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**DIFFERENCES IN THE USAGE OF NOUN-NOUN
PHRASES AND OF-PHRASES**

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Relevance. Although phrases in English can be made in different ways, they can have similar meaning. Generally, the meaning of the noun phrase with an attributive noun or noun adjunct matches the meaning of *of-phrases* made with the same nouns. It is really hard for non-native English speakers to choose the best variant of phrases sounding as genuine English as possible. Native speakers of inflectional languages (e.g. *Russian*) are assumed to use preferably *of-phrases*. It should be mentioned, that both types of the phrases can be found in medical texts, so it is important to understand the difference in their usage.

Aim: to analyze the differences in the use of *of-phrases* and *noun-noun phrases* in terms of linguistic theory and practical use in medical texts.

Materials and methods. Web-sites and Internet articles were reviewed to find theoretical statements together with examples about usage of *noun-noun phrases* in comparison with *of-phrases*. The usage of these phrases was analyzed in 3 sections from Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics (Robert M. Kliegman, Joseph W. St Geme III, Nathan J. Blum, Samir S. Shah, Robert C. Tasker, Karen M. Wilson; Elsevier, 2019) and 11 Internet articles oriented towards a general audience and concerned parents. To compare the usage of *of-phrases* and *noun-noun phrases* in different texts, I used the method of term frequency and percentage calculation.

Results and their discussion. On the whole, *of-phrases* are used to show possession or other similar relations, while the *noun-noun phrases* can be used to describe other meanings, e.g. composition or purpose, etc. *Of-phrases* can be used to emphasize the noun or to make the phrase more pompous. Moreover, the frequency of usage of *of-phrases* in academic texts appears to be higher than in spoken language. Meanwhile, *noun-noun phrases* prove to be preferred in spoken language because of their brevity.

Analyzing medical texts, the following observations were made: the frequency of *of-phrases* and that of *noun-noun phrases* in Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics are 2.67% and 1.07%, respectively; while the frequency in the Internet articles for parents are accordingly 1.47% and 0.45%. Besides, the frequency of both *noun-noun phrases* and *of-phrases* in medical texts decreases along with its complexity. Specific terms tend to be worded in *noun-noun phrases*, while common terms are likely to be expressed with *of-phrases* (e.g. *measles encephalitis* and *symptoms of measles*). One quarter of *of-phrases* in all the texts were made with the following nouns: *symptoms, dose, risk, onset, cases, diagnosis, treatment, development, loss*. Examples of the other pattern (e.g. *sample of your child's stool* and *stool samples*) proved to be few in number.

Conclusion. Though *of-phrases* are thought to make the speech more complicated and formal, there are many collocations where they are preferred. The less complex the text is, the fewer *of-phrases* and *noun-noun phrases* are used with no significant prevailing tendency, due to decline of usage of the medical terms. Comparing the usage of *noun-noun phrases* and *of-phrases* it is also noticed, that medical terms related to a specific disease or organ are commonly *noun-noun phrases*.