

11. Романські, германські та інші мови і література

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METAPHORICAL TERMINOLOGY IN THE ENGLISH SUBLANGUAGE OF DENTISTRY

Cognitive metaphors are universal mechanisms of transferring names of a particular concept to another object based on their similarities [4, p. 24]. Quite often, metaphors are rooted in the complex associative relations, pertaining to a certain speech community and its everyday practical experience [3, p. 207].

Most concepts and objects from the human environment usually undergo the process of metaphorization. In addition, metonymic relations (i.e., transfer on the basis of contiguity relationships) are of great importance as well [5]. In this context, the sublanguages of medical and scientific communication are no exceptions [1; 2; 7]. In fact, metaphorical transfer of meaning is a productive way of term formation which renders this area relevant for linguistic research. Dental terminology as a flexible and constantly developing system of clinical and scientific concepts also undergoes the processes of metaphorization. The objectives of the present paper are (1) to identify the types of conceptual metaphors in dental terminology, and (2) to determine their role in the formation of dental terms.

In order to study the prevalence and role of terminological metaphors in the sublanguage of dentistry, we developed the semantic typology which is based on the sources of metaphorical transfer of meanings. The universal sources, generating metaphorical terms in dentistry, can be grouped into **anthropomorphic**, **zoomorphic** and **botanical** categories.

Anthropomorphic metaphors represent the most productive group of metaphorical terms. It is necessary to observe that anthroponymization is one of the major tendencies in the process of metaphorical term formation [7, p. 30]. In dentistry, the anthropometrical principle is implemented in the *somatic*, *household* and *sociomorphic* subcategories.

Somatic metaphors are related to the human body: «dental neck»; «enamel navel»; «enamel cord»; «back of the tongue»; «eye tooth». The *household* subclass includes the following dental terms: «cingulum of the tooth»; «floor of the mouth»; «mantle dentin»; «shovel-shaped teeth»; «dental arch»; «vestibule of the nose»; «tower skull»; «bridgework»; «cantilever bridge»; «fixed bridge»; «porcelain jacket»; «pipe jaw»; «lacrimal sac»; «hinge movement»; «mappy tongue»; «sickle flap»; «vascular bed»; «spade drill»; «cobbler's suture» and so on. *Sociomorphic*

metaphors constitute yet another interesting group of terms. This category contains proper names and abstract notions related to the social being of men: «Gothic palate»; «Olympian forehead»; «Hapsburg jaw»; «waltzed flap»; «wandering cell»; «wisdom tooth»; «diving goiter»; «geographical tongue» and so on.

Meanwhile, dental **zoomorphic** metaphors are formed by means of animalistic images, for example: «harelip»; «alligator forceps»; «caterpillar flap»; «cuttlefish disk»; «hawk's incisors»; «the wing of the nose»; «palatine crest», etc. It is necessary to observe that some metaphorical terms in Ukrainian may not be reflected in the English language: for instance, «вовча паща» is rendered quite neutrally («cleft palate») [5].

Botanical metaphors are based on the names of plants, their parts or fruits: «tooth bud»; «taste bud»; «root of the tongue»; «root of the tooth»; «mulberry molar»; «strawberry tongue»; «sesamoid cartilage»; «yeast stomatitis» and the like.

Thus, the study of metaphorization mechanisms in dental terminology enables us to reveal the origin of metaphorical meanings. Dental terminology is characterized by extensive use of metaphorical terms which form a separate corpus with its own laws, typological characteristics and models. The analyzed metaphorical terms perform nominative function, filling the empty conceptual gaps and thus providing the names of physiological phenomena or pathologies by means of already known words.

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