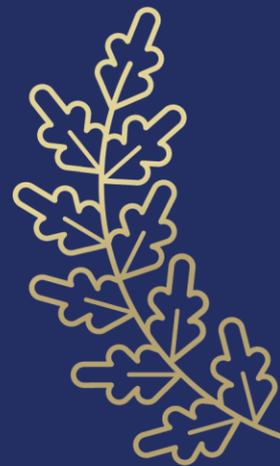# SEMMELWEIS MEDICAL LINGUISTICS CONFERENCE 2024

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

31 May – 1 June 2024
Budapest

IMPLEMENTATION OF PATIENT-CENTRED RESEARCH TRENDS

Institute of Languages for Specific Purposes
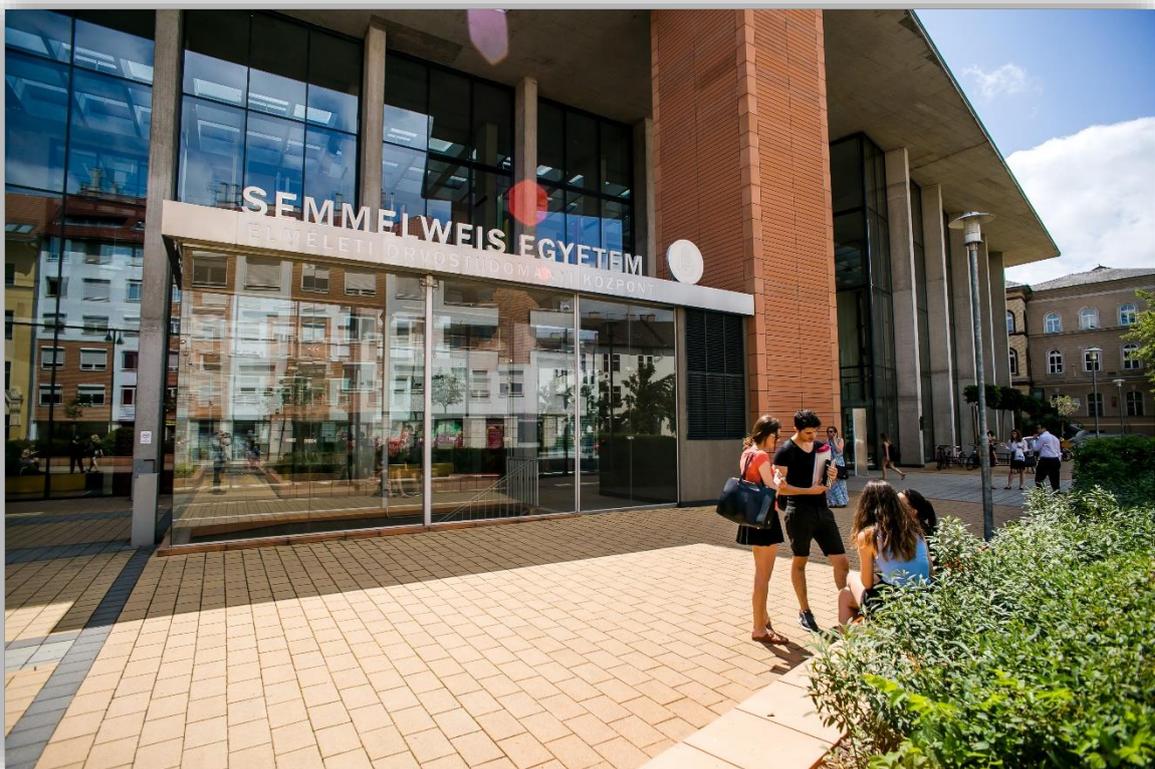Semmelweis University

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CONNECTED4HEALTH PROJECT: LINGUISTIC TAKEAWAYS FOR PATIENT-CENTRED COMMUNICATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WITH OBESITY AND EATING DISORDERS

Abstract:
Connected4Health: A Medical- and Humanities-Based Approach to Navigating Obesity and Eating Disorders (EDs) is an interdisciplinary Erasmus+ project whose aim is to address psychological, communication, and health issues related to nutrition habits. According to Cardel et al. (2022), when a patient-centred approach is followed, public health complications associated with obesity and EDs can be reduced while actively fighting the omnipresent weight stigma, i.e., "devaluation of a person based on weight". Furthermore, patient-centred communication is crucial in promoting patient-centred care (Kwame, A., Petrucka, P.M.) and it is needless to say that certain linguistic mechanisms (e.g. person-first language, open questions, preferred adjectives, etc.), play an important role in approaching young people with obesity and EDs, many of whom experience weight stigma and discrimination. Therefore, this presentation focuses on patient-centred communication in order to share the latest trends in implementing adequate communication strategies for healthcare professionals when managing young people with obesity and EDs. Project results that include materials and assignments based on relevant literature and original video materials of authentic patient testimonies and interviews with professionals in the field are discussed in order to offer practical ideas and suggestions for teaching languages for healthcare.

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H5P TOOLS AND STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Abstract:
As a new tool in the field of educational technology, H5P appears to have the potential to teach a second language (L2). This study aims to highlight the potential direction of upcoming teaching methods, sparking informed choices in educational approaches and guidelines by evaluating both the concrete and abstract results of incorporating H5P. To this end, this study compared H5P tools to conventional teaching methods to determine how they affected students' grades and confidence in learning German as a second language. The participants were split into two main groups: the control group and the experimental group. A noticeable difference in grades between these groups was demonstrated by our main findings, which were derived from a conventional t-test. This was further demonstrated by a different test, the Simple Linear Regression. According to the data, students who used H5P tools in the experimental group saw an increase in their self-confidence scores, whereas the scores of the control group slightly decreased. This change was supported by a second test, the analysis of covariance (ANCOVA). This research firmly backs the claim that H5P tools can increase academic achievement and student confidence, recommending that teachers consider implementing them to improve classroom outcomes.

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THE CONSTRUCTION OF STANCE IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS

This study aimed to explore the construction of authorial stance in English and Arabic newspaper editorials. To achieve this objective, the study examined a corpus of 80 newspaper editorials retrieved from two newspapers: The first publishes in English (The Guardian, the UK), and the second publishes in Arabic (Addustour, Jordan). The study adopts Hyland's (2019) taxonomy of stance which includes the features of hedges, boosters, attitude markers and self-mentions. To analyse the data, the study follows a mixed-method approach to identify differences if any in the construction of authorial stance in the two languages in the editorial genre. The results reveal that the most frequently used stance devices in Arabic editorials are the attitude markers, followed by boosters, hedges and self-mentions, respectively. Contrariwise, the findings showcase that the most frequently used stance device is hedging, followed by attitude markers, boosters, and self-mention, respectively. The study concludes that the two languages differ in the way they construct stance in editorials, a conclusion that provides implications for second-language professional writing teachers and students.

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FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE: HOW HEALTHCARE INTERPRETING TRAINING (DIS)AGREES WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Keywords:
healthcare, interpreting, interpreting training, interprofessionality, field study

Abstract:
Healthcare interpreting training has been a growing discipline in Spain (Álvaro-Aranda & Lázaro-Gutiérrez, 2021) but its efficacy is still subject to debate. From the difficulties concerning ethics to the discrepancies between the theory of interpreting and its practice, there is one area that stands out as under-researched, despite its paramount importance: interprofessional collaboration between interpreters and healthcare providers (Gil-Ortega-Baraona, 2022).

The following research aims to determine the expectations that medical professionals have of interpreters, whether training fulfils them and to which extent are interpreting trainees aware of them. The study was carried out by means of two surveys directed at healthcare providers and at students receiving specific training on healthcare interpreting at a master's level. The surveys for providers focused on their experiences when working with interpreters, whilst the surveys for students questioned both the training techniques and overall student satisfaction with said training.

Results shed light on the intricacies of relationships between healthcare professionals and interpreters, especially in countries where healthcare interpreting is not yet regulated. In terms of training, interprofessional collaboration is neglected, which seemed to affect trainees' perception negatively. As a result, this research proves that healthcare workers' expectations on interpreters condition the performance of the latter, but that there is still work to do in terms of training. This could lead to further research to try and improve training proposals and interprofessional relationships as a whole.

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TERMINOLOGIA ANATOMICA UPDATES: ADAPTATION CHALLENGES IN HUNGARIAN CLINICAL LANGUAGE

Keywords:
Terminologia Anatomica, Latin anatomical nomenclature, Hungarian clinical language, medical documents, terminology harmonization

Abstract:
The Terminologia Anatomica (TA), published in 1998, serves as the global standard for anatomical terminology in medical education. This study examines the innovations of the second edition (TA2), published in 2019 and adopted by the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) in 2020. We focused on its implications for Hungarian clinical practice.

During the research, changes in visceral anatomical names were compared. We manually collected relevant anatomical names and then analyzed their concordances using the SketchEngine software. The objective was to examine clinical language use in a corpus of approximately 1000 pages of authentic, anonymized outpatient records and final reports obtained from the clinics of Semmelweis University.

One important finding of the research is that TA2 has reconsidered anatomical names that describe whole-part relationship. Additionally, to align the nomenclature more closely with clinical usage, it has introduced Greek forms instead of homonyms, and lists significantly more eponyms than the previous edition.

However, upon comparison with clinical language in Hungary, it appears that the adoption of the recommended names may proceed slowly. This delay is attributed to the Hungarian clinical language's inherent traditionalism, with anatomical names from the previous nomenclature gradually phasing out. Conversely, clinical language use demonstrates inconsistency, with linguistic interference from English rapidly proliferating, and often favoring the use of eponyms and English acronyms.

Overall, the revisions implemented in TA2 adhere to terminology principles. However, it's evident that the evolution of clinical language use in Hungary does not completely correspond with these changes.

