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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONCEPTOSPHERE “MEDICINE” WITH THE ETYMOLOGY ROOT “-MED-”: SEMANTIC-WORD-FORMATION ASPECT

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*The modern concept sphere "Medicine" is a complex organization that includes a system of concepts in the form of organized knowledge about human health and diseases. **The purpose of the study** – using the Latin language material, representatives of the concept sphere “Medicine” with the root “-med-” in the semantic, word-formation and etymological context were analyzed. The origin of the word “medicine” is traced. The concepts “Doctor” and “Medicines” are identified as well as components of the concept sphere “Medicine”. The nominative fields of concepts are described, which include: direct nomination, derived units of different parts of speech, cognate words, paronyms, free word combinations that reveal the meaning of concepts. It has been noted that representatives of concepts with the etymological root morpheme med- form a nest of related words.*

Conclusions. A close connection between the semantics, etymology and word-formation structure of verbalizers of concepts has been revealed. Derivative units are formed by suffixal, prefixal, suffixal and prefixal methods. Structural elements of representatives of concepts modify the lexical meaning of the word, specify and clarify the substantive meaning of the root: “to take appropriate measures”.

Keywords: *concept sphere, concept, nominative field, representative, etymological root “-med-”, semantic-word-forming aspect.*

Introduction.

According to the successful statement of the ancient Roman orator and educator Marcus Fabius Quintilianus, “nothing is so necessary for the entire human race as medicine” (Latin: Marcus Fabius Quintilianus; c. 100 AD), /Nulla res tam necessaria est omni genēri homīnum, quam medicina. It is not for nothing that in ancient times medicine was recognized as the art of healing. A person’s knowledge and experience about health and illness, their worldview, were reproduced in concepts that were united in the conceptual sphere of medicine.

In the modern world, climatic disasters continue to occur, infectious epidemics break out, military conflicts arise, as a result of which diseases appear. The language of medicine is constantly updated and enriched with lexical units to designate diseases, which are recorded in dictionaries and function in medical discourse. The prerequisites



for their structuring, preservation and accumulation for further use are created. Today, medicine as a sphere of knowledge and practical activity is defined as “a set of sciences about human diseases, their treatment and prevention” [1, p. 422]. The study of the word-forming potential of the thesaurus of the concept sphere “medicine” remains relevant.

Modern linguistics interprets the concept sphere as a complex organization, “a system of concepts in human consciousness that reproduces in the form of structured and ordered knowledge the idea of the world, reality, and the results of a person’s internal reflective experience” [2, p. 261] or “a set of concepts from which, in an appropriate order, the worldview, worldview outlook and world perception of speakers are formed” [3, p. 353]. In the structure of the concept itself, “more or less frequent cognitive formations” are distinguished [4, p. 5].

The structural mental unit “Medicine” includes cognitive concepts of different number and format, which convey knowledge and worldview of a certain fragment of reality or object (English concept from Latin *concipere*, *conceptus* – meaning, thought, concept). The most voluminous of them are related to human health and illness, which include various structured units of knowledge.

Highlighting the diversity of understanding, health, and disease, linguists consider the verbalization of cognitive formations from different linguistic angles. One cannot but agree with Professor A.M. Prykhodko that “determining an accurate and consistent taxonomic list of concepts is a rather difficult task... . If the concepts themselves are materialized in language, then the methods of their analysis are difficult to formalize, and therefore any ranking of them will for a long time bear the imprint of philological subjectivism” [5, p. 28].

Domestic linguists have repeatedly resorted to describe the components of the multi-tiered structure of the conceptual system of medicine. Thus, O.S. Isaeva found out that the concepts of “preventive medicine” and “prophylactic medicine” in the lexical and semantic aspect have now become interchangeable in the mental perception of medical professionals and citizens, “although their etymology is somewhat different” [6, p. 136]. The most voluminous concepts of “health” and “disease” were



