent of printing propelled medical knowledge forward, thanks to luminaries like Andreas Vesalius. The Industrial Revolution sparked the need for meticulous terminology, leading figures such as Carl Linnaeus to develop taxonomy systems.

In the 20th century, the rise of standardized classification systems like the ICD, accompanied by notable technological advancements like SNOMED, marked significant milestones in medical terminology [1].

1. International Classification of Diseases (ICD):

ICD is essential for diagnostic coding and epidemiological research, classifying diseases based on specific criteria. It serves as a common language for healthcare professionals, researchers, and policymakers, aiding in monitoring public health trends and evaluating interventions.

2. Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine (SNOMED):

SNOMED is a comprehensive clinical terminology supporting the recording and sharing of clinical data. It enables the precise representation of findings, facilitating clinical decision-making, research, and data analytics. Its standardized vocabulary promotes effective communication and information exchange in healthcare.

ICD and SNOMED are essential tools for standardizing and organizing medical terminology and improving communication, data management, and research in healthcare. Adopting and utilizing these systems enhances the quality, efficiency, and safety of healthcare delivery, promoting global interoperability and collaboration. Understanding medical terminology can make all the difference in critical health situations. And while understanding medical language is serious business for care providers, learning medical terminology can actually be a thought-provoking, interesting crash course in the history and development of language and parts of speech.

For those who are new to, or are looking to enter the medical field, having a firm grasp on medical verbiage, roots and meanings can give you a leg up as you continue your studies and progress in your career. To get you started, here is our introductory guide to medical terminology, which will serve as a solid foundation as you work to diversify and enhance your medical language skills.

Medical terminology refers to the words and language used specifically in the medical and health fields. The proper definition describes medical terminology as language used to describe anatomical structures, procedures, conditions, processes and treatments in the medical field [2].

While memorizing terms across that many disciplines might seem impossible, medical language can be simplified when you understand that nearly all medical terms can be broken down into three parts: the prefix, the root and the suffix.

- Prefix — appears at the beginning of a term and indicates a location, direction, type, quality or quantity.
- Root — can appear at the beginning of the word if prefix is absent, but the root indicates the primary meaning of the medical term.
- Suffix — appears at the end of the word and indicates a specialty, test, procedure, function, disorder or status.

Medical terminology is the linguistic foundation on which the entire healthcare system is built. Because physicians are trained at varying universities and complete their training across different hospitals and disciplines and geographies, having a singular medical terminology system ensures that effective care is delivered while reducing the potential for miscommunication.

- More specifically, medical terminology is important for a few reasons, both for medical professionals and the field itself. Medical terminology courses or certificates are usually a prerequisite for most graduate degree or certificate programs in the healthcare field [3].
- For those already working in the medical field — such as medical records specialists, radiology techs and even physicians — a refresher on traditional and new medical terminology can be helpful and may even be required for license renewal.

Why is Standardization of Medical Terminology Important?

Studies show that a standardized medical terminology system can improve overall hospital operations — both in terms of data and clinical applications of such data. A second report found that medical terminology and the usage of structured reporting can improve the usage of medical information in secondary activities, such as research, public health and case studies. This not only will help make research efforts more efficient, it will likely result in better outcomes for patients and medical innovation.

Additional benefits of standardized medical terminology include:

- Ensures consistent documentation of clinical information
- Creates a streamlined system for data entry and retrieval across electronic medical records for billing and insurance purposes
- Ensures a consistent understanding of language across the continuum of care
- Ensures that all relevant parties are educated across a universal standard Improves patient care and safety, research and evidence-based medicine
- Helps promote efficient communication
- Helps create a seamless patient experience

Medical terms consist of prefixes, roots, and suffixes that combine to form meaningful words. For example, “gastroenteritis” breaks down into “gastro-” (stomach), “enter-” (intestines), and “-itis” (inflammation). Prefixes modify the meaning at the beginning of a term, while roots form the foundation and suffixes alter the meaning or indicate conditions at the end of a term.

The condition diabetes was named by Aretus of Cappadocian, a Greek physician from the 2nd century A.D., who observed its symptoms of excessive urination and likened it to “passing water like a siphon.”

Understanding the details of medical terminology reveals its accuracy and significance as a cornerstone in healthcare communication.

Medical terminology varies across specialties, reflecting the specific nature of each field.

In cardiology, terms like “myocardial infarction,” “coronary artery disease,” and “arrhythmia” help diagnose and treat heart conditions.

Neurology uses terms such as “cerebrovascular accident,” “multiple sclerosis,” and “Parkinson’s disease” to describe brain and nervous system disorders.

Oncology relies on terms like “carcinoma,” “malignant,” and “chemotherapy” for accurate communication about cancer diagnosis and treatment.

In pediatrics, terms like “growth percentile,” “developmental milestones,” and “immunization schedule” are used to assess children’s health and development.

Understanding specialty-specific terms is crucial for effective communication, accurate diagnoses, and specialized care delivery in different medical fields.

Accurate and precise medical terminology is crucial in healthcare for several reasons:

a. **Facilitating Effective Communication:**

Clear and concise communication among medical professionals is vital for patient safety and appropriate treatment. Standardized medical terminology ensures accurate and reliable information exchange, minimizing misunderstandings and errors.

b. **Enhancing Patient Understanding:**

Understanding medical terms empowers patients, promoting a patient-centered approach and informed healthcare decisions. Recognizing the importance of accurate medical terminology enables professionals to enhance care standards, improving communication, collaboration, and patient engagement.

Cultural and linguistic factors greatly influence medical terminology among diverse populations, posing challenges in translation across languages and cultures. The linguistic complexity and cultural context of medical terms can result in misunderstandings and communication errors, particularly when technical vocabulary lacks direct equivalents [4].

Consideration of cultural nuances and sociolinguistic factors, such as language preferences and regional variations, is essential for accurate and culturally sensitive communication. Healthcare providers must be mindful of these challenges to ensure effective communication with linguistically diverse patients.

Healthcare professionals and language experts collaborate to tackle these challenges through strategies like glossaries, plain language techniques, and cultural competence. Adapting medical terminology may involve creating new terms or combining elements from multiple languages.

Considering cultural and linguistic factors enhances communication, improves patient understanding, and fosters culturally competent care. Bridging language and cultural gaps in healthcare settings promotes equitable and patient-centered healthcare for diverse populations.

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