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EXPLORATION OF ATTITUDES TOWARDS ABORTION THROUGH IDENTIFYING THE METAPHORS ON ONLINE FORUMS IN HUNGARY

Abstract:
Abortion remains a taboo and controversial topic in Hungary, where a pronatalist approach to population control involves legal and social restrictions. Recent legislation, such as mandatory ultrasound to hear the fetal heartbeat starting in 2022, reflects the country's stance on abortion. Recent attitudes toward abortion in Hungary show a slight shift, with a 2022 Ipsos survey revealing a decrease to 70% acceptance. While there's a growing discussion on women's firsthand experiences, it remains a minor part of official discourses. Patients often lack crucial reproductive information due to insufficient formal and informal sexual education in Hungary. The highly medicalized and hierarchized public health care system further complicates access to such information. Consequently, alternative sources like online forums play significant roles in distributing reproductive knowledge. Metaphors are fundamental to human thought, involving the transfer of understanding from concrete to abstract domains (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980). They carry implicit meanings and associations within language. Studies on metaphors around the topic of abortion investigated the manipulative potential of metaphors in speeches (Jamet & Terry, 2020). Askeland et al. (2023) identified metaphors in Norwegian women's expressions of medical abortion experiences, examining the topic from another aspect. However, research is lacking on abortion metaphors in the Hungarian context. Our study seeks to explore the reflection of abortion in language and its conceptual metaphors, aiming to uncover corresponding social attitudes on online forums using the Metaphor Identification Procedure.

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TELEMEDICAL NEUROLOGICAL CONSILES: CHALLENGES & GOOD PRACTICES

Keywords:
conversation analysis, collaboration, patient participation

Abstract:
Telemedical settings present specific requirements for participation by all parties involved. This paper examines telemedical neurological consultations, which involve a clinic doctor and a patient admitted with a suspected stroke on one side of a video conference, and a neurologist on the other. The interaction between an on-site doctor and a patient in a clinic, and a neurologist is studied (Birkner/Groß 2023). The affordances of mediatisation, the specific requirements of neurological tests with potentially impaired patients under time pressure, intraprofessional issues such as responsibilities, and asymmetries of knowledge intersect with the focus on patient participation – a concept increasingly promoted as a means to enhance patient safety (Longtin 2010:53).

The study is based on 34 telemedical consultations recorded between December 2014 and May 2015 at the Munich Clinic Harlaching. Using conversation analytic methods, we analyze the interactional work and the multimodal and multimedial practices employed by the participants in a consultation via video conferencing. How do participants navigate collaboration within the specific and focused interactions in a triadic face-to-screen and face-to-face setup? A micro-analytical focus is placed on the intra-professional doctor/doctor collaboration in a "joint project."

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PATIENT-FACING BUT NOT PATIENT-FRIENDLY? A CORPUS-BASED ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC COMPLEXITY AND COMPREHENSIBILITY IN INFORMED CONSENT FORMS IN ROMANIAN

Abstract:
In clinical trial settings, informed consent forms (ICFs) are patient-facing documents which serve a dual purpose: first, to provide essential information about a trial to prospective study subjects, and second, to secure their consent to participate. ICFs reflect the rise of patient-centeredness in healthcare, and their legal-ethical validity and usefulness as communicative tools depend on the effective processing of the information they contain by their target audience, i.e., patients as laypersons. Yet studies show that ICFs in English are not fit for purpose, as they exceed the comprehensibility needs of their non expert, lay readers. There is however comparatively less research into the language of ICFs in non English contexts.

This study investigates the linguistic and comprehensibility-related features of clinical trial ICFs in Romanian and reports on a corpus analysis of 30 such texts from several specialisms, including oncology, dentistry, and cardiology. Sketch Engine was used to assess linguistic complexity in terms of part-of-speech classification and frequency analysis, specialised medical terminology, and explicitation and determinologisation strategies, among others. Quantitative measurements such as mean word and sentence length, lexical density, and readability formulae such as the Gulpease Index were also considered. Results show that the Romanian ICFs surveyed are difficult to read and linguistically complex, with features such as high noun frequency, unexplained specialised terms, lexical and morphosyntactic calque, and typographical errors, which render them incompatible with the comprehensibility needs and health literacy level of their lay readers.

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Figurative and conceptual metaphors depicting hemato-oncological disorders

Keywords:
hemato-oncology, histology, terminology, metaphors, contrastive analysis

Abstract:
Histopathology diagnostics is morphology-based, with histology testing how closely the cells and tissues extracted by sampling procedures resemble healthy tissue or cells. Metaphors and explicit comparisons are used to describe morphological features in the findings.

In our interprofessional contrastive study, we investigate ways of expressing morphological similarity in English and Hungarian histological findings. Our corpus consists of 23 Hungarian histological findings from Department of Pathology and Experimental Cancer Research of Semmelweis University and 34 English language histological findings on hemato-oncological disorders each, the latter recorded by international specialists at Karolinska University Clinic in Sweden, based on the English literature of Pathology. The findings were assigned to sub-corpora, and then metaphors and other means of expressing similarity were manually extracted. Figurative metaphors were found in the Latin terminology of cell constituents and organs, as well as in descriptions of lesion characteristics.

In both the Hungarian and English language findings, nominative metaphors depicting cell constituents were found to be of Latin origin, while metaphorical expressions describing lesions are loan translations from English (light chain, packed marrow). To describe the image seen in the microscope, verbal metaphors are used with Hungarian, English, or Latin-origin participles (e.g., scattered, compressed). The stages of cell maturation are represented by the conceptual metaphor of a timeline only in Hungarian findings which have been found to contain more different metaphors compared to their English counterparts.

Our results show how important the role of metaphorical linguistic patterns is in the transmission of diagnostically relevant content. Only metaphors allow specialists to describe the presence or absence of the smallest structural alterations, which can be perceived by sensory organs (in this case mostly under the microscope or in digital pathology with the help of computer-based imaging). The English-Hungarian comparison of individual metaphorical images supports the awareness of similarities and differences in thinking between cultures and also helps specialists in the training of future pathologists. This study serves as the first step of a comparative study in which Hungarian, German and English findings are compared, the latter issued in English-speaking countries.

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INTERPRETING IN MENTAL HEALTH: SPANISH PROFESSIONALS' VIEWS ON THE ROLE OF THE INTERPRETER

Abstract:
Mental health (MH) has become a global issue. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that globally 1 out of every 4 people will be impacted by mental illness at some point in their lives. WHO also indicates that, even though many mental health conditions can be effectively treated at relatively low cost, yet health systems remain significantly under-resourced and treatment gaps are wide all over the world. The increasing multilingual and multicultural societies we live in and the need of interpreters to guarantee effective communication are some issues to bear in mind. The main aim of this proposal is to explore the perceptions of Spanish mental health (MH) professionals regarding the role of interpreters in intercultural therapy sessions. A qualitative and quantitative methodology was followed. Data comes from a survey addressed to MH professional. Key areas of inquiry include professionals' experience with interpreters, their awareness of guidelines for cross-cultural therapy, and their opinions on the necessity of interpreter involvement. Results indicate that 88% of the MH professionals show willingness to work with interpreters and 98% of them acknowledge the need for interpreters in cases of language barriers. However, there is a lack of awareness regarding the importance of pre- and post-therapy meetings with interpreters and the interpreter's code of ethics. Despite limitations, such as a small sample size and challenges in survey dissemination, the findings underscore the urgency of enhancing awareness and training among MH professionals in Spain.

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LINGUISTIC CATEGORIZATION OF CORONAVIRUS IN ENGLISHES

Abstract:
This paper examines an attempt to apply the method of cryptotype analysis to investigate the linguistic categorisation of the name "coronavirus" in twenty Englishes: British, Irish, American, Canadian, Australian, New Zealand, Jamaican, Indian, Pakistani, Filipino, Singaporean, Sri Lankan, Hong Kong, Malaysian, Bangladeshi, Kenyan, South African, Nigerian, Ghanaian, and Tanzanian. The main work was carried out in the context of research on lexico-grammatical classes of names, which in some languages are grammatically formalised in the form of a nominal class (e.g., African languages), and in other languages are expressed lexically, i.e. they belong to the hidden grammar and can only be revealed by classifiers. Such lexico-grammatical classes are called cryptotypes (hidden classes).

So far, eight cryptotypes of English have been identified: Res Liquidae (reference 'water'), Res Acutae (reference 'thorn'), Res Filiformes (reference 'thread'), Res Rotundae (reference 'ball'), Res Parvae (reference 'egg'), Res Longae Penetrantes (reference 'stick'), Res Continens (reference 'container') and Res Planae (reference 'board').

This study was carried out on the material of the NOW Corpus ("News On the Web"), which allows us to compare the media discourse of twenty Englishes mentioned above. A total of 2692 examples of word usage of the name coronavirus were found in the corpus with classifying words of the cryptotypes. The name coronavirus is included in four English noun cryptotypes in eighteen Englishes (no examples were found in the Tanzanian and Jamaican Englishes). The results of the quantitative processing of the NOW corpus data showed that coronavirus is mainly (71% of examples) perceived as a small object (cryptotype Res Parvae). Coronavirus is secondarily categorised as a container (23% of examples). According to the NOW corpus, the name coronavirus is categorised both as a thread-like object (cryptotype Res Filiformes, 4% of examples in five Englishes) and as a long and thin object (cryptotype Res Longae Penetrantes, 2% of examples in three Englishes). The rather low percentage of such examples seems to indicate the low communicative demand for such images in contemporary English news discourse.