subjected to detailed description. The ethnolinguistic perspective of the idea of the principles of functioning, metaphorization and structure of the concept of “disease” in Ukrainian, English and French languages was considered by O.V. Labenko [7, pp. 49-53]. O.S. Sirotin described the specifics of lexical units that reflect the concept of “disease” in the English language (lexemes disease, illness, sickness) [8, p. 35]. R.V. Povoroznyuk distinguished two groups of translation strategies that can be applied to the relay of medical concepts in a popular science text and established the means of their reproduction [9, p. 235]. M. Y. Petryshyn interpreted Latin paroimies, which provide an idea of the universal and ethnospecific features of the mentality of the ancient Romans regarding a healthy lifestyle, the causes of diseases, treatment methods and the role of a doctor in ancient society [10, p. 133]. In her thesis, O.V. Mylyk characterized the means of verbalization, the semantic field, the logical-conceptual, figurative and value characteristics of the concept of “health” in Latin and modelled word-forming nests with the bases *salu-/salv-, *san-, *val- [11, p. 14]. Y.S. Skrypnyk described the universal and specific features of the hypoconcepts “morbus”, “aegrotatio”, “vitium” of the megaconcept “disease” in the context of their semantic content and their implementation using the Latin language of the classical period [12, pp. 2-15].

Latin linguistic culture uses its verbally marked units, which function to name concepts. The thesaurus of the concept sphere is also replenished as a result of derivational processes, which reflect the national correlation in the language. Word-forming components often act as the bases of words of Latin origin.

The purpose of the study. The purpose of the article is to analyze the representatives of the concept sphere “Medicine” with the etymological root “-med-” in the semantic-word-formation and etymological context using the material of the Latin language.

Research materials and methods: The following dictionaries were selected for the study: Dorland’s illustrated medical dictionary. In 2 volumes [13]; Arnaudov Terminologia medica poliglotta [14]; Petrova, G.V. Latin-Ukrainian word-formation dictionary: 20 000 words [15]; Petrukh, L. I., Golovko, I.M. Ukrainian-Latin-English



medical encyclopedic dictionary: A-Z [1].

Research methods: continuous sampling for inventorying linguistic material to determine representatives that verbalize the concept sphere “Medicine”; descriptive method, classification and interpretation of word-formation units; semantic and word-formation analysis-for interpreting word-formation units and clarifying the semantic structure of representatives with the etymological root “-med-”.

Main text.

Today, medicine includes a wide range of different branched scientific knowledge. Its concept sphere includes from 18 [1, p. 422] to 46 different [13, 1391-1392] names of sciences about human diseases, each of which includes a different number of concepts. Each of them contains lexical units that are common for designating the same objects of knowledge and experience and represent the concept sphere “Medicine”. The set of units that create a concept forms a nominative field. The field may include: direct nomination (keyword representing a concept); derived units of different parts of speech; synonyms; cognate words, paroimies, free word combinations that reveal the content of the concept sphere “Medicine”. Following O.V. Mylyk, we include in the core of the nominative field word-forming units that are used most frequently and are characterized by the greatest generalization in their semantics [11, p. 42].

Due to its enormous word-forming potential, the Latin language continues to be the main source of creating lexical and terminological units to denote basic medical concepts. The criterion for identifying the main words representing the concept sphere is “frequency, abstractness and general knowledge” [16, p. 65].

To understand the nature of the structure of a word, one should clarify not only its morphemic components, but also the meaning in their connections and relationships in the word. This can be revealed only by analyzing the word-formation structure of the word, taking into account the relationships in the nest of related words. We have selected 38 lexical units from lexicographic sources that reflect and characterize the content of the concept sphere “Medicine”. All the analyzed words have a common historical Proto-Indo-European etymological root “med-”, which implies the meaning



“to take appropriate measures” [17].

The root is the carrier of the objective meaning of the word. It is the main morpheme that reflects a fragment of objective reality. Repeating in all grammatical forms and related words that represent the conceptual sphere of “Medicine”, the root morpheme “med-” unites a nest of derived words with a common conceptual meaning. Actions with the meaning of “to treat, help, apply measures or medicine to stop the disease process” are especially clearly reflected in verb forms:

– in the non-derivative verb *medeor*, –, *ēri* – to treat, to cure, to heal, to heal up; figurative meaning: to help, to provide assistance, to eliminate, to warn;

in derived verbs:

- *medicor*, *ātus*, *sum*, *āri* [< *medicus* < *medeor*] – to treat, to help, to provide assistance;
- *medico*, *āvi*, *ātum*, *āre* [< *medicus* < *medeor*] – to mix, to prepare; to lubricate, to paint, to embalm, to treat; to poison;
- *remedio*, *āvi*, *ātum*, *āre* [< *remedium* < *re* + *medeor*] – to treat, to heal; to cure;
- *remedior*, –, *āri* [< *remedium* < *re* + *medeor*] – to treat, to cure.

