



**HEALTHCARE AND MEDICAL
EDUCATION THROUGH
LANGUAGE:
A COMPARATIVE RESEARCH**

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Introduction

- A highly-trained medical practitioner should possess extensive professional expertise, skills and competence which involve some basic understanding of world healthcare systems' structures, functions and healthcare practitioners who provide medical services.



Research Objective

investigate similarities and differences of British and Russian healthcare and education systems using linguistic instruments.



Research Theme

- select basic vocabulary items naming British and Russian medical practitioners and people in medical education;
- compare English and Russian vocabulary definitions;
- define similarities and differences of British and Russian healthcare and education systems

Methods and Design

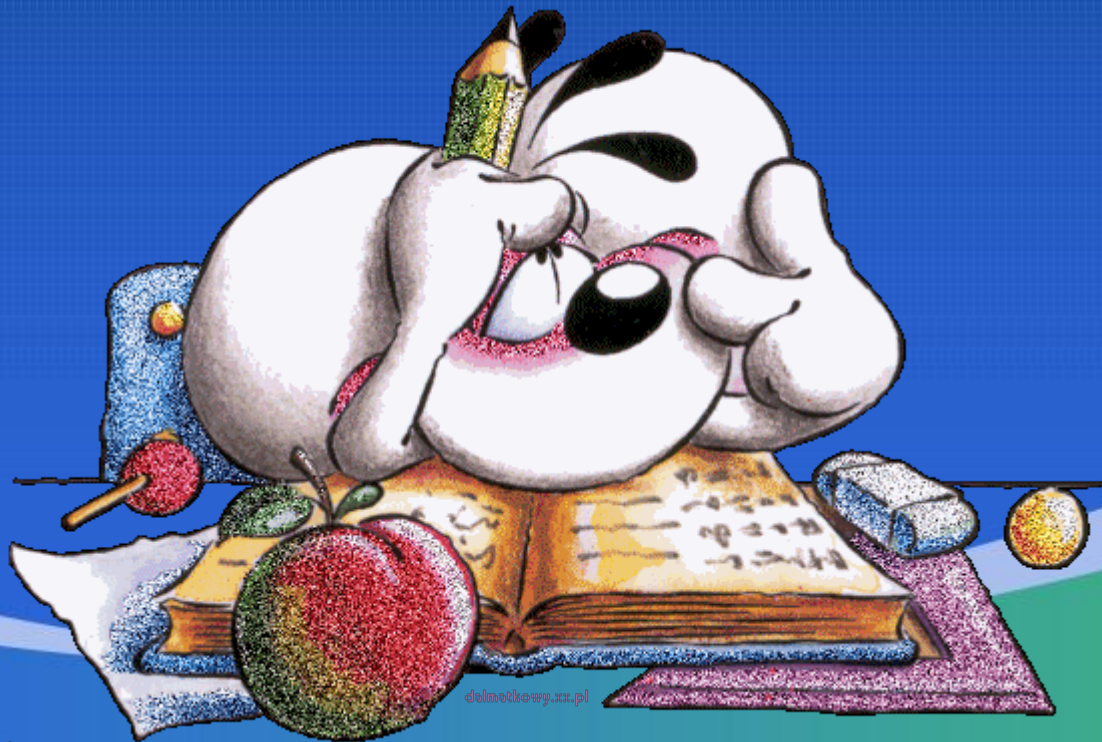
- I stage - a selection of English vocabulary corpus: 20 nouns of British medical practitioners and positions in medical education.
- II stage - each item was supplied by an English definition and a Russian translation equivalent if any
- III stage - a search for correlation between English and Russian definitions and an availability of a direct translation equivalent in the Russian language

Criteria for Comparison

- full correlation
(availability of a direct translation)
- partial overlapping in definition
- absence of correlation in definitions (translation lacuna)
- similarity between two language cultures
- difference between two language cultures

Research Findings

- A fragment from the table below presents some findings of the research which are grouped according to the language.



English Term and Definition

Russian Equivalent and Definition

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | <p><u>General Practitioner (GP)</u> - a medical practitioner who treats acute and chronic illnesses and provides preventive care and health education to patients. A GP is a doctor who does not specialize in any particular area of medicine, but who has a medical practice in which he or she treats all types of illness. GP is an abbreviation for «general practitioner».</p> | <p><u>Врач общей практики (семейный врач)</u> - врач, прошедший специальную многопрофильную подготовку по оказанию первичной медико-санитарной помощи членам семьи, независимо от их пола и возраста
(полное соответствие)</p> |
| 2 | <p><u>Doctor of Medicine</u> - it is a professional doctorate / first professional degree in some countries, including the United States. Students need to have completed 90 to 120 credit hours of university level work (see second entry degree) and in most cases should already have a Bachelors Degree. In the United Kingdom, the Doctor of Medicine is an advanced academic research degree similar to a Doctor of Philosophy or a higher doctorate.</p> | <p><u>Доктор медицинских наук</u> - учёная степень второй, высшей ступени (после кандидата наук) в Российской Федерации, ряде стран Содружества независимых государств (СНГ) и в некоторых бывших социалистических странах.
(условное соответствие)</p> |

3 **Practice nurse** - a trained nurse who assists a GP in a surgery.



Участковая (-ый) медицинская(-ий) сестра/брат - непосредственная (-ый) помощница (-к) участкового врача-терапевта в проводимой им лечебной и санитарно-профилактической работе среди населения участка; подготавливает кабинет к врачебному приему, следит за своевременной доставкой из регистратуры историй болезни записанных на прием больных; за получением из лаборатории, рентгеновского и других кабинетов анализов и заключений. **(частичное соответствие)**

4 **Clinical trainer** - a consultant assigned to a trainee who provides training during periods of direct clinical care.

отсутствие эквивалента в русском языке

Research Results: full correlation

7 Russian translation equivalents have been identified:

GP, Medical (or clinical) director, Midwife, Charge nurse,
Lecturer/Senior lecturer, Professor, Health visitor.

Their lexical meaning and cultural value areas overlap almost entirely. This proves that basic positions such *as GP, nurse, lecture, professor* in British healthcare and medical education systems bear obvious similarities.

Research Results: partial correlation

- 8 English nouns :
- Specialist registrar, Pre-Registration House Officer, Senior house officer, Consultant, District nurse, Senior nursing officer, Bachelor of Medical Sciences (BMSc, BMed Sc), Doctor of Medicine
- NOTE: e.g. the academic degree *Doctor of Medicine (MD)* seems to correspond directly the Russian academic degree доктор медицинских наук. However, this is only a surface correspondence induced by transliteration. The process of applying for the degrees in British and Russian cultures is totally different.

Research Results: absence of correlation.

- 5 terms -translation lacunas:
- Practice nurse, Ward clerks, Clinical trainer, Demonstrator, Non-training registrar
- They demonstrate obvious differences between British and Russian healthcare and medical education systems

Conclusion

- Language can be effectively used in cross-cultural research
- Language can be a powerful instrument in medical education and research
- Language is necessary for students of medicine
- Professional competence in medicine is impossible without a foreign language

THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION!