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IMPORTANCE OF GRAMMAR IN ESP

Abstract:
In our article, we deal with the question of how important grammar is in teaching professional language. First-year students at Jessenius Faculty of Medicine in Martin (Comenius University) are young adults who come to the faculty with a fairly good command of general English. In professional language classes focused on medical English we provide them with a language extension, i.e. familiarize them with the basics of professional language in terms of content, language (vocabulary and grammar), stylistic aspects, convey to them both professional skills and academic skills. In order to verify the correctness of our hypotheses that grammar is less important than medical vocabulary, at the end of the 2nd semester 2023 (by means of an anonymous questionnaire), we asked 65 students of the first academic year to evaluate the effectiveness of the grammar covered in the textbook English in General Medicine used during the whole course and if they have detected any shortcomings in a form of missing parts of the grammar or exercises that could be improved in the next academic year. We have obtained interesting data that we want to share with the participants of the conference, teachers of foreign languages at other specialized faculties.

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PATIENT-CENTRED APPROACHES TO DELIVERING BAD NEWS: LINGUISTIC STRATEGIES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Keywords:
breaking bad news, simulated patients, empathetic communication, soft skills

Abstract:
Delivering bad news to patients is a critical and challenging task in healthcare communication that requires careful balancing between conveying information compassionately and honestly while protecting patients' well-being. Mastering those language and communication skills needed for breaking bad news with empathy requires ongoing training and practice. Medical students with early encounters with emotionally challenging tasks, like the one in focus, may benefit the most from simulated doctor-patient scenarios to improve that crucial soft skill. This article provides a synthesis of findings from current research and insights from clinical practice focusing on effective communication strategies employed by healthcare professionals, such as active listening and the use of verbal and non-verbal tools of empathetic language—essential in the context of emotionally charged conversations. Moreover, ethical dimensions that arise from the communication of unfavourable information are explored, highlighting the moral requirements of maintaining patient autonomy, maintaining dignity, and taking cultural sensitivity into account.

Additionally, we present findings from a pilot comparative study that examines the approaches used in two interactive simulation-based communication courses at our medical school. Both of them are elective and available for students from year one to year six in the English programme. Students act as doctors interacting with simulated patients in an authentic setting provided by the MediSkillsLab of the university and receiving feedback on their performance. The significant differences between the courses include guidelines concerning theory and feedback. The research highlights the various strategies used to convey bad news, providing insight into areas where professional training programmes might be improved.

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Analyzing Speech and Silence: Effects of Temporal Features on Doctor-Patient Interactions

Keywords:
doctor-Patient consultation, turn taking, taboo topics, communication effectiveness

Abstract:
Doctor-patient communication is a spontaneous conversational situation in which both the content and the language formulation, including the suprasegmental structure, play crucial roles. Extensive research has indicated that the way doctors and patients communicate significantly affects the patient's recovery and the doctor's well-being. This presentation aims to explore how the dynamics of conversation—particularly its temporal features and fluency—change during doctor-patient consultations depending on whether the doctor is conveying general information or unpleasant news.

To investigate this, conversations between general practitioners (GPs) and their patients were analyzed using phonetics and discourse analysis methods. Key parameters such as speech and articulation rate of turns, pausing characteristics, frequency of disfluencies, and floor transfer offset (FTO), which is the timing of turn-taking, were examined. The consultations were transcribed using Alrite speech-to-text software and were manually checked afterward to ensure accuracy. Using Praat software, the conversations were annotated, and measurements such as the duration of speech units, pauses, tempo values, and the frequency of pauses and disfluencies were calculated.

The results reveal distinct differences in the FTOs before turns containing unpleasant news or "taboo topics," compared to turns with other content. Specifically, the communication of "taboo topics" is characterized by more frequent pauses, a slower tempo, and longer FTOs. These findings underscore the complexity of medical conversations and suggest that the manner in which sensitive information is communicated can profoundly impact the interaction's effectiveness.

In conclusion, this study highlights the critical influence of conversational dynamics on the therapeutic relationship in medical settings. Understanding these dynamics allows healthcare professionals to tailor their communicative approach, potentially enhancing patient outcomes and professional satisfaction. Further research is encouraged to explore the implications of these findings for clinical practice and training.

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UNDERSTANDING THE CAUSES OF DRY MOUTH: LINGUISTIC FEATURES CONTRIBUTING TO THE DIAGNOSTICS OF XEROSTOMIA

Abstract:
In this case study, we investigated dental consultations with patients presenting at the Department of Public Dental Health, Faculty of Dentistry, Semmelweis University with subjective xerostomia. Xerostomia is a highly prevalent condition that can present with both subjective symptoms as well as objective findings of hyposalivation. The etiology of xerostomia is multifactorial, with potential contributing factors including systemic diseases affecting salivary gland function, such as autoimmune disorders (e.g. Sjögren's syndrome). Medications with anticholinergic side effects, particularly in the elderly population, are a common iatrogenic cause of xerostomia and hyposalivation. Additionally, age-related physiological changes in the salivary glands and autonomic nervous system can lead to decreased salivary flow in geriatric patients. Lastly, psychological factors, such as anxiety and depression, have been associated with subjective symptoms of dry mouth, either in the presence or absence of measurable hyposalivation. Considering that xerostomia often stems from systemic (immunological or geriatric) or subjective (psychological) causes, we conducted a complex linguistic analysis of the patients' medical histories.

The dentists' aim was to determine whether the underlying cause of xerostomia is hyposalivation or a psychological condition. To identify the communication strategies employed by dentists to gather differentially relevant information, we recorded ten dentist-patient consultations on xerostomia symptoms during the initial phase of our research, with ethical permission and the patients' consent granted by the Institute of Dental and Oral Surgery of Semmelweis University, ensuring anonymity.

In this phase of our research, audio recordings were transcribed with the help of the Alrite speech-to-text software and manually checked for accuracy, then analyzed using the Sketch Engine software and manual methods. Our corpus consists of 1162 sentences and 17348 words. Our primary investigation focused on the structure and communication strategies employed during consultations, patient participation, the imagery and language used by patients to describe their subjective symptoms, and the most effective medical questioning techniques for patient interviews.

Utilizing the visualization function of Sketch Engine, we showcase the most frequent word patterns occurring in patients' subjective symptom descriptions, as well as the essential referential function of deictic elements in dental inquiries. In the recorded interviews, the patient's subjective symptomatology, effectively guided by a successful questioning technique, can be contextualized within a diagnostically meaningful framework by the dentist and more readily identified with the patient's cooperation and confirmation.

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COMPARATIVE TERMINOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF INJURY DESCRIPTIONS CREATED BY CLINICIANS AND BY FORENSIC EXPERTS BASED ON CLINICAL PHOTOGRAPHS IN GERMANY

Abstract:
In Germany, as in most countries within the continental legal system, injuries are assessed by forensic experts based on clinical documentation without meeting the injured individual in person. A previous study revealed that the forensic assessment of clinical injury documentation was hindered by insufficient descriptions and inconsistent terminology, especially of soft tissue injuries in about 19.8 % (Fogarasi 2012). Soft tissue injuries heal quickly, yet their exact description can provide important information for assessing the underlying mechanisms and the weapon involved. Another comparative study has shown that injury descriptions made by forensic experts are four times more detailed than those made by clinicians (Tatár 2022). The aim of this study is to examine the extent to which clinical photo documentation contributes to a better forensic assessment.

We collected 141 clinical injury reports with and without photographs provided to the Institute of Forensic Medicine of the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz in Germany for the purpose of forensic assessment during a criminal procedure. Our corpus included the physician's written documentation of 259 injuries and 585 injuries described by forensic experts solely on the basis of clinical photo documentation. Statistical analysis was performed to compare the level of detail and the terminology used to describe soft tissue and other injuries as well as to identify potential factors contributing to limited forensic interpretability of injuries based on photography and clinical injury descriptions.

The results of the present study indicate that in 18.6% of cases, clinical photo documentation of injuries did not provide the necessary information to support forensic assessment. Establishing standards for both written and photographic clinical injury documentation could enhance the quality of photographs and improve the level of detail and terminological consistency in clinical descriptions.

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Creating a Latin Version of ICD-11 and Its Impact on Medical Terminology Education in Central Europe

Abstract:
The 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) has been implemented globally for the systematic recording and reporting of health statistics including diseases and mortality. The ICD facilitates uniform communication across healthcare professionals worldwide. The team at the Institute of Medical Terminology and Foreign Languages at Comenius University in Bratislava, in cooperation with the National Centre for Health Information, developed the Slovak version comprising over 68,000 codes, both diagnostic and supplementary. Additionally, they innovatively provided Latin translations for all entries, which will be accessible on the WHO website. This translation process, spanning eighteen months, involved nine skilled Latinists who specialize in both translation and the teaching of medical Latin. This paper details the translation methodology, management strategies, the importance of Latin in modern medical practice, and the maintenance of a Latin diagnostics database. The project not only enhanced the practical skills of the Latinists, combining traditional linguistic expertise with contemporary medical knowledge, but it also established a comprehensive reference for Latin medical terminology education.

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BUT NEVERTHELESS, ONE CAN REALLY ONLY SAY: WE ARE MAKING YOU SICK – META-COMMUNICATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS WITH 'MAN' ('ONE') AND THEIR IMPORTANCE FOR EPISTEMIC REASONING IN ONCOLOGICAL CONSULTATIONS

Keywords:
routinized language use, epistemic reasoning, oncological consultations, interactional linguistics

Abstract:
Medical interaction, as a form of institutional talk, is at least partly characterized by its underlying organizational structure, which ultimately allows or even demands a more routinized use of language (Drew/Heritage 1992; Ehlich/Rehbein 1980). Professionals can rely on a repertoire of interactional practices to 'solve' recurring interactional 'problems' (Günthner 2017). An example of such routinized patterns are meta-communicative constructions of the form [man 'one' + modal verb + sagen 'say']. Meta-communicative constructions are used to frame or comment on an utterance and to take a stance on what is being said (Imo 2012; Schiffrin 1980). They further provide the recipients with a guideline for interpreting the utterance. In this construction, the generic pronoun 'man' ('one') is of particular relevance: It is often associated with referring to general statements and thus with the avoidance of individual responsibility for an action (Imo/Ziegler 2019). In medical interaction, doctors use 'man' to refer to medical standards and/or external institutions (Bührig/Meyer 2003).
In a corpus of 56 audio-recorded oncological consultations, doctors routinely use the meta-communicative construction [man 'one' + modal verb + sagen 'say'], which is used with either müssen ('must') or können ('can'). Using an interactional-linguistic approach, I will show how doctors mobilize these constructions i) to enact their medical expertise, (ii) to prospectively or retrospectively frame an utterance as reported speech and thus manage degrees of agency, and therefore ultimately (iii) upgrade the epistemic force of their own utterance and/or avoid being held responsible for a rather delicate proposition. I will further discuss the differences between these two modal verbs.

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HOT TOPICS IN MENTAL HEALTH DISCOURSE FOR YOUTH: AN ENGLISH-SPANISH COMPARATIVE STUDY THROUGH TOPIC MODELING

Keywords:
discourse analysis, mental health, youth, topic modeling, corpus linguistics

Abstract:
Mental health awareness has been increasing over the last few years, especially after the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic. Many claim that we are facing a mental health crisis, with young people being among the most vulnerable groups. In fact, many young people look for help or information online to deal with the mental health problems they are struggling with (Toledano, Gutiérrez, and Mountian 2023). However, it has often been stated that information for patients is not always easily accessible, due to reasons such as the use of complex terminology (Cobos López 2019). At this point, we wonder whether there might be more gaps in doctor-patient communication, such as the topics addressed under 'general' topics, such as mental health. Our research question is hence "Do mental health topics covered in online health information sites targeting young audiences really match the topics usually discussed by these audiences?". To answer this question, we conducted a corpus-based study in which texts about mental health from health information sites for youth were gathered and then compared with oral texts produced by adolescents discussing mental health-related issues. We compiled texts in English and Spanish to also analyze if there are differences in this sense depending on the culture and language in which each text is produced. We then conducted a topic modeling analysis by using the Meaning Extraction Helper (Boyd 2018) and IBM SPSS to analyze clusters of words that group together in the corpora, thus helping determine the main topics addressed in each corpus. The results show relatively similar topics in English texts on mental health for young people and the actual young discourse, whereas in Spanish there were significant differences between both discourses.

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BRIDGING LANGUAGE BARRIERS: LAHTEC'S INITIATIVE FOR HEALTHCARE ACCESS IN HUNGARY

Abstract:
Language barriers can pose a serious threat to patient safety, so it is of great importance that patients who do not speak the local language receive appropriate language assistance to ensure that communication between them and the healthcare provider is effective and communication breakdowns are avoided. Qualified interpreters and translators play a pivotal role in bridging this communication gap. However, financial and human resource constraints often hinder the translation of every document. Instead, a well-developed strategy is needed to assess which are the vital documents in a nation's healthcare system and into which foreign languages they most need to be translated. Research conducted in Hungary highlights the limited availability of translations in hospitals, underscoring the urgent need for intervention. In response to this pressing challenge, the Language Assistance in Hungarian Health Care: Translations for Effective Communication (LAHTEC) research group has been established. Comprised of language professionals from the four medical universities in Hungary, LAHTEC's objectives include assessing vital documents in Hungarian health care and facilitating the production of high-quality translations. This presentation serves as an introduction to LAHTEC, outlining its purpose, objectives, member composition, and initial achievements. By shedding light on LAHTEC's potential contributions, this initiative seeks to foster dialogue and collaboration in overcoming language barriers in Hungarian health care, ultimately enhancing patient safety and healthcare outcomes.

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REVEALING PUBLIC SERVICE INTERPRETING IN HUNGARY WITH AN INSIGHT INTO ACCESSING HEALTH CARE

Abstract:
Hungary, like many Central European countries, serves as both a destination and a transit country for refugees and migrants navigating between East and West. Amid the challenges confronting these people, public service interpreters and translators (PSITs) play a vital role in facilitating their access to rights, essential information, and services. However, unlike several EU countries, there are no official PSITs in Hungary, while refugees and migrants are present and require language assistance.

This presentation aims to show who fulfills the role of PSITs at non-governmental organizations (NGOs) assisting refugees and migrants in various realms such as rights advocacy, education, health care, housing, and employment. It delves into their qualifications, language proficiencies, and professional duties. Furthermore, the presentation identifies vital documents available in foreign languages and the responsible parties for translation. Beyond these aspects, the research extends its inquiry to include the perspectives of NGOs on language boundaries in health care, seeking to understand the way non-Hungarian speakers access health services. Through comprehensive semi-structured interviews with representatives from six NGOs, the study employs content analysis and descriptive statistics to analyze the collected data. By exploring these dimensions, the findings provide valuable insights into the activities of PSITs and represent a foundational step toward improving language services in Hungary.

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AGENCY REMOVAL IN DOCTOR-PATIENT INTERACTIONS

Keywords:
agency, Interactional Linguistics, Conversation Analysis, Management of Responsibility, agency mitigation

Abstract:
Agency is a central aspect in doctor-patient-interactions, because the capacity to act and to take responsibility for these actions lies at the heart of such decisive steps within a medical encounter as to decide which medical examinations are necessary or which treatments to choose from – and to convince the patients that these decisions are well-founded. Agency is understood here "as the property of those entities (i) that have some degree of control over their own behavior, (ii) whose actions in the world affect other entities' (and sometimes their own), and (iii) whose actions are the object of evaluation (e.g. in terms of their responsibility for a given outcome)." (Duranti 2005: 453; see also Myhill 1997) The focus will be on the doctors as agents, and the question is which linguistic structures are used to 'hide' agency. Agency-hiding ("Deagentivierung"; Hennig/Niemeyer 2013; von Polenz 1981) is a well-known feature of academic writing, where it is used to suggest objectivity and neutrality (e.g. by avoiding the first person singular pronoun). In contrast, though, there is much less work on the workings of agency-hiding in non-academic contexts such as medical interactions between doctors and patients. Based on a corpus of 56 oncological therapy planning talks the range of agent-hiding structures (e.g. passive voice, use of indefinite pronouns, personifications etc.) will be discussed regarding their interactional functions.

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Depiction of the Brain Then and Now: Synchronic and Diachronic Terminology Analysis of 19th and 21st Century Hungarian Autopsy Reports

Keywords:
autopsy reports, the brain and its anatomical substructures, metaphorical terms, synchronic and diachronic terminology analysis, Hungarian pathological terminology in the 19th and 21th centuries

Abstract:
The Institute of Languages for Specific Purposes and the Department of Pathology and Experimental Cancer Research at Semmelweis University have been collaborating for a long time on the study of 19th century autopsy reports. Our interprofessional research investigates the linguistic, terminological, and medical aspects of pathological terminology in the 19th century and its relation to contemporary documentation in pathology: the changes in the terminology and its constant characteristics that have remained the same over the centuries.

In the current phase of our research, similarly to previous studies, we investigated the description of one specific anatomical structure: this time that of the brain. In our presentation we will demonstrate that in 19th century reports the brain of the deceased was rarely left un-dissected, only in very exceptional cases, and that in addition to metaphorical terms (e.g., dough-soft), more "specific" terms (e.g., bloody) played a role in its description. We will also pay attention to the descriptions of the anatomical substructures (cerebellum, medulla oblongata, cerebral vessels), in addition to the cerebrum, as well as the various lesions and diseases. The insights gained from the descriptions of the brain will be compared with the results of our previous studies on the description of the lungs and the liver regarding the linguistic representations of sensory perceptions.

In addition to the synchronic aspects, in our study, we also looked at the diachronic aspects of terminology. We compared the results of the examination of the 19th century reports with today's pathological documentation. Our aim is to describe the changes in terminology and, where possible, provide suggestions for pathology residents of the 21st century to formulate the most plastic pathological descriptions of the brain possible.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSE'S TQA MODEL ON THE ARABIC TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH PHARMACEUTICAL TEXT: A CASE STUDY

Abstract:
Objective: the study aims to establish the adequacy and accuracy of the existing official Arabic translations of patient information leaflets, in an attempt to contribute to the quality of healthcare provided to Arabic-speaking patients.

Method: Through its focus on and implementation of House's refined Translation Quality Assessment model (2015), an analysis of the source text and target text comparison, based on a conveniently collected sample of these leaflets, is conducted by examining the ideational, interpersonal and textual functions and register, considering the strong relation between text and context. Also, the study investigates how context with its situational dimensions should be accounted for in the target text.

The study has found mismatches, categorised them and potentially rectified. Also, these mismatches were serious as they affect the intended meaning. This finding implies that such mismatches could have a negative effect on the patient's health.

The study recommends the need for revision which can initially be based on the concept of adequacy in Mellinger's revision model (2018), the first of three concepts; the other two are: distributed cognition and salience.

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The Impact of the Mother Tongue on Comprehensibility of Basic Latin Medical Terminology Taught in English in Slovakia

Keywords:
Latin language, comprehensibility, medicine, terminology, language acquisition

Abstract:
This study examines the accessibility and comprehensibility of Latin medical terminology among Slovak medical students in Slovakia who are enrolled in an English program. The study aims to identify the difficulties that students face in learning Latin medical terminology through English. Despite the fact that the language of instruction is English, medical terminology is still Latin, which can be challenging for students whose native language is Slovak. This study evaluates students' perceptions of the clarity and comprehensibility of Latin medical terminology in their English medical curriculum. This study investigates the factors that affect students' acquisition of Latin medical terminology in Latin, Slovak, and English languages. The study considers prior exposure to Latin, entry-level English language proficiency, and teaching methods. The aim of this study is to clarify the influence of English and Slovak language proficiency on the acquisition of Latin medical terminology and to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching practices in mastering this core subject in the medical education curriculum implemented in English in Slovakia.

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HATE SPEECH IN ONLINE DOCTOR EVALUATIONS: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF LINGUISTIC DYNAMICS AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Keywords:
hate speech, communication doctor-patient, medical discourse

Abstract:
In the digital era, the Internet serves not only as entertainment but as a vital tool for verifying information, including details about healthcare providers. Users increasingly rely on patient comments for insights into doctors' services. Unfortunately, this shift towards patient reviews has also exposed a concerning trend of hate speech. Dissatisfied individuals, disappointed with their experiences, resort to language beyond constructive criticism. Recognizing and addressing this issue is paramount for fostering a positive and informative digital environment, emphasizing the importance of responsible online communication in healthcare evaluations. The subject of this presentation is the assessment of the widespread phenomenon of hate speech on popular online portals where patients share their reviews and opinions about their experiences with healthcare professionals. The aim of the study is to analyze the impact of hate speech on the dynamics of communication between doctors and patients, as well as to examine linguistic factors that contribute to the escalation of conflict and disrupt effective healthcare interaction. The research will employ a multi-faceted approach, including linguistic analysis and sentiment analysis, to determine patterns of hate speech in comments provided by patients. Real-life examples will be analyzed to better understand the linguistic subtleties that may contribute to a negative impact on communication between doctors and patients. The presentation will specifically focus on the influence of hate speech on the level of patient trust, healthcare outcomes, and the quality of the doctor-patient relationship. Additionally, beyond the analysis, this paper will propose strategies to mitigate the effects of hate speech on online portals evaluating doctors. This presentation aims to suggest strategies countering hate speech in doctor evaluations, fostering a respectful online environment, and enhancing healthcare interactions in the digital era.

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Innovative Teaching Approach in the Subject Graeco-Latin Medical Terminology

Abstract:
The aim of my conference contribution is to present an innovative academic textbook for the subject Latin Medical Terminology for 1st year medical students studying in the English program at the Faculty of Medicine, Comenius University in Bratislava. The textbooks used so far have not been adapted to the needs of the target group and have been written in a traditional linguistic way, which is rather suitable for philological students, but does not take into account the way of thinking, nor the real future needs of the target group. Medical and science students are largely characterised by a different way of thinking than students in the humanities or cultural studies. Years of teaching experience have shown that unnecessary philological content confuses, overloads, frustrates and thus demotivates medical students. The forthcoming textbook relies on modern and innovative approaches based on the real challenges of future doctors and is fully adapted to their way of thinking and their future needs. The textbook has undergone four semesters of testing on approximately 120 students, and now, we would like to present the results of our work with this innovative and unique material to the professional community.

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Cross-Cultural Textual Adaptations for Alzheimer's Communication: A Comparative Linguistic Analysis

Abstract:
In Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline significantly extends into the domain of text comprehension, particularly affecting the understanding of complex texts. As the disease progresses, patients encounter increasing difficulties with processing multiple layers of meaning, managing inferences, and maintaining attention to follow extended narratives. This impairment is due to deteriorations in working memory and executive functions, which are crucial for organizing and synthesizing information from longer and more complex texts. Consequently, these challenges can isolate individuals from engaging fully with patient information texts, thereby impacting their ability to stay informed and make decisions based on written information. This degradation in the ability to process textual information underscores the importance of adapting communication strategies and written materials to meet the evolving needs of those affected by Alzheimer's disease. This research analyzes a corpus of patient information websites and leaflets. It assesses readability, lexical simplicity, syntactic complexity, and informational redundancy using quantitative linguistic tools and qualitative content analysis to understand how language-specific features and cultural contexts influence the presentation of medical information. Redundancy analysis is conducted to determine whether repetition is used effectively to reinforce understanding or if it results in unnecessary complexity. The findings reveal differences among the languages. In Slovakia, there is no publicly effective movement in favor of introducing easy or simplified language in public texts. In contrast, in Hungary and Germany, the practice of simplifying language is becoming increasingly widespread. It can therefore be assumed that access to information about Alzheimer's in simplified language is easier in Hungary and German-speaking countries, and this is reflected in the results of the corpus analysis. The study concludes with recommendations for improving the clarity and effectiveness of Alzheimer's disease information across different languages. These include the standardization of medical vocabulary, simplification of sentence structures, and strategic use of redundancy to enhance patient comprehension. The implications of this research extend beyond the specific context of Alzheimer's information, suggesting a broader application for multilingual medical communication practices. This contributes to the ongoing efforts in medical linguistics to enhance patient understanding and engagement through tailored health communication strategies.

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NARRATIVES ON AGING

Keywords:
aging, narrative medicine, healthcare communication, philosophy of aging, attitudes

Abstract:
In our aging society with the expansion of life-expectancy it is fundamentally important to examine the ways people think and talk about aging. In the case of older patients, healthcare providers must engage in communication with various attitudes regarding not just older age, but chronic conditions, obesity, end-of-life care and death as well. Following basic principles of narrative medicine, the investigation of the language used by healthcare professionals and older people themselves in their personal and professional narratives about aging and age-related health issues can bring vital insights into the process. Behind the related linguistic practices lie the normative and the non-conforming patterns of thinking. The study explores the current philosophies of aging, the aging body and the narratives people, communities, societies use to experience and share what it means to become older and to approach the end of life.

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COMMUNICATION AND RELATIONSHIP DYNAMICS BETWEEN MIDWIVES AND WOMEN IN LABOUR: A NARRATIVE INQUIRY

Abstract:
Background: This study delved into the dynamics of the relationship between midwives and recently delivered mothers by examining narratives shared by both parties. Analysing these narrative patterns the researcher aimed to deepen comprehension of communication and relationship characteristics during the birthing process.

Methods: Data were collected in a hospital obstetrics and maternity ward in North Hungary from December 2022 to March 2023. Participant observation and semi-structured interviews were utilized, conducting 11 interviews with midwives of the obstetrics ward and 15 with mothers at the maternity ward. Initial data analysis employed open coding, identifying 63 smaller themes. Axial coding sought connections within main and subcategories, revealing 5 narrative patterns and 28 sub-patterns. Selective coding then assigned categories and subcategories as codes to the dataset, focusing on thematic narratives in presentation.

Findings: Patterns consistently revealed alignment between professionals' and patients' views on positive childbirth experiences, optimal relationships, and midwife expectations. Findings corroborated international research (Kirkham 2000; Leap et al. 2010; Lundgren et al. 2009; Pairman 2000; Rossiter 2008; Sharpe 2014; Thorstensen 2000), indicating the significance of close collaboration for successful midwife-woman relationships. During the analysis of the data, I identified 5 narrative patterns and 28 sub-patterns. The 5 main narrative patterns are as follows: 1. childbirth experience, 2. factors facilitating the establishment of the relationship and successful cooperation between the two parties, 3. institutional background, 4. personality of the midwife, 5. characteristics of the midwife's communication.

Discussion: This research identified key factors deemed crucial by participants for fostering successful collaboration. Understanding and incorporating midwives' communication techniques into educational resources could enhance birthing support and communication effectiveness.

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EMERGING COMPLEXITIES FOR THE TRANSLATOR IN PATIENT-CENTRED COMMUNICATION

Keywords:
communication, complexities, ethics, patient-centred care, translation

Abstract:
In healthcare, language and communication have historically been relegated to the periphery, overshadowed by clinical procedures and biomedical advances. However, the paradigm is shifting as patient-centred care gains momentum, highlighting the importance of language and communication in fostering meaningful healthcare interactions. This presentation will explore the role of medical translators in addressing emerging opportunities and challenges. Central to the discussion will be the imperative of inclusivity through accessibility and multimodality in translation practices, overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers to ensure equitable access to healthcare for all patient populations. In addition, the widespread use of complex medical terminology and institutionalised language poses significant barriers to patient understanding. The presentation will examine the detrimental effects of linguistic abstraction on comprehension and argue for linguistic clarity and empathy in medical discourse. In translation and interpreting practice and education there is a balance to be struck between standard codes of ethics and patient-centred ethics. Finally, the advent of machine translation and artificial intelligence in healthcare brings a new set of considerations. While these technologies offer potentially unprecedented efficiency, they require human intervention to navigate the intricacies of language and ethical reasoning in patient-centred care. This presentation serves as a call to action for stakeholders in medical linguistics to collectively address the many challenges and opportunities shaping the future of patient-centred communication and translation in healthcare.

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Storytelling in patient-centred care: The role of metaphors from a multilingual perspective

Abstract:
In recent years, the role of communication in patient-centred care has been highlighted. This is not only referred to the way doctors and health professionals talk to their patients, but also to the way patients talk and express their own experiences: not only do words reflect our ideas and interpretations of the world, but they also shape how others understand a given situation. In this context, patient stories are essential, especially those that emerge in hidden contexts, which nothing have to do with healthcare spheres. which facilitates interaction and information exchange. Storytelling has become increasingly popular due to the Internet and social media, and has led to a significant increase in the number of patients willing to share their illness experiences.

Patients' language may vary according to the uniqueness of their experience, and this includes the way they use metaphors, which are usually used when describing emotional and abstract experiences. As a result, the aim of this paper is to present a corpus-based analysis of cancer patient narratives published online, where the focus is on the way patients construct and use metaphors in three different languages: Italian, English and Spanish, which may provide with useful information that does not appear on clinical tests related to how patients cope with their condition.

The results show an extensive range of metaphors in all three languages, although certain metaphors seem to have deep roots in certain languages. In view of the impact of language and metaphor on the experience of illness, we feel that results can be used to face the urgent need to provide patients, carergivers and health professionals with appropriate language resources to complement patient-centred care practices, especially those working in multilingual contexts.

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PREPARING THE LATIN ANATOMICAL TERMINOLOGY FOR THE COMPUTER AGE

Abstract:
The international anatomical nomenclature is a Latin one for a variety of reasons, including its use for the past five centuries. A formal structured list that standardized the Latin nomenclature was published in 1895. The Latin nomenclature has been updated periodically to correct and add to the listing, and, at the end of the 20th century, to add English equivalents. During preparation of the second edition of Terminologia Anatomica (TA2), the goals of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) were to publish online without a copyright, and to address criticisms of TA about the structure of the hierarchy of terms, the absence of specific terms, the increase in the number of structures with more than one name, declining linguistic quality of the Latin terms, and continued use of Latin when English has become the undisputed language of science.
Improvements designed for the internet and artificial intelligence in the 21st century included the following. (1) TA2 was published online in 2019 (FIPAT.library.dal.ca/TA2) with a creative commons license to promote dissemination and use.   IFAA adopted TA2 as the new standard in 2020. (2) Columns were added to the terminology tables so that one term would be recognized as the official Latin term, and other terms could be classified as synonyms or related terms. In this way, the role of TA2 was expanded from a list of terms to include indexing terms sometimes used as synonyms of the official terms. (3) An open-access, web-based application and database (TA2Viewer.openanatomy.org) were created for browsing anatomical terms and associated information. (4) Regular anatomical (RA) term rules were adopted by IFAA to simplify anatomical terms by use of a consistent form. (5) Spelling, gender and declension of Latin words were generally made to conform to those found in Latin dictionaries and in the long anatomical tradition, not just that of the past few decades (Neumann, Gest & Tubbs, Clin Anat 33:327-331, 2020).

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"TRADUTTORE, TRADITORE": PICU PROVIDER PERCEPTIONS OF ALTERATIONS IN INTERPRETED MEDICAL COMMUNICATION

Keywords:
health communication, medical interpreting, pediatrics

Abstract:
Communication in the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) can be challenging due to clinical acuity and high stakes decision-making. Provider trust in medical interpreters to accurately convey meaning between families and providers is paramount to effective cross-cultural health communication in the PICU. This project studies PICU provider perspectives on "alterations" in interpreted language as a foundation for educational interventions for stakeholders in interpreted encounters.

To explore facilitators and barriers to provider communication via interpreters, an in-depth, semi-structured interview with a sub-set of PICU providers at a children's hospital was conducted. This presentation focuses on the question: "Do you notice interpreters making alterations in content when they interpret?" An interdisciplinary research team (PICU physician, medical interpreter) coded data using an inductive thematic analysis approach.

Twenty-four interviews were completed. Responses were grouped into two themes: identification of and reactions to alterations. Providers reported differences in length of utterances; unexpected responses; and comments from bilingual bystanders as indications of alterations in interpreted utterances. Providers felt that interpreters made well-intended alterations because of cultural differences or to simplify language. They also shared that alterations may be related to miscommunication and misunderstanding. Some providers felt positively about perceived alterations, while others felt mistrustful of interpreters.

Educational interventions emphasizing the linguistic and sociocultural reasons for "alterations" could improve provider trust in interpreters' utterances and could result in more effective cross-cultural health communication.

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Forensic Significance of Soft Tissue Injury Terminology in Maxillofacial Documentation: A Linguistic Analysis

Abstract:
This study examines the terminology used to describe and diagnose soft tissue injuries in Hungarian maxillofacial surgical documentation, focusing on its impact on forensic assessment. As Gyenes (2023) highlights, accidents and assaults frequently cause injuries to the head and neck region. Accurate clinical documentation becomes crucial when such cases reach court, with forensic experts relying on these records for injury analysis. Bán et al. (2018) found inconsistent terminology used in the descriptions and diagnoses of soft tissue injuries in maxillofacial documentation. However, exact documentation can hold vital clues to the nature and cause of trauma. Pálinkás (2023) further explored the use of dental terminology in this context. Building on prior research, the present study analyzes 216 anonymized Maxillofacial Diagnostic Reports of Injuries (MADRI) from a central university clinic in Hungary. We compare the current documentation practices with those observed in the 2018 study by Bán et al. Linguistic content was processed and statistically analyzed using Microsoft Excel and SPSS software, with concordance analysis employing the 2-3gram and visualization functions of Sketch Engine. The results reveal that although the number of recorded characteristics per injury was more than double, though the documentation of soft tissue injuries might still need further enhancement for the sake of optimal forensic assessment. These findings suggest that more emphasis should be placed on documenting even minor soft tissue injuries to improve the accuracy of forensic evaluations in head and neck trauma cases. Based on these results, a comprehensive terminological recommendation will be formulated and disseminated to Hungarian maxillofacial and dental clinics.

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COMMUNICATING OBESITY ONLINE TO HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AND TO THE PUBLIC: WHAT GETS LOST IN TRANSLATION?

Keywords:
online health communication, obesity, discourse analysis, intralingual translation, dissemination of information

Abstract:
The prevalence of obesity has increased significantly worldwide, to the point of being considered a global epidemic; moreover, in a prevention perspective, the role of health communication has been highlighted in improving inter-professional collaboration and in spreading awareness amongst the public (Werder et al. 2020, WHO 2021). Obesity, despite being a sensitive topic in doctor-patient interactions (Auckburally et al. 2021), is often discussed in online media (Baker et al. 2020, Harris et al. 2014). In this paper we focus on how obesity is communicated on the web, with the aim to investigate the different strategies in the management of information that is addressed respectively to clinicians and to the public. To achieve our goal, we built two corpora of texts on the topic of obesity from two Italian online magazines: MediciOggi.it and Focus.it. The former is addressed to healthcare professionals, the latter to the public. We base our analysis on a quali-quantitative approach, first exploring the readability of the respective corpora through READ-IT (Dell'Orletta et al. 2011) then focusing on a case-based qualitative investigation through SketchEngine (Kilgarriff et al. 2004). We expect to be able to show how changing the addressee implies conveying different amounts and kinds of information, to the point that, sometimes, relevant issues might 'get lost'. We further expect to highlight the role of science magazines as sources in the 'decision making ecosystem' (Bigi et l., in press) of people affected by obesity.

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Do language and cultural discordances affect patient safety perception in healthcare?

Abstract:
The European Parliament's Directive 2011/24/EU (9 March 2011) on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare states that measures must be implemented so that patients understand all the information provided by healthcare providers. In Spain, Act 41/2002 (14 November 2002) on the regulation of the autonomy of the patient and their rights and obligations regarding information and clinical documentation conveys that all information will be communicated to the patient in a way that they will understand and that the patient must always understand the goal, risks and consequences of the information provided. However, no reference is made to the language in which this information will be rendered despite the legal consequences this may have. In this regard, when a patient is about to undergo a procedure, s/he accepts the requirements to which healthcare institutions are obliged to have approved by the patient, an informed consent (IC) however, if the patient does not know the language, there is no understanding of the document, which may trigger safety problems and may result in negative consequences.

Health authorities focus more on the proper reception of the information than on the comprehension of the text. Thus, an IC may be incomprehensible for migrant population who do not speak the host language, and furthermore, their right to information and quality healthcare are undermined by the lack of this document in their own language.

This proposal pursues to describe and analyze the barriers created by intercultural and interlinguistic asymmetries in communication between healthcare providers and female patients, contributing thus to identifying cultural and linguistic discordance to help deal with the challenge of migrant integration and, thus, migrant social justice rights, and their access to health. In particular, we analyze the perception of patient safety regarding IC in healthcare, through direct semi-structured interviews with 3 healthcare providers and 8 patients. From examining safety perception and analyzing whether the information being provided in a document such as an IC is adequately transmitted, our findings have shown that female migrants are often users with a greater cultural vulnerability (e.g, it is common for Muslim women to have their husbands interpret for them) and information is not being communicated appropriately. In certain clinical areas, such as obstetrics and gynaecology, the number of migrant women is higher, and it is highly important to create a sensitive and respectful environment.

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New challenges in teaching Hungarian dental language at the Institute of Languages for Specific Purposes (Semmelweis University)

Abstract:
Teaching Hungarian dental language to students in the English program at the Institute of Languages for Specific Purposes (Semmelweis University) is based on needs assessments conducted in 2006 and 2014. Students study Hungarian with the aim of effective communication with patients and clinic staff during their practices. The increasing interest in learning Hungarian for dental-medical purposes and the advancements in dentistry (including digitalization, new treatments, instruments, and materials) have led to the need for updating language teaching materials. The work is being carried out in collaboration with the instructors of the Department of Prosthodontics. In close connection with the curriculum-development, a survey was conducted among the third- and fourth-year dentistry students focusing on their self-assessment in the fields of communication skills, problem-solving skills, practical skills, and professional knowledge. Fifty third-year and fifty fourth-year students took part in the survey. Their answers play an important role in forming the new curriculum: the areas that are essential for the students in chairside communication are going to be more emphasized in the new teaching material. The survey is evaluated using SPSS statistics.

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FROM THE DOCTOR'S TERMS TO THE PATIENT'S WORDS… AND BACK: A JOURNEY FRAUGHT WITH PITFALLS

Abstract:
Communication is key to professional healthcare. Patient-physician communication (PPC) requires empathy and listening skills, but also a proper mixture of words from everyday language and more scientific terms that have become familiar to the layperson. Clearly, terms from the new Terminologia Anatomica may well astound the patient, for whom shoulder blade, kneecap, and even left auricle will likely remain more readily understandable than scapula, patella and left atrium. Also, the line between commonly understood terms and insider jargon can be blurrier than expected, e.g. "your nodes are positive" may not be understood by many patients as meaning that the tumor has progressed. On the other hand, commonly understood medical terms may sometimes be intentionally either avoided or used to influence the patient's reaction. Other communication strategies may be used to improve the patient's satisfaction with the consultation, e.g. replying using his or her own vocabulary. In the opposite direction of the communication, the health professional may be misled if the patient uses euphemisms or regionalisms, let alone an unfamiliar foreign language or merely "false friends" in the professional's own language. In summary, several pitfalls await both participants in the PPC.

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ENHANCING CLINICAL COMMUNICATION TRAINING IN HEALTH SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES: A CASE STUDY

Abstract:
Over the past five decades, the communication landscape has undergone significant transformations, with visual media playing an increasingly prominent role in shaping the organization and delivery of written and spoken discourse. This evolution is poised to impact the educational landscape of Health Sciences undergraduate programmes at universities. Consequently, curriculum design in these academic domains must concentrate on fostering and understanding discursive practices and textual genres used by healthcare professionals in clinical settings. Effective communication training in this field requires a comprehensive review of pedagogical foundations, encompassing the acquisition of textual literacy, contextual nuances, and stakeholder dynamics. Furthermore, emphasis should not solely be placed on what is taught but also on its practical application.

The GENTT research group endeavours to establish curricular directives aimed at enhancing communication within the medical and health sectors. Our objective is to contribute to the development of resources geared towards reinforcing the communicative competence of future healthcare professionals and related professions, including interpreters operating within healthcare contexts, while considering linguistic, sociocultural, and conceptual dimensions. To this end, our initial research phase involves identifying and examining clinical communication training embedded within Health Sciences undergraduate programmes currently offered in the Valencian Community, Spain. This entails scrutinizing programme curricula and assembling a corpus of course syllabi. Subsequently, employing thematic analysis, we extracted pertinent themes related to clinical communication. Ultimately, our endeavour aims to compile a comprehensive inventory of communication-related content within these programmes to facilitate a thorough assessment of clinical communication training at the university level.

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TRANSFORMING MENTAL HEALTH DISCOURSE THROUGH METAPHORS

Abstract:
This research explores the significant influence of metaphors in creating the discussion surrounding mental health in contemporary English. Healthcare communication presents challenges for both involved parties, doctors, and patients. Mental health and all phenomena related to it (including emotional state, feelings, symptoms, social interactions, behaviours, and the process of treatment) are often subject to stigmatization and bias. While social perceptions of mental health can find reflection in language, metaphors not only mirror, but also actively impact them. To study this, we collected a language corpus of texts taken from a patient-centred social media survey, based on our original questionnaire distributed on Reddit (published on various subreddits dedicated to mental health). By combining the Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) framework (Lakoff and Johnson, 1980), Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP) (Steen et al, 2007) and Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) (Fairclough, 1995), we aim to evaluate the distribution and frequency of metaphors in mental health discussions. Our previous research revealed the impact of metaphors on perceptions and attitudes towards mental health, as well as differences in metaphor usage between physical and mental health discussions. However, analysing communicative exchanges without direct feedback from the speakers does not extensively cover the problematic. Thus, by integrating a survey method into corpus linguistics, we expect to gain deeper understanding of patient's motivation and emotional state behind the choice of metaphorical language.

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THE METAPHOR MARKERS OF PRESUICIDAL SYNDROME – A COGNITIVE CORPUS LINGUISTIC STUDY

Abstract:
Relying on a pilot study of a corpus-driven analysis of metaphorical expressions in online posts about suicidal thoughts and behaviour (see Simon et al. 2024), our presentation details the results of a large-scale annotation of the PsyMet corpus, the digital database of metaphors in Hungarian related to suicide. Some lexical, morphosyntactic and prosodic features of suicidal thoughts and behaviour are well-known due to previous research (Homan et al. 2022); moreover, specific features proved to be good predictors of suicide risk in AI-based experiments (Lao–Lane–Suominen 2022, Aldhyani et al. 2022). However, a comprehensive analysis of metaphors related to suicidal intention is yet to be performed. Our research corpus, the PsyMet corpus contains 362 online posts sampled from an online crisis managing and social supporting platform (bura.hu). The texts were posted between 2010 and 2021. The analysis has been carried out both on the linguistic and the conceptual level using the MetaID procedure for metaphor identification in Hungarian (Simon et al. 2023), highlighting the linguistic patterns and the reoccurring source domains of "suicide metaphors" Thus, it sheds new light on how we talk about crisis that leads to self-destruction and provides data essential for training AI-models to identify potential risk of suicide.

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UNPRODUCTIVE OR 'SUPER CRIP'? – PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE ACADEMIC DISCOURSE OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN HUNGARY

Keywords:
persons with disabilities, Critical Discourse Analysis, social representation

Abstract:
The portrayal of people with disabilities is often stereotypical as being 'pathetic', 'victim', 'burden to society' or 'incapable of a full life' (Bogdan & Biklen, 1977), which contributes substantially to their exclusion. The study explores the representation of persons with disabilities in the academic discourse of the Hungarian Human Resources Counsellor Master's Program with the objective of supporting their social-economic participation and empowerment. Research questions were: (1) How does the academic discourse of the Training program depict workers with disabilities? (2) What discursive strategies resist negative portrayals? A Critical Discourse Analysis methodology (Fairclough, 1992) was used with a corpus of (1) the policy and scientific framework of the Training program; (2) eleven interviews with academics; (3) three focus group interviews with students. Results show that persons with disabilities are considered a 'labour market problem group' disadvantaged due to loss of abilities, health, unemployment, social situation, difference, passivity, or minority status. Resistance of academics involve 'raising of visibility', using positive metaphors or dismantling the positive stereotype of the "super crip" (Davis, 2016). In conclusion, despite numerous negative and ableist disability representations, the construction of positive and realistic images is possible.

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Sadder and wiser? The figurative framing of late-life depression in Australian news media

Keywords:
Australian news media, seniors, the elderly, older people, late-onset depression

Abstract:
Since the late 1980s, there has been a reconceptualization of ageing, which is also reflected in how older adults are referred to. Research on Australian English indicates that different labels for older adults evoke various stereotypes: while the elderly are routinely viewed as dependent and fragile, seniors are considered as active and healthy. A less positive conceptualization can be detected in the case of older people. The question is whether these differences in semantic stereotyping are also extended to how a heavily stigmatized and little-researched mental illness, late-life depression, is conceptualized, depending on which label for older adults, i.e., the elderly, seniors and older people is used in the media. Based on a qualitative analysis of Australian media discourse spanning more than three decades, we wish to demonstrate that depending on which label is used for older adults, alternative metaphorical models of late-life depression emerge, which can reinforce already prevailing stereotypes. Such results clearly demonstrate the framing effect of figurative language in the form of metaphor as used in the media to shape the perception of a debilitating condition such as depression: how mental illness is metaphorically conceptualized can serve to intensify or help disperse the fears and taboos surrounding it.

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CHARACTERISTICS AND CHANGES IN ADULT PATIENT-THERAPIST COMMUNICATION IN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

Abstract:
As a first step of our study of patient-therapist communication in speech and language therapy, we aim to map the Hungarian and international research in this field, and to present our own research design.

The review of the literature clearly showed that the examination of adult patient-therapist communication in speech and language therapy is considered to be an underrepresented research area. We found that it is typical that less attention is focused on the therapist. Our research reflects upon this phenomenon in a way that the role of the patient and the therapist occurs with the same importance during the analysis of their communication. Referring to the therapist, we also deal with questions such as the cornerstones of development of the therapeutic relationship, the attitude, the importance of self-knowledge, well-being and the application of techniques to avoid burnout.

Videos will be recorded during the first therapy session and during a follow-up session, after three weeks of intensive rehabilitation that, besides the verbal characteristics, also ensures the possibility of observing the non-verbal communicative features. We are convinced that it can be effective and suitable for examining how the therapeutic relationship changes between the patients and their therapist. We analyze the factors that influence the development of the therapeutic relationship in positive and negative ways. The research question is 'how can the therapist help?' What are the patients' needs and what can drive them forward in the therapeutic relationship? What kind of verbal and non-verbal utterance can help the patient in establishing compliance and adherence?

Furthermore, how does the therapist interpret and predict the patient's willingness to cooperate and adhere to therapy based on verbal and non-verbal signs, and how it affects the therapist's communication strategies?

In our presentation, we illuminate how the results of our research can be applied in professional and languages for specific purposes study materials, and in the course topics and activities. Our multidisciplinary research could be realized by the collaboration between representatives in the field of speech and language therapy, voice therapy, psychology, and languages for specific purposes.

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BRIDGING THE CREDIBILITY GAP: ALTERNATIVE AND COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE DISCOURSE

Keywords:
alternative and complementary medicine, academic discourse/genre, persuasion, medical research writing

Abstract:
Non-mainstream practices of alternative or complementary medicine have been practiced in various forms for thousands of years in many parts of the world but still struggle to gain acceptance alongside mainstream scientific tradition of "biomedicine" (Keating/Cambrosio 2003) in most Western cultures. Yet, according to some recent studies (Falci et al. 2016, among others), as many as 38% of adults and 12% of children have used alternative or complementary therapies to treat multiple chronic conditions at some point in their lives in the US alone, opening the question as to whether these medical care modalities should be viewed differently. But while biomedical practice continues to frame the discourse about health by relying on a scientific-method based approach to gain knowledge about the body systems, their diseases and treatment, scholarly communication about alternative/complementary medical research is now gaining a foothold in some academic publishing venues, but still has to contend with the highly competitive, dominant culture of biomedical research not to mention a prevailing system of 'patronage and fear' where all medical scholars are under immense pressure to publish papers to boost individual and community credibility in the area of expertise they are engaged in. In other words, researchers engaged in non-mainstream medicine are likely to work twice as hard to survive on a very uneven playing field.

