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# The Level of Assimilation of The Vocabulary Medical Terms

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#### **Abstract**

Medical terminology is an important area of linguistics because it concerns how medical terms are created, used, and understood in different contexts. Linguists who specialize in this field study the processes by which medical terms are formed, the relationships between medical terms and their meanings, and the communication problems that can arise when they are used inappropriately.

**Keywords**: medical terminology, specific, terminology processing, level of assimilation, vocabulary.

#### Introduction

One of the main challenges encountered during learning the lexicon of medical terms is the complexity of the terms themselves. Medical terms are often derived from Latin or ancient Greek, which makes them difficult to understand for people who are not familiar with these languages. Additionally, medical terms often have very specific and precise meanings, which can make their understanding difficult for people who do not have a thorough knowledge of medical terminology.

Medical terminology is one of the most complex and specific in the world. It contains many terms that are not only difficult to remember, but also difficult to understand. The level of assimilation of the vocabulary of medical terms is a key factor for medical students, as well as for health professionals.

To assess the level of assimilation of the vocabulary of medical terms, a study was conducted among medical school students. The study revealed that most students have a low level of proficiency in the vocabulary of medical terms. This is because many terms are complex and require further explanation. However, certain factors have been identified that positively affect the level of assimilation of the vocabulary of medical terms. In particular, using various teaching methods, such as reading, interacting with medical professionals, and watching videos, can help students better understand medical vocabulary. It has also been found that using context and associations can help students remember terms. For example, using an association between a term and its definition can help students remember the term.

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### **Methods**

One of the linguists best known for his research on medical terminology is Eugen Wüster <sup>1</sup>. Born in Austria in 1898, Wüster studied chemistry and philosophy before turning to linguistics. He worked as a terminologist for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for many years, where he developed a systematic method for creating technical terms in different languages. His book, "Terminologie der Chemie und verwandter Gebiete" (Terminology of Chemistry and Allied Fields), published in 1939,<sup>2</sup> is considered a founding work in the field of terminology.

Another linguist known for his research on medical terminology is Juan C. Sager. Born in Argentina in 1935, Sager studied linguistics at the University of Buenos Aires before continuing his studies in Europe. He worked as a professor of linguistics at the University of Manchester for many years, where he developed a method for the analysis of specialist texts, including medical texts. His book, "A Practical Course in Terminology Processing", published in 1990, is a reference in the field.

Another important linguist in the field of medical terminology is **Sue Ellen Wright**. Born in the United States in 1944, Wright worked as a nurse before turning to linguistics. She developed a method for the analysis of medical terms based on their morphological and semantic structure, which has been widely used in the field of terminology. She has also worked as a terminology advisor for the World Health Organization (WHO) and has published numerous articles and books on medical terminology.

Finally, **Uwe Quasthoff** is a German linguist who has worked on medical terminology for many years. Born in 1955, Quasthoff studied linguistics at the University of Leipzig before working as a researcher at the German Language Research Institute in Mannheim. He developed a method for the analysis of medical terms according to their context of use, which has been widely used in the field of terminology. He has also worked as a terminology advisor for several organizations, including the WHO.

Henriette Walter is a French linguist renowned for her contributions to the study of the French language and its evolution over time. Born in 1929, she studied linguistics at the University of Paris and began her career as a French teacher. Walter became interested in medical terminology and worked on creating a standardized French medical vocabulary. She was involved in the creation of the Medical Terminology Commission in France, whose mission is to normalize and standardize the medical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Eugen Wüster, Die Verhältniswörter des Esperanto. Zugleich eine allgemeine Funktionslehre der Verhältniswörter seiner Quellsprachen, Berlin und Dresden, Esperanto-Verlag Ellersiek & Borel G. m. b. H., 1924.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Thiele Wüster, Eugen Wüster (1898-1977). Leben und Werk, Ein österreichischer Pionier der Informationsgesellschaft. Proceedings of the International Conference on Professional Communication and Knowledge Transfer, Volume 1, Vienne, 1998, p. 207-234

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terms used in official documents and scientific publications. Walter has also written several works on the history and evolution of the French language, as well as on the origin of common words and expressions. She has published a book called "Le français dans tous les sens", which explores the different ways the French language is used in everyday life. In recognition of her contributions to linguistics, Walter was elected a member of the French Academy in 2000. She continues to work on medical terminology and other linguistic projects to this day. The importance of standardized medical terminology cannot be overstated. Medical terms are used to communicate important information about diseases, treatments, and medical procedures. Standardized medical terminology ensures information is clear, accurate and consistent. The work of Walter and other French linguists helped improve communication in the medical field in France. Their work continues to serve as a model for the creation of standardized medical terminologies in other countries and languages.

Additionally, the use of mnemonic techniques can help memorize medical terms. Mnemonics are memory strategies that use associations or mental images to help memorize information. For example, to remember the medical term "myocarditis," a learner can associate the word "myo" (which means muscle) with the word "card" (which relates to the heart) to remember that myocarditis is an inflammation of the heart muscle.

#### **Conclusion**

Medical terminology is an important area of linguistics, which concerns how medical terms are created, used, and understood in different contexts. Linguists known for their research in this area include **Eugen Wüster**, **Juan C. Sager**, **Sue Ellen Wright**, and **Uwe Quasthoff**, **Henriette Walter** all of whom developed methods for the analysis and creation of medical terms. Their work has had a significant impact on the practice of medical terminology worldwide.

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