

# EPONYMY IN ENGLISH MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

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#### PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

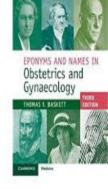
The purpose of this study was to analyze the eponyms of English medical terminology, to determine the features and possibilities of their functioning in modern medical terminology.

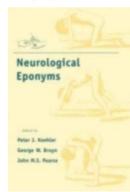


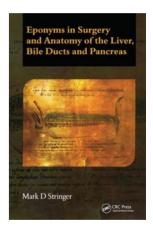
## THE MATERIAL OF THE RESEARCH

The material of the research included analysis of various medical articles and scientific literature in the field of different branches of medicine.

- 1. Varnavskaya E. V. Status and functioning of eponyms in medical Spanish terminology. Abstract of Cand. philological science. Voronezh 2009.
- 2. Krysin, L.P. Explanatory Dictionary of Foreign Words / L.P. Krysin // 5th edition M., 2003 .
- 3. Krysin L.P. About the Russian language of our days // Changing linguistic world. Perm, 2002







# INTRODUCTION

Achievement of scientific and technological progress contribute to the emergence of special words to denote new objects, phenomena and processes in various fields of human activity. Recent decades have been marked by the intensive development of medicine.



#### DISCUSSION

An eponym is the assignment of the surname of the author, patient, literary character, terrain, subject or phenomenon to the terms. As a rule, eponymous symptoms and syndromes in medicine are called by the name of the author who first described them (for example, Kozhevnikov's syndromes). Almost all microsystems of medical terminology are overloaded with eponymous terms. In neurology, eponyms make up about 30% of the entire terminological fund, according to a dictionary edited by Samusev R.P. [1989]. The percentage of eponyms in the nomenclature of symptoms and syndromes is extremely high. The growth of eponyms is explained by the desire to perpetuate the names of scientists and doctors who first discovered and described the phenomenon .

### ARGUMENTS "AGAINST" THE EPONYMOUS TERMS:

- 1. The eponymous terms are unmotivated, they do not express the meaning of concepts, since the name is not directly related to the content.
- 2. Eponyms, in most cases, give inaccurate information about who is the pioneer of a given phenomenon or disease. They are influenced by political factors, and, often, their appearance is simply explained by coincidence. So, for example, "Crohn's disease" was named after the name of the American gastroenterologist B. Crohn (1884-1983), although before him this disease was described by Giovanni Morgagni (1682-1771) and Anthony Lesnevsky (1867-1940).
- 3. The use of eponyms is often unacceptable for moral, ethical reasons. So, for example, the well-known term "Reiter's disease" was named after the German physician Hans Conrad. Reuters (1981-1969), as it turned out, took part in Nazi experiments on people in Sachsenhausen. This fact led to the fact that back in 2003 the term "Reiter's syndrome" was proposed to be withdrawn from use.

- 4. Many diseases have different eponyms in different countries. Morgagni-Turner-Albright syndrome has, for example, the following synonyms: Morgagni-Turner syndrome, Schereshevskii Turner syndrome, Turner's syndrome, Turner-Albright syndrome, Turner-Vary syndrome, Ullrich-Turner syndrome, Morgagni-Shereshevskii-Turner-Albright syndrome.
- 5. Eponymous terms do not have scientific accuracy; several terms can be assigned to one eponym. So, there are several meningeal symptoms of Brudzinsky, several symptoms and ankylosing spondylitis.
- 6. There are eponymous terms that consist of three or even four surnames, which makes them cumbersome and inconvenient for practical use.

#### ARGUMENTS "FOR" THE USE OF EPONYMOUS TERMS:

- 1. The undoubted advantage of eponymous terms is their brevity. Isn't it more convenient to use the short term "Fallot tetrad" instead of "congenital heart disease: a combination of stenosis of the mouth of the pulmonary trunk, defect of the interventricular septum, aortic displacement to the right, and secondary developing hypertrophy of the right heart"?
- 2. Eponyms in different countries may be different for the same disease. For example, "sideropenic dysphagia".
- 3. Eponyms, like all phenomena in a language, appear and disappear. So, for example, three famous physicians of the 19th century Richard Bright (1789-1958), Thomas Hodgkin (1798-1866) and Thomas Addison (1793-1860) worked together at the Guy London Hospital. "Addison's disease" and "Hodgkin's disease" are widely known today, and the term "Bright disease" is outdated and has been replaced by "glomerulonephritis."

- 4. If we destroy the eponymous terms in medicine, is it necessary to destroy them in other areas of science and technology (diesel, joule, kelvin, hertz, Boyle's law)? Eponyms are so widely used that very often they are not perceived as eponyms.
- 5. It is impossible to simply "remove" eponymous terms. Who will decide which term is appropriate? How to avoid the influence of political views?

#### CONCLUSION

Eponyms play a significant linguistic role in technical and scientific terminology. The peculiarity of eponyms, formed from the names of researchers of science, lies in their main function - replacing long structures with shorter forms. In recent years, broad epimonization has been criticized quite reasonably, since eponymous terms often serve as sources of error and confusion. However, eponymous names make up a significant part of the term system and play a significant linguistic role in technical and scientific terminology.



# Thank you for attention!