In this talk, I set out to explore the discursive and linguistic strategies employed by alternative/complementary medicine scholars to see how and to what extent they build up a credible, epistemological position to mainstream biomedical research practice and convince readers of the value non-mainstream research activity can and should provide to the medical community at large through writing. Using a corpus-based comparative approach to academic articles in this field, I look at how authors project themselves and carve out a distinct knowledge space that promotes aspects of their research and reflects their professional identity. More precisely, I consider evaluation/stance-laden discourses for their functional target and linguistic realization in both quantitative and qualitative terms, which have long been a topic of interest to researchers of academic communication but less studied in the discourse about alternative/complementary medicine. My study sheds light on scientific credibility of these medical care practices at a time when non-mainstream medicine is making headway.

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METHODOLOGY OF DEVELOPING A TERMINOLOGY CONSENSUS – THE CASE OF CLINICAL NUTRITION

Abstract:
The need for a systematically organized conceptual system reflected in precise and clear terminological definitions and established terms is essential for the existence and development of any field of expertise. One way of developing a coherent terminology is through an explicit terminological agreement, which implies an actively reached consensus of a sufficiently large group of relevant experts. There are several methods of reaching professional agreement. In medicine, most consensus-building methods focus primarily on guidelines for diagnosis and treatment and are less often used to define a concept and its place in the conceptual system. At the same time, there are hardly any methods that also deal with consensus-building from a linguistic point of view, although this is necessary because of the differences between international and national terminology. Based on an existing methodology (Delphi method) for the creation of guidelines with a group of experts, I developed a new method for building the terminological consensus in an interdisciplinary way. The developed stepwise model of building a terminological consensus takes into consideration the terminological definition of a concept, its placement in a conceptual system, and the selection of an appropriate term. It is based on an explicit terminological agreement, i.e. a consensus of a broad group of experts in the field, who are assisted by a linguist - a terminologist - in the formulation of a final terminographic product. The method of building a terminological consensus has been applied in establishing the Slovenian terminology of clinical nutrition.

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Nurses' impressions on the transformation of the Hungarian documentation system

Abstract:
The integration of the Hungarian Electronic Nursing Record (ENR) system is currently in progress, so it was timely to start a comprehensive research on nursing documentation in Hungary. The focus of this poster is on the nurses' views of the Hungarian nursing documentation systems, with particular reference to the method of recording, advantages and disadvantages of electronic recording.

In the spring of 2024, we started a comprehensive investigation of nursing documentation in two institutions in Hungary, one in the countryside (at the Clinical Centre Units of the University of Pécs) and one in Budapest (at Semmelweis University), including 100 anonymous nurses. The main questions we asked concerned whether they fill in documents such as nursing notes, nursing care plans, nursing activities, etc. on paper or electronically in their daily work, to what extent the use of electronic systems will help or hinder their work, and whether the electronic documentation system uses abbreviations, which, based on the findings of our previous research, nurses use in their daily work.

In our earlier study, we already examined the patient papers (nursing care plans) at the Department of Traumatology and Hand Surgery of the University of Pécs, and concluded that nursing activities, including nursing reports, are predominantly managed electronically in the department. As a result, we expected the result of the tests to show that electronic record management was implemented in other departments of the clinic as well as at a national level.

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"HOW SHALL I EXPLAIN?" TERMINOLOGY USAGE IN MEDICAL INQUIRIES AND RESPONSES ON A HUNGARIAN WEBSITE

Keywords:
Hungarian medical terminology, doctor-patient communication, online doctor consultation, code-switching, corpus-based analysis

Abstract:
Ensuring effective communication between doctors and patients is not only essential for patient understanding but also a legal obligation. However, this becomes particularly challenging in Hungarian, where numerous medical terms do not have direct equivalents. The aim of the present study was to collect Hungarian terminology (anatomical names, conditions, diseases, diagnostic tools, and treatment procedures) for musculoskeletal disorders and, through this, to map the state of the relevant Hungarian terminology. Our research was conducted on a corpus compiled from over 250 medical answers related to musculoskeletal diseases provided between May 2022 and December 2023 in the "Ask the Doctor" section of the webbeteg.hu website. In the context of our study, we aimed to investigate the following questions: what terms do patients and doctors use, and what strategies do they employ to clarify Latin terminology and to replace the Hungarian terms that are missing? Annotated corpora were created from the questions and answers, with terms extracted through both manual and software-based methods. Data processing involved a combination of online corpus management and query software Sketch Engine, as well as qualitative analysis. In the software analysis, terms were gathered through keyword searches, cross-referenced with manually collected data, and they were subsequently analyzed using concordances and data visualization techniques. The resulting data underwent statistical analysis using IBM SPSS 22. The study reveals which terms patients commonly use to describe their symptoms and complaints, identifies gaps in Hungarian medical terminology, and determines the strategies doctors employ to overcome these gaps in their explanations.

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Reporting Certainty in Hemato-Histopathological Findings

Abstract:
Pathological diagnostics is central to patient care, particularly for diseases requiring histological examination for diagnosis and treatment planning. It is essential that clinicians correctly interpret the probability of a histopathologic diagnosis to determine the appropriate clinical treatment. Previous studies have analyzed the verbalization of certainty in English-language pathological reports (Amin et al. 2021; Gibson et al. 2022, Mirham et a. 2021, Sluijter et al. 2016) and stated that there are several modifying phrases which influence diagnosis interpretation by both pathologists and clinicians. These phrases are based on specific adjectives (e.g., suggestive of), adverbs (e.g., possibly), and modal auxiliary verbs (e.g., cannot exclude). In Hungarian, clinical evaluation of histopathological findings is further complicated because there are no separate grammatical means of expressing the degree of probability. The certainty of diagnoses can only be expressed using modal modifiers (e.g., possible), possibility verbs (Möglichkeitsverb, facultative e.g., can be) and lexical alternatives (Kiefer 2018). However, possibility verbs in Hungarian can express both probability and certainty. In our interdisciplinary contrastive research, we investigate the expression of certainty in Hungarian and non-native English anonymized histopathological findings on hemato-pathological disorders collected from the Department of Pathology and Experimental Cancer Research of Semmelweis University and Karolinska University Clinic in Sweden (50 each). The findings were arranged in sub-corpora and analyzed using the Sketch Engine software. The lexemes (words and phrases) reporting probability were manually extracted from the sub-corpora and sorted into three categories based on assigned certainty levels by pathologists and non-pathologist clinicians in previous research (Amin et al 2021): Phrases motivating definite treatment, phrases motivating further workup, and indeterminate phrases. English expressions that occurred in our sub-corpus but were not mentioned in the literature were assigned to the above categories by a native-speaker linguist. The Hungarian words were grouped into the same categories based on lexical and functional equivalence.
It can be concluded that a considerable number of phrases motivating further workup and an even higher number of indeterminate phrases occur in both Hungarian and English language histopathological findings. The results suggest that a clinicopathological consensus on the expressions referring to different degrees of certainty is needed.

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METAPHORS AND FIELD-SPECIFIC PHRASEOLOGY IN OPHTHALMIC DOCUMENTATION: AN INTERPROFESSIONAL ANALYSIS

Abstract:
Documentation in ophthalmology differs in many respects from the documentation practices of other medical specialties. It also has a structural difference from the format used in other specialties for the outpatient record and discharge summary: it includes both a general and an ophthalmological history. Besides this, the status is preceded by the result of the eye examination. Its terminology is also very field-specific. In this interprofessional study based on the cooperation of linguists and ophthalmologists, we examined the metaphorical terms and linguistic phraseology of 100 anonymized Hungarian reports (89 outpatient records and 11 discharge summaries) collected at the Department of Ophthalmology, Semmelweis University. The metaphors were manually extracted from the corpus of documents, then frequency, keyword, and bi- and trigram analyses were performed in the Sketch Engine corpus analysis system, followed by manual terminological and pragmatic analyses. The results revealed a large number of field-specific terms, including a mixture of vernacular, Greek-Latin and English terms, sometimes even in parallel. We have identified lexically unique phrases, metaphors and even metonymies that are frequently used in ophthalmology. We show how the imagery used to describe symptoms and lesions facilitates the clear formulation of differential diagnostic features for ophthalmologists and the understanding of ophthalmic documentation by specialists from other medical fields.

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"SANDRA POPPED HER CLOGS AND BOB CROSSED THE BRIDGE." THE USE OF EUPHEMISM IN MEDICAL DISCOURSE AROUND DEATH: DOES IT NEGATE INFORMED CONSENT? A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

Abstract:
Death plays an unwelcome yet inescapable role in every life. And it is never more present than in an end-of-life setting. I argue that the shadow of euphemism looms over the discourse of life and death, and that the herculean effort to avoid the social taboo of death can have serious repercussions in medical care. This is especially pertinent when focusing on Informed Consent, which is at the basis of all autonomous patient decisions. The route to understanding the relationship with Informed Consent must first look at the foundations of societal and medical interactions around death. In order to do this, my study used two corpora, one containing a Marie Curie poll of the UK's top euphemisms around death, the other made up of three documentaries taking place in hospitals and end-of-life institutions. I established coding frameworks tailored specifically to the needs of my corpora, and with this I was able to analyse not only the linguistic structure of the euphemisms used, but also to tease out the ways in which they were being used by the speaker to create new realities in order to cope with death.

If euphemism reinvents reality through words, then the reality of Informed Consent is itself transformed. Findings suggest that the use of euphemism has legal implications in medical decision-making, particularly in end-of-life care. Linguistic code in death discourse can obfuscate the reality of death for patients: without full understanding, patients cannot comply with the Informed Consent directive. In this, euphemism contravenes a patient's legal rights in autonomous decision-making. By using euphemism to hide or obfuscate death, it negates Informed Consent.

While the use of euphemism presents a danger to the tenet of Informed Consent, highlighting a particular semantic pitfall such as the risks of euphemistic language is key to improving Informed Consent communication, without the need to discard the euphemism entirely. In this, we see how the language both affects and is affected by the institution.

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