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## USE OF SHOULD AND MUST IN ENGLISH PHARMACEUTICAL TEXTS

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**Relevance.** Pharmaceutical texts are specific and narrowly focused. Along with medical terms, they contain a wide range of pharmaceutical terminology, which constitutes a set of complex subsystems: terms of pharmacognosy, pharmacology, pharmaceutical chemistry, etc. Typical examples of PTs are regulations, guidelines, formal and informal recommendations for the proper, efficient and safe use of medicines. A characteristic feature of this type of pharmaceutical texts is their directive nature, which is primarily expressed in modern English by the modals must and should.

**Aim:** to identify the main differences in the semantics of the verbs must and should and the patterns of their use to express directive modality in PTs, to systematize the situations that require the use of a particular verb for the correct translation of PTs of a directive-recommendatory nature.

**Materials and methods.** 114 uses of the modal verbs should and must in the recommendations (guidelines) for the use of drugs published on the portal Drugs.com were subjected to semantic and contextual analysis. Each recommendation contains a section for the general public (non-specialists) and medical/ pharmaceutical professionals (specialists).

**Results and discussion.** The analysis of the data collected showed significant differences between the use of the modal verbs must and should in texts aimed at specialists (so-called professional monographs) and non-specialists (consumer leaflets). In the texts for non-specialists, we did not record a single case of the use of the verb must, and the statements are purely advisory in nature. In texts for non-specialists, a number of recommendations are indirectly aimed at medical professionals. The modal verb should with the meaning of a recommendation, rather than an order or prohibition, is used even in cases where there is a potential threat to the patient's health.

In guidelines aimed at medical and pharmaceutical professionals, along with the predominant use of the modal verb should, the verb must is used in the following situations: 1) in cases where errors in the use of drugs can result in severe complications, a threat to the life of the patient or fatal consequences; 2) in cases where particular actions of medical personnel or drug manufacturers are stipulated in the treatment protocol or other official documents, i.e. the actions of employees have no alternative, which contributes to the formation of “appropriate alertness”.

**Conclusions.** Modality is a multidimensional category that plays an important role in the construction of the semantic component in a scientific (and even more so in a medical / pharmaceutical) text. The correct understanding of modal verbs and their uses leads to the removal of communication barriers that can cause a misunderstanding of vital information.