In word-forming series of words, the meaning of the root is modified and clarified by word-forming affixes. The word formation involves the root stem of the word and the stem of the affix, in which, in addition to the root, one or more affixes are added.

Derivative words arise from words already existing in the Latin language and are perceived as secondary to those from which they are formed. Their derivation is motivated by the meanings of the words from which they are derived, as well as a more complex morpheme structure.

The root “med-” reveals its morpheme status in the generalized concept of *medicina* - to take measures. The Latin suffix *-ina* is attached to the formative stem *medic-* and highlights the meaning of “art, occupation.” In the linguocultural worldview of the ancient Romans, medicine occupied a prominent place among the arts as a form of human activity in the field of health preservation, as evidenced by the aphorism: *Omnium artium medicina nobilissima est* / Of all the arts, medicine is the noblest.



The coverage of the origin of the key word of the concept sphere “Medicina” in lexicographical sources varies. The compilers of the Ukrainian-Latin-English medical encyclopaedic dictionary: A-Z [1, p. 422] attribute the etymology of the word *medicina* to the verb form *medicāri* – to heal, treat. The Latin and Ukrainian word-formation dictionary traces the word-formation chain *medicina* < *medicinus* < *medicus* < *medeor* [15, pp. 390-391] Latin: *medicina* is derived from the adjective *medicinus* (medical, therapeutic), which in turn is derived from the adjective *medicus* (medical, healing, healing), the latter from the verb *medeor* (I heal, I help). The very verb *medeor*, *medēri* functions in the Latin proverb: *Est medicina triplex: servāre, cavere, medēri* / The task of medicine is threefold: to protect, to prevent, to cure. The Oxford Dictionary suggests considering the word *medicina* as a derivative of *medicus* – doctor [Etym. sl.]. The Terminologia medica polyglotta dictionary, explaining the meaning of the word, uses the phrase *ars medicina* (the art of healing) [14, p. 283].

The analysis of lexical material, etymology and derivatives that verbalize the concept sphere “Medicina” makes it possible to distinguish the microconcepts “Doctor” and “Medicines”, in which representatives with the root “med-” function.

The keyword of the microconcept “Doctor” is “*medicus*”. In the structure of the microconcept, two nominative microfields with similar semantics are distinguished as: “doctor”, “healer”.

The core word of the nominative microfield “*Medicus*”, the one who heals - *medicus*, *i m* < *medeor* structurally includes the root *med-* + lat. suff. *-ic(us)* – belonging to – a mental unit, reflected in the minds of the Romans as a person who practiced the medical art: 1) doctor; 2) surgeon. The primary meaning of the word: 1) medical; 2) healing, who heals; motivated by the verb *medeor*, *medēri* – to treat, to cure, to heal; to find the best way. The nominative field “*Medicus*” includes the derived adjectives *medicinus*, *a, um* and *medicinalis*, *e*: *medicinus* < *medicus*↑ medical, therapeutic; *medicinalis* < *medicin* + Lat. suff. *-alis* belonging; related to the art or profession of healing or to those who practice it [17]. The field includes the adverb *medicinaliter* (*medicin* + suff. *-al-* + (i)ter) as a doctor, motivated by the adjective *medicinalis*.

The verb “*medicor*, *ātus*, *sum*, *āri*” reveals the potential ability to form the noun



medicator doctor. The Latin suffix *-tor*, joining the stem of the supine *medicat-*, indicates the agent (*nomen agentis*) – the one who treats, helps, provides assistance.

In ancient Rome, professional medicine was mainly practiced by men. Women treated mainly family illnesses, used knowledge of the medicinal properties of herbs, and were midwives. The inflection *-a* of the noun *medica* means a healer who treats; doctor < *medicus*↑ expresses the grammatical meaning of the gender, indicating a female person who was engaged in healing from something, healing wounds.

One example of the use of the noun “*medicus*” in the phrase *medico mediante* has been identified: *medicus*↑ + *mediare* (pp. *mediatus* - to divide, to stand within) – the transfer of a disease by a doctor from one patient to another [14, p. 283].

