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## **A LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS**

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**Relevance.** Provided the requirement of “Good English” is mandatory for international publications and the fact that Russian speaking authors are highly motivated to ensure international access to their articles, the study is relevant in terms of pinpointing a number of characteristic features of non-authentic English abstracts with an emphasis on mistakes being made for future improvement thereof.

**Aim:** the study mainly focuses on the comparison between the abstracts of medical scientific articles which have been translated into English from Russian and those of native English speaking authors. Therefore it aims at identifying the differences in the linguistic means used by authentic and non-authentic English authors in terms of their effect on the quality of English.

**Materials and methods.** Different scientific articles and abstracts (totally 52 items) devoted to various current medical issues as well as associated Internet websites have been analyzed using such methods as primary data analysis, quantitative analysis, qualitative textual analysis, comparative analysis, exploratory analysis and mechanic analysis.

**Results and discussion.** Estimating the word count in native and non-native abstracts I discovered that the abstracts both originally written in English (375.86 words) and translated into it (210.04 words) tend to have a slightly bigger word count, then those written in Russian (181.92 words). Such deviation may be explained by the use of prepositions and articles in the English language that differ from the grammatical categories of the Russian language. Furthermore, this tendency was observed in the course of the experiment based on the translation of authentic English abstracts into Russian by means of YandexTranslator application. The word count of the translated version proved to be slightly smaller than that of the original one (367.24 words). Further linguistic analysis of the texts showed certain grammar and lexical errors, which are likely to worsen the quality of English in non-authentic abstracts. The main cause of such errors can be considered the problem of grammatical interference, which is associated with 3 conditions:

- The volume of meaning and usage of language units coincide in both languages.
- The volume of meaning and usage of language units do not coincide.
- Language units exist only in one of the studied languages.

**Conclusions.** The translation of non-authentic abstracts into English is essential for sharing the results of scientific studies and research conducted locally with the international community. The analysis of the abstracts has confirmed that even insignificant mistakes persisting in Russian translations of scientific text can negatively affect the comprehension of the text and violate the rule of “Good English”. The research shows that the number of words used to outline the research findings noticeably differs between authentic (English), non-authentic (translated into English) and Russian texts, increasing from the authentic Russian abstract to the authentic English one. This conclusion appears unexpected taking into consideration the language features of Russian and English and the traditionally propagated idea of Russian being a more verbose language than English. This phenomenon might be explained by the existence of the grammatical category of the article in the English language, the usage of articles, and namely their omission, being a source of numerous errors in the texts translated from Russian.