

Voronezh N. N. Burdenko State Medical University

International Conference

Languages for Healthcare Professionals: Current Trends & Perspectives

Medical conditions nominations by means of metaphors with
zoonym component in English and Russian medical discourses

Julia N. Naumenko, Lecturer
of Foreign Languages
Department

Vladimir O. Zolotukhin, 4-year
student of the Department of
General faculty

9 April 2020
Voronezh, Russia

Introduction


Metaphor is a universal phenomenon in language.

Metaphor is a form of figurative comparison, that “consists in giving the thing a name that belongs to something else” (Aristotle, 1920);

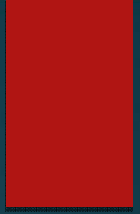
Metaphors allow us to understand one domain of experience in terms of another (Lakoff and Johnson, 1980a);

Metaphor is described as «a means by which one thing is described in terms of something else» (Cameron L., Low G. , 1999).

Metaphor holds a specific place in medical discourse. Medical terminology has historically always been full of metaphors and continues to be enriched with new terms - metaphors (Ozingin, 2009; Sedov, 2000).



A large group of metaphorical medical terms in English and Russian medical discourses has zoonym component, also known as animalism, zoometaphor, zoolexem, zoomorphism, comparative phrase with animalistic component, word combinations with component-names of animals, etc. Zoonyms reflect the physical qualities of animals, their appearance, character traits, intelligence, skills, which are especially important in medical conditions nominations.



The present research is devoted to the issue of medical conditions nominations by means of metaphors with zoonym component in English and Russian medical discourses.

The choice of the research topic is determined by the interest in medical conditions nominations by means of metaphors with zoonym component in English and Russian medical discourses.

The aim of the research is to look at medical conditions nominations by means of metaphors with zoonym component in English and Russian medical discourses and to estimate whether they are nominated by equal or different metaphors with zoonym component.

Materials and methods

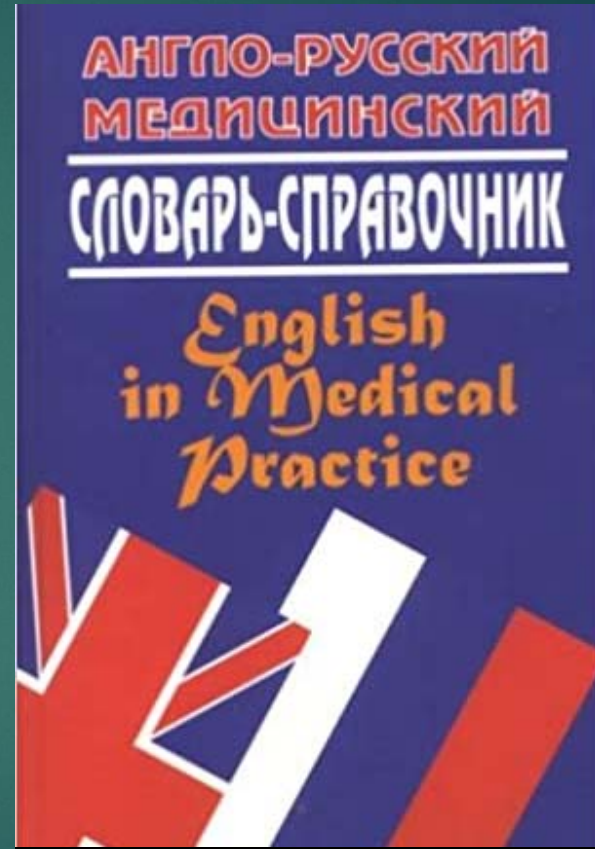
We analyzed English and Russian metaphorical medical terms with zoonym component. We used the method of complete sampling to reveal whether they are nominated by equal or different metaphor with zoonym component.

The main material of the study was:

New English-Russian medical dictionary. Rivkin V. L. 75000 words, Moscow 2004;

English-Russian medical dictionary. Akzhigitov G. N. 70000 terms, Moscow 1988;

English-Russian medical encyclopedia. A. G. Chuchalin, Moscow 1995.



Results

Complete equivalent nominations of medical conditions
(metaphorical medical terms with the zoonym component nominate the same medical condition)

English medical discourse

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *hare lip*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *rabbit disease*
or *rabbit fever*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *monkey's paw*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *stork legs*

Russian medical discourse

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *заячья губа*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *заячья болезнь*
или *заячья лихорадка*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *лапа обезьяны*

metaphorical medical term with
zoonym component – *нога аиста*

Results

Partial equivalent nominations of medical conditions

(metaphorical medical terms with the zoonym component nominate the same medical condition, but zoonym component is different)

English medical discourse

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *pigeon breast, chicken breast, sparrow breast*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *dog disease*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *goose gait*

Russian medical discourse

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *куриная грудь*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *МОСКИТНАЯ лихорадка*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *утиная походка*

Results

Lack of equivalent for medical conditions nominations by means of metaphor with zoonym component in Russian medical discourse

English medical discourse

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *calf bone*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *swallowing reflex*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *Chickenpox*

metaphorical medical term with zoonym component – *cat'-eye pupil*

Russian medical discourse

medical term – *голень*

medical term – *глотательный рефлекс*

medical term – *вирус ветряной оспы*

medical term – *щелевидный зрачок*

Conclusion

Metaphorical medical terms with zoonym component in English and Russian medical discourses may have complete equivalent nominations, partial equivalent nominations and a lack of equivalent nominations of medical conditions.

Metaphors are widely used in both English and Russian medical discourse. However, metaphorical medical terms with zoonym component typical for English medical discourse are quite often absent in Russian medical discourse.

Thank you for attention!