The expression of the word-forming meaning of *nomen agentis* is observed in the noun *remediator* < *remedio* – healer; one who deals with healing, recovery. The noun is motivated by the verb *remedio*, *āvi*, *ātum*, *āre* “to treat, heal, cure”, which is synonymous with the semantics of “to treat, to cure”. The prefix morpheme *re-* indicates: 1) the process of restoration, reproduction; 2) counteraction and gives the verb an additional meaning: “to restore, return to a normal functional state, to heal.”

The adjectival suffixes *-ic(us)*, *-alis*, and the noun suffix *-tor*, in representatives that verbalize the microconcept “*Medicus*,” modify and clarify the meaning of the root morpheme “*med-*” – the one who takes appropriate measures.

The keyword of the nominative field of the microconcept “*Remedium*” – etymologically preserves the root *med-*↑ – medicine, remedy for (against) something and indicates a connection with the verb *remedeor*, *remedēri* < pref. *re-*↑ again + *medēri*↑ (again) to treat. The noun *remedium*, *i n* is found in a Latin proverb that conveys a person’s life experience regarding the use of medicines: *Nihil aeque sanitātem impēdit, quam remediōrum crebra mutatio* (Seneca) / Nothing is so harmful to health as the frequent change of medicines. In ancient Rome, a *remedium* was understood as a medicine as a means of treatment, something that restores health: a potion, a substance or mixture of substances, an antidote. In the formation of derived adjectives, we observe a prefix-suffix method of formation. The stem *remedi-* of the noun *remedium* is used as a formative in a derived adjective: *remedialis*, *e* – healing,



saving; such that acts as a *remedy* < *remedi* + suff. *-alis* property, sign, belonging. In the adjective *irremediabilis* (< *ir-* + *remedi* + *-(a)bilis* “incurable, incurable; from which there is no salvation”) the prefix *in-* (before *r* *ir-*) highlights the semantics of negation; the suffix *-(a)bilis* – reproduces a passive quality (tendency to be acted upon), property.

The nominative microfield “Healing agent” is verbalized in single-root words. The formative basis of the verb “*medico, āvi, ātum, āre*”↑ is found in the derivative formation *medicamen, ĩnis n* with the semantics “healing agent, medicinal potion, medicine; poison”: *medicamen* < *medico* + suff. *-men* result of action. This noun is found in the Latin pareimia: *Contra vim mortis non est medicāmen in hortis* / There is no medicine against the force of death in gardens. Synonymous with the noun *medicamen, ĩnis n* = *medicamentum, i n* < *medico* + suff. *-ment-* result of action, instrument, remedy.

The noun with the grammatical meaning of the plural *medicativa, ōrum n* < *medico* is formed by attaching the suffix *-iv-* to the verb supine *medicat-*, which has absorbed the semantics of “property”. The microfield is represented by the adjective *medicatus, a, um* healing, healing < *medico* + suff. *-at-* which possesses the feature. In the substantive *medicatus, us, m* < *medico* + suff. *-at-*↑ there is the semantics of “magic remedy, charm”.

The microfield is adjacent to the noun adjective *praemedicatus, a, um* < pref. *prae-* prematurely + *medicatus, us, m* < *medico* + suff. *-at-*↑ provided with a potion in advance, a magic potion. Representatives of the microconcept include the adjective *medicamentosus, a, um* healing, healing < *medicamentum*, motivated by the derivative stem *medicament-*. The formative noun stem expresses objectivity, is specified by the suffix *-osis*, which highlights the completeness of the sign.

Word-forming affixes (prefixes: *re-*, *in-*, *prae-*; suffixes: *-alis*, *-(a)bilis*, *-men*, *-ment-*, *-osis*, *-at*, *-iv-*) of representatives of the microconcept “Remedium” modify the lexical meaning of the word and clarify the substantive meaning of the root “to take appropriate measures”.



Summary and conclusions.

The Latin etymological root “*med-*” is an expression of the substantive meaning of words, reflecting objective reality, part of knowledge in the field of medicine. The root morpheme is repeated in words related in origin, and unites a nest of derived words that represent the microconcepts “Doctor”, “Medicines” as components of the concept sphere “Medicine”.

In the representatives of microconcepts, we trace the close relationship between the semantics of the word, etymology and its word-formation structure. In the creation of derived words, suffixal, prefixal, suffix-prefixal methods are used. The productive method of creating derived words is suffixal. Word-forming affixes are carriers of the semantic, word-formation and grammatical meanings of words.

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