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ASSIMILATION OF LATIN CLINICAL TERMINOLOGY FINAL ELEMENTS IN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN

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Relevance. The terminology of medicine in both Russian and English is quite stable and standardized, mostly based on elements of Latin and Greek origin. However, while borrowing terms undergo assimilation, adapting to the grammatical system of the language.

Aim: to study the features of assimilation of Latin-Greek final clinical term elements in English and Russian.

Materials and methods. In the course of the study, a continuous sampling of the final clinical term elements (CTE) was carried out. Each CTE was illustrated by an example from the scientific literature of the clinical profile in Russian and English. The peculiarities of the usage of Latin-Greek CTE in English and Russian languages are revealed, patterns are determined.

Results and their discussion. Word-forming elements borrowed from Latin and Greek are characterized by various degrees of assimilation. Final term elements undergo significant assimilation. As a result of the study, 85 Latin CTE were analyzed. The most common term elements are those ending in -ia (63.8%) and -sis (18%).

According to the results of the study, the following patterns of correspondence between Latin-Greek CTE and their equivalents in English and Russian were identified.

1) Latin -ia corresponds to -ia/-y in English and -ия in Russian: -gastria – polygastria – полигастрия, -ectomy – gastrectomy – гастрэктомия. In English, -ia, is passed as -y after the combinations ph, th, tr, om, og, op, ex, yl.

2) Latin -us is usually removed in Russian terms and sometimes in English: -blastus – fibroblast – фибробласт. In English it can also correspond to -e: -cytus – leukocyte, -scopus – endoscope. However, it should be noted that in the names of professions CTE -logus in English has a variant -ist: cardiologist.

3) In Latin -um is omitted both in English and in Russian: -metrum – thermometer – термометр. However Latin, -ium corresponds to ium in English, and in Russian it has variants -и, or zero ending: -cardium – endocardium – эндокард; -metrium – myometrium – миомерий.

4) Latin -cele corresponds to -cele in English and in Russian -целе: myeloccele – миелоцеле.

5) Latin -is gives -is in English, and in Russian it is manifested either by a zero ending, or by -ис in Latin -xis and -isis (-schizis and -rexis): -centesis – amniocentesis – амниоцентез; -schisis – retinoschisis – ретиношизис; -rhexis – onychorhexis – онихорексис.

6) Latin -gramma responds to -gram in English and -грамма in Russian: electrocardiogram – электрокардиограмма.

7) Latin -plastica transfers to -plasty in English and -пластика in Russian.

8) Latin, oea/oë changes into -ea in English and -оэ in Russian: apnea – апноэ.

9) Latin -oma corresponds in English to ome / oma (oma – in naming the tumors) and in Russian -ома: chromosome – хромосома, myoma – миома.

10) Latin, -io passes to -ion in English and -ия in Russian: hypertension – гипертензия.

11) Latin -er corresponds to -er in English and -ер/-р in English: metreurynter – метриуринтер. However, in the name of professions CTE -iater in English has the variant -iatrician: pediatrician – педиатр and even -iatrist: psychiatrist.

Conclusion: the study has showed that the final term elements borrowed from Latin into English and Russian undergo significant assimilation. This should be taken into account when learning the language of medical terminology, as well as when translating from Russian into English and Latin, and backwards.