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## TRANSLATION PROBLEMS OF MEDICAL TERMS

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### ABSTRACT

Because of translation, different peoples create means of communication with each other, the rate of development in various fields accelerates, new attitudes and views are established in society, and the perfection of languages also depends on translation, it is a necessary tool for increasing and improving vocabulary. In fact, through translation, it embodies such tasks as harmonizing the lexical, grammatical and stylistic phenomena of languages, and recreating their differences using the tools of the native language.

### KEYWORDS

Translation problems, Technical, Cultural Sensitivity, Equivalent, Rapid Advances, Dialectical Differences, Acronym and Abbreviation.

### INTRODUCTION

No two languages are ever sufficiently similar to be considered as representing the same social reality. The worlds in which different societies live are distinct worlds, not merely the same world with different labels attached.

There is consistent evidence of widespread interest in the field of translation. Over the past two decades, numerous books on translation have been published, along with the emergence of new translation studies journals and international professional organizations like the European Society for Translation. Additionally,

several translation encyclopedias have already been printed, with more expected to follow. Further indication of the global interest in translation studies can be observed in the introduction of translation courses by institutions worldwide, from Montreal to Vienna, and from Hong Kong to Brazil. This interest continues to thrive in the twenty-first century.

Theorists and scholars have a far more complex agenda than deciding between the good and the bad; they are concerned, for instance, to tease out the different possibilities open to the translator, and the way these change according to the historical, social, and cultural context.

When translating, the text undergoes various changes, adapting to the subject situation, which will be able to convey information in the semantic form that the author intended. These translation transformations are necessary and have their origin in the differences between the systems of the two languages in the field of their sound (phonological) structure, vocabulary and grammatical structure.

The translation of medical terms can pose several challenges due to the technical and specialized nature of medical language. Here are some common issues encountered in the translation of medical terms:

**Lack of Equivalents:** Some medical terms may not have direct equivalents in other languages. Translators may

need to use descriptive phrases or provide explanations to convey the meaning accurately.

**Rapid Advances in Medicine:** Medical science is constantly evolving, and new terms are regularly introduced. Keeping up with the latest terminology poses a challenge for translators, especially if they are not well-versed in the specific medical field.

**Ambiguity and Polysemy:** Some medical terms may have multiple meanings or be open to interpretation. Translators must be aware of the context in which a term is used to avoid ambiguity and ensure accurate translation.

**Dialectical Differences:** Different regions and countries may have variations in medical terminology, and certain terms may be understood differently. Translators need to be aware of these regional differences and use terminology that is appropriate for the target audience.

**Acronym and Abbreviation Challenges:** The frequent use of acronyms and abbreviations in medical texts can lead to confusion during translation. Translators must be familiar with the standard abbreviations in both languages and ensure consistency.

**Formatting and Structure:** Medical documents often have a specific structure and formatting requirements. Translators need to maintain the organization and

structure of the original document while ensuring linguistic accuracy.

### **DISCUSSIONS AND SOLUTIONS TO THE TRANSLATION CHALLENGES:**

To overcome these challenges, it's essential to work with professional translators who specialize in medical translation and have expertise in the specific field of medicine being addressed. Additionally, collaboration with subject matter experts and the use of translation memory tools can enhance the accuracy and efficiency of medical translations.

#### **Technical Complexity:**

Example: “Myocardial infarction” in English might be challenging to translate directly into some languages due to the technical nature of the term. A translator may need to use descriptive terms like “heart attack” to convey the meaning.

#### **Cultural Sensitivity:**

Example: The term “end-of-life care” may have different cultural connotations. In some cultures, it might be more appropriate to use a phrase that emphasizes comfort and support without explicitly mentioning the end of life.

#### **Lack of Equivalents:**

Example: The term “computed tomography” (CT) may not have a direct equivalent in some languages. The

translator might need to explain the concept using a phrase like a detailed imaging scan using X-rays.

