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Terminology of the cardiac surgery: lexical and semantic features

В статье описаны стадии лексико-семантического анализа терминов кардиохирургии. Авторами выявлены пять тематических блоков, преобладающим из которых является блок «Стадии операции», включающий, преимущественно глагольные словосочетания. Семантическая классификация глаголов данного блока показала присутствие сем «открыть», «закрыть», «войти», «соединить», «удалить».

Ключевые слова: аортокоронарное шунтирование, термины, значение, тематические группы, сочетания

The article presents the stages of lexical and semantic analysis of the cardio surgery terminological units. The authors reveal five topic blocks. The prevailing one is ