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PRINCIPLES OF COMPILING
DICTIONARY OF MEDICAL TERMS
WITH ONYMIC COMPONENT

Ключові слова: *енциклопедичний словник, медичний термін, словникова стаття, пропріатив, епонім, топонім.*

Починок Лариса, Маковська Оксана.
Принципи укладання словника медичних термінів з онімним компонентом.

У статті висвітлюється проблема укладання енциклопедичного словника медичних термінів з пропріальним компонентом, розглядаються основні принципи побудови словникової статті медичного терміна з власною назвою і критерії відбору інформації, необхідної для формулювання дефініції. Крім того, визначаються типи пропріативів, які повинні стати частиною такого словника. Осучаснення словників галузевих терміносистем є безперервним процесом, оскільки відображає всі зміни, які постійно відбуваються у науці. Медична онімна лексика є універсальним пластом наукової мови, що спрощує міжнародне спілкування, саме тому стаття енциклопедичного словника повинна надавати не лише дефініцію, а й історичні, біографічні, географічні дані, а інколи, навіть, ілюстративний матеріал.

In modern world dictionaries are often the main source of important data necessary for various objectives: educational, scientific, cognitive and even informational. Well-planned and thoroughly worked up and formulated dictionary can contain those very facts that not only give the general understanding of some issues but also summarize and generalize our idea about the object or notion of study. Rapid development of science and technology leads to the appearance of new concepts in the surrounding reality. All of them need to be named and placed somewhere in order to keep the hierarchy of the world, its intrinsic structure and arrangement.

Compiling a dictionary takes much time and requires a number of human resources. Constant changes greatly influence all spheres of human activity which are so much interconnected and interdependent that sometimes it is difficult or even impossible to distinguish between two phenomena or notions and to differentiate between them. That's why the definition given in the dictionary entry should be accurate and at the same time capacious, comprising key issues of the notion.

In the future we are going to compile a dictionary of medical terms with onymic components that's why at present the priority of our research is to single out criteria of compiling dictionary entries and to determine principles of

selecting information that should be included in the explanation of a term.

Proper names in medical science are universal units understandable for different groups of users: researchers, doctors, students and often even for patients. But in many cases one can come across the units which are not frequently used or some other synonymic term is more common in usage; the vast majority of these terms are going to be described in this dictionary and since there are no similar generalized dictionaries of medical proper terms, it indicates the *novelty* of the given research.

Dictionaries of branch terminologies need to be constantly renewed because they "get old" very fast. New medicines with special trade mark names, modern diagnostic devices and techniques periodically appear in the field of medicine and thus, they should be included into the studied vocabulary as units of some terminology. The work upon compiling dictionaries should not be stopped, it is a kind of an endless process which can provide communication between professional groups of doctors, facilitate the scientific dialogue all over the world and show the contribution of nations into the world's scientific progress. It illustrates the *topicality* of this article and confirms the necessity of continuation of work in this direction.

Terminology as an independent linguistic field is investigated in the works of Sayce A.H.¹, Kageura K.², Temmerman R.³, Heine B., Narrog H.⁴. Much attention to dictionaries compilation was paid in the works of B. Shunevych^{5,6}, Hawel Z.S.⁷, Griniov S.V.⁸, Ali Al-Kasimi⁹. Verification of onymic medical terms was based on general medical dictionaries: Illustrated Medical Dorland's Encyclopedia¹⁰, Medical Encyclopedia and Guide to Family Health¹¹, Dictionaries of Modern Medicine^{12, 15, 16, 18, 19}, Medical Eponyms^{13, 14, 17}; and those which contain specific branch terminological units: The Encyclopedia of Cosmetic and Plastic Surgery²⁰, names of syndromes and symptoms²¹⁻²⁵.

This paper *aims at* description of the main principles of dictionary entries compilation when verifying medical terms with proper names. The *objectives* of the research are as follows: 1) explore the types of onymic terminal units in the medical terminology; 2) determine what terms should be included into the dictionary; 3) arrange the information necessary for the definition of the term; 3) create a dictionary entry taking into account the type of proper name used in the term.

Main part and results of the research. The dictionary of medical terms is of course a specialized dictionary. According to Z. Hawel "A specialized dictionary deals with one sector of the lexicon such as medical, chemical, or philosophical terms. Such a dictionary focuses on linguistic and factual matters relating to specific subject fields. It may have a relatively broad converge, in that it covers several subject fields such as science and technology (a multifield dictionary), or either coverage may be more narrow, in that they cover one particular subject field such as dermatology / plastic surgery (a single-field dictionary) or even a specific sub-field such as biological chemistry (a subfield dictionary). In this respect, we may state that specialized dictionaries may be maximizing dictionaries, i.e. they attempt to achieve comprehensive coverage of the terms in the subject field concerned, or they may be minimizing dictionaries, i.e. they attempt to cover only a limited number of the specialized vocabulary concerned"²⁷.

Thus, it is easily seen that specialized dictionary has an encyclopedic nature. It means that it includes much additional information important for understanding and use of terminology in any specific field. The most important purpose of compiling specialized dictionaries is an attempt to verify and arrange the most commonly used terminology of some

specific field, to give adequate and correct definitions of the terms, to start the process of supplying communication between specialists with unique terminological units, to provide standardization and unification of terms according to national and international demands in order to create a systematized information about medical terminology. It gives the possibility to make these terms a constituent part of scientific achievements in the field of medicine.

Encyclopedic dictionaries also include such items as illustrations, special lists, and historical data, and biographical information, names of persons, places and literary works which are characterized by extensive treatment of facts⁷.

Different types of proper names will be described in the dictionary of medical terms with onymic component. Among these proper names we may distinguish eponyms, toponyms (choronyms, oikonoms), hydronyms and others. The other proper names include trade marks of medicinal preparations, names of plants and animals species, less frequently used phytonyms, ethnonyms, mythonyms and theonyms etc.

All the definitions of the above-mentioned proper components of medical terms are taken from the works in onomastic research^{26, 27}.

Structure and content of a dictionary entry mainly depends upon the type of onymic element. Traditionally eponyms constitute the greatest group of terms in medical terminology containing proper names. "An **eponym** can be either an item which provides a name-source for a particular [place](#), [tribe](#), [era](#), discovery, or other item to be named, or it can also be an item which acts as a name-recipient"²⁷. It is important to give some information about the author of any symptom or disorder, this data should be suggested separately from the entry itself since the definition may be considered as a completely medical notion in this case and bibliographic encyclopedic information is just a kind of additional cognitive note, e.g.:

Down syndrome (DS) or Down's syndrome – is a genetic disorder caused by the presence of all or part of a third copy of chromosome 21. It is typically associated with physical growth delays, characteristic facial features, and mild to moderate intellectual disability; also known as trisomy 21.

[John Langdon Down, the British doctor who fully described the syndrome in 1866.]

There are many eponymic terms composed of two or more proper names: **Aarskog-Scott syndrome** – is a rare disease inherited as autosomal dominant or X-linked and characterized by short stature, facial abnormalities,

skeletal and genital anomalies; also known as the Aarskog syndrome, faciodigitogenital syndrome, shawl scrotum syndrome and faciogenital dysplasia.

[The syndrome is named for Dagfinn, a Norwegian pediatrician and human geneticist who first described it in 1970, and for Charles I. Scott, Jr., an American medical geneticist who independently described the syndrome in 1971.]

Here the additional information (i.e. synonymic row) shows that the main figure in the description of this syndrome is the first eponym so the description reflects this information about both physicians.

In the next three-word eponymic term historical notes show that the syndrome got names of people who arranged the data about it and not those who were the first to describe it:

Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome (WPW) is one of several disorders of the conduction system of the heart that are commonly referred to as pre-excitation syndromes. WPW is caused by the presence of an abnormal accessory electrical conduction pathway between the atria and the ventricles.

[In 1915, Frank Norman Wilson (1890 – 1952) became the first to describe the condition later called Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome. Alfred M. Wedd (1887 – 1967) was the next to describe the condition in 1921. [Cardiologists Louis Wolff](#) (1898 – 1972), [John Parkinson](#) (1885 – 1976) and [Paul Dudley White](#) (1886 – 1973) are credited with the definitive description of the disorder in 1930].

Appellatives – derivatives from proper names have to be mentioned here as well, since their eponymic nature is not always transparent. E.g.: **parkinsonism** (Parkinson's syndrome, atypical Parkinson's, or secondary Parkinson's) is a neurological syndrome characterized by tremor, hypokinesia, rigidity and postural instability. It also forms derivatives like *parkinsonian*; **kocherization** (Kocher maneuver) is a surgical maneuver done to expose the retroperitoneum and allow visualization of structures of abdomen. *[Emil Theodor Kocher (25 August 1841 – 27 July 1917) was a Swiss physician and medical researcher who received the 1909 Noble Prize for his work in the physiology, pathology and surgery of the thyroid.];* **achillotomy** (achillotenotomy) is a surgical division of the Achilles tendon. *[In Greek mythology, Achilles was a Greek hero of the Trojan War and the central character and greatest warrior of Homer's Iliad.];* **atlas** (C1) is the most superior (first) cervical vertebra of the spine. *[In Greek mythology, Atlas was the*

primordial Titan who held up the celestial spheres.

Another subgroup of proper names used in medical terminology is **toponyms**. Toponym from the point of view of Kazakh researchers²⁶ “is one of the types of lexicon which is mostly defined as: 1) a place name; 2) name derived from place name. In science toponyms are one of the types of proper names. Geographical or place names are the nouns we use to refer to specific characteristics of places and geographic features. Toponyms can be both place names, real or imaginary, as well as names derived from places or regions. They can be found in many different areas of education, industry, enterprise, culture, and current events. It is not unusual to find toponyms used for places that withdraw other places, as well as wars, treaties and agreements, bands, food, and fabric, among other items”. According to dictionaries toponym is given the following definition: “A place name or a word coined in association with the name of a place”²⁷.

In medical terminology we singled out such types of toponyms: **choronyms** – names of large areas²⁷ (continents, countries, etc.), e.g.: **Mallorca acne** – acneiform eruption developing following excessive sun exposure, first described in European tourist going to Mallorca in mid-winter, more common in women 20-40 years. Synonym: *acne aestivalis*.

[Majorca / Mallorca – is an island located in the Mediterranean Sea, the largest island in the Balearic Islands archipelago, in Spain]

Brazilian waxing is the removal of all hair in the pelvic area, front and back, while sometimes leaving a thin strip of hair on the mons pubis.

[the Brazilian wax was first so named in modern times by the J. Sisters salon in Manhattan, founded in 1987 by seven sisters from Brazil named Padiha]

English rhinoplasty – a plastic surgery procedure for correcting, reconstructing the form, restoring the functions and aesthetically enhancing the nose by means of the flaps taken from the cheek.

The toponyms “Brazilian, English, Majorca” are not explained in the entry because these proper names are well-known, that’s why the definition of the very term is given instead; usually such onymic units indicate the place where some phenomenon was observed or initially diagnosed.

Another group includes **oikonyms** (names of a village or town): **Jerusalem syndrome** is a mental disorder involving the presence of either

religiously themed obsessive ideas, delusions or other psychosis-like experiences, a form of hysteria; **Stockholm syndrome** is a psychological response sometimes seen in an abducted hostage, in which the hostage shows signs of sympathy, loyalty or even voluntary compliance with the hostage taker. The **Plague of Athens** was a devastating epidemic which hit the city-state of Athens in ancient Greece during the second year of the Peloponnesian War (430 BC).

Hydronyms also constitute a great group of toponyms, among them we have distinguished such subgroups: **pelagonyms** (names of seas): **Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF)** is a hereditary inflammatory disorder affecting groups of people originating from around the Mediterranean Sea; **potamonyms** (names of rivers): **West Nile virus (WNV)** is a mosquito-borne zoonotic arbovirus. This flavivirus is found in temperate and tropical regions of the world. It was first identified in the West Nile subregion in the East African nation of Uganda in 1937.

As all the examples mentioned above show that toponyms are also an important source of enrichment of medical vocabulary and take their deserving place in the given paper.

Among the other groups of proper names used in the formation of medical terms as secondary nomination objects we may single out phytonyms, ethnonyms, mythonyms, theonyms and others. These nominations are not numerous but they still take a conspicuous place in the medical terminology.

The term “*fleur-de-lys*” may be considered both a **phytonym** (name of a plant) and a heraldic object since in the definition we come across two key notions “heraldic device” / “flower” and this name is transmitted to denote a surgical procedure: **Fleur-de-lys abdominoplasty** is a surgery to remove large amounts of excess skin and fat; named for the shape of the two-part, T-shape vertical and horizontal incision in the center of the abdomen, which resembles the flower of Lyon, a heraldic device used by French kings.

An **ethnonym** is the name applied to a given ethnic group, at present we verified two of them: **Cagot ear** is an ear with a missing earlobe – inherited birth defect named for the Cagot area of the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain where the defect is most common; **Aztec ear** is a defect characterized by the absence of lobule in an auricle people were certain ethnic groups of central Mexico, particularly those groups who spoke the Nahuatl language and

who dominated large parts of Mesoamerica from the 14th to 16th centuries.

Mentioning appellatives derived from proper names we used terms “achillotomy” and “atlas” as examples, both of the terms are **mythonyms**, i.e. they describe an eponym of unreal imagined living being. In such cases we propose to give the explanation of the phenomenon in the dictionary entry to illustrate why this mystic character gave a nomination for a term: **narcissism** is the pursuit of gratification from vanity or egotistic admiration of one's own attributes. The term originated from the Greek mythology, where the young Narcissus fell in love with his own image reflected in a pool of water; **Oedipus complex** (Oedipal complex) denotes the emotions and ideas that concentrate upon a child's desire to have sexual relations with the parent of the opposite sex.

In this paper it was also traced that even biblionyms can generate scientific terms, e.g.: **Adam's apple reduction** (chondrolaryngoplasty, tracheal shave) is a surgical procedure in which the thyroid cartilage is reduced in size by shaving down the cartilage through an incision in the throat, generally to aid men and women who are uncomfortable with the girth of their Adam's apple.

Conclusions. An encyclopedic dictionary of medical terms with onymic component should be primarily focused on terms themselves and their definitions to give readers the main idea about notions and phenomena they explore; provide necessary information concerning certain lexical unit. All types of proper names are going to be described in our dictionary: eponyms, toponyms, phytonyms, ethnonyms, mythonyms and others. Thus, the dictionary entry of eponym should contain bibliographic information of the researcher or author, the one of toponym – an explanation about the location / place where some disease was first detected. Other groups of proper names are not so numerous, but still, they need an accurate definition to show the connection with a term, tracing its inner form and motivation.

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Potchynok Laryssa, Makovska Oksana. PRINCIPES DE COMPILATION DU DICTIONNAIRE DES TERMES MÉDICAUX AVEC UN COMPOSANT ONYMIQUE.

L'article développe le problème de la compilation du dictionnaire encyclopédique de termes médicaux avec le composant du nom propre, analyse les principes de formation de l'entrée du dictionnaire de terme médical avec un nom propre et les critères de sélection de l'information nécessaire pour formuler une définition. En outre, on détermine les types des noms propres qui devraient faire partie du dictionnaire. Le renouvellement des dictionnaires terminologiques de branche d'activité est un processus continu, car il reflète tous les

changements qui constamment ont lieu dans la science. Le vocabulaire médical onymique est une couche de lexique scientifique universelle qui facilite la communication internationale, c'est pourquoi l'entrée du dictionnaire encyclopédique doit présenter non seulement la définition, mais aussi, des données géographiques, historiques, biographiques, et parfois même des illustrations.

Mots-clés: dictionnaire encyclopédique, terme médical, entrée du dictionnaire, nom propre, éponyme, nom de lieu.

**Починок Лариса, Маковская Оксана.
ПРИНЦИПЫ СОСТАВЛЕНИЯ СЛОВА-
РЯ МЕДИЦИНСКИХ ТЕРМИНОВ С
ОНИМНЫМ КОМПОНЕНТОМ.**

В статье раскрывается проблема составления энциклопедического словаря медицинских терминов с проприальным компонентом, рассматриваются основные принципы построения словарной статьи медицинского термина с именем собственным и критерии отбора информации, необходимой для формулирования дефиниции. Кроме того, определяются типы проприативов, которые должны стать частью такого словаря. Обновление словарей отраслевых терминосистем является непрерывным процессом, поскольку отражает все изменения, которые постоянно происходят в науке. Медицинская онимная лексика – это универсальный пласт научной речи, упрощающий международное общение, поэтому статья энциклопедического словаря должна предоставлять не только дефиницию, но и исторические, биографические, географические данные, а иногда даже иллюстративный материал.

Ключевые слова: энциклопедический словарь, медицинский термин, словарная статья, проприатив, эпоним, топоним.