#### **Rapid Advances in Medicine:**

Example: Newly coined terms related to emerging medical technologies, such as “gene editing” or “nanomedicine” may not have established translations in all languages due to the rapid pace of advancements.

#### **Ambiguity and Polysemy:**

Example: The term “lesion” may have different meanings depending on the context. It could refer to a wound, injury, or abnormal tissue. In this situation the translators need to consider the context to provide an accurate translation.

#### **Dialectal Differences:**

Example: The term “flu shot” in American English might be translated differently in British English, where it is commonly referred to as a “flu jab”. Regional preferences and usage need to be considered.

#### **Legal and Regulatory Considerations:**

For example: Translating documents related to pharmaceuticals, where precise terminology is crucial for regulatory compliance, requires a deep understanding of both medical and legal language to ensure accuracy.

#### **Patient Education Materials:**

Example: Simplifying the term “gastroesophageal reflux disease” (GERD) for patient education might involve using plain language like “chronic heartburn” to enhance understanding.

### Acronym and Abbreviation Challenges:

As an example: Translating the acronym» “MRI” (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) requires knowledge of the standard translation for this term in the target language.

### Formatting and Structure:

Example: Maintaining the structure of a medical prescription, including dosage instructions, while translating from one language to another requires careful attention to detail and linguistic accuracy.

In each of these examples, the challenges highlight the need for translators to not only be proficient in the languages involved but also to have a deep understanding of medical concepts, cultural nuances, and regulatory requirements. Professional medical translators with subject matter expertise are essential for overcoming these challenges.

The main purpose of translation from one language to another language is to focus on word analysis when translating text of any size, in any style.

Another common problem in medical translation is related to “Medical eponyms”. It is not a secret that in

the medical language, many names of medicines, names of diseases, as well as methods of treatment are named after people.

Eponyms are terms, words, or phrases that are derived from the name of a person, often someone who made a significant contribution to a particular field or who is associated with a particular concept or discovery. In the medical context, many diseases, conditions, surgical procedures, anatomical structures, and diagnostic tests are named after the individuals who first described or identified them.

Alzheimer’s Disease - The term “Alzheimer’s disease” entered the medical terminology as a lexeme named after Dr. Alois Alzheimer.

In 1998, she directed the film Wild Horses, and in 2004, she directed the award-winning documentary Sonny Boy, which was based on a trip she took with her father while he was suffering from Alzheimer’s Disease .

When translating this eponym, the fact that the translator does not know the etymology of this eponym creates a serious problem. Since such eponyms make up the majority of medical terminology, they are an important aspect of medical translation.

For example: “infantile scurvy” in the treatment of skin diseases has the following synonyms: “Barlow's disease”; “Möller-Barlow disease”; “Barlow's syndrome”; “Cheadle-Möller-Barlow syndrome”;

“Moeller's disease”; “vitamin C deficiency syndrome”.  
Choosing the right and appropriate eponym here depends on the culture of the original language.

### CONCLUSION

So, we can suggest in the process of translating scientific and technical texts, an expert translator must follow the following requirements: translation equivalence, translation accuracy, translation data quality, translation logic and quality of its coverage, in order to achieve quality translation in scientific and technical texts, the translator must have the following knowledge and experience must have the following skills:

- knowledge of language theory, phonetics, lexicon and grammatical structure of the language;
- the skills of translating scientific and technical texts; - linguistic practical knowledge (translation methods, transformation, the ability to replace the equivalent of words, the ability to add words, the ability to describe with terms, etc.);
- it is necessary to have extra-linguistic knowledge and ability to use sentence content and sentences in the process of text translation (it is necessary to have sufficient knowledge in translating a special scientific-technical text).

With these issues in mind, the translator is required to communicate with the doctor and ensure cultural

relevance and linguistic accuracy during the translation process. Therefore, one of the main mistakes that translators make when translating a scientific text is that they do not have enough skills to use scientific dictionaries or do not have accurate knowledge of the subject specific to the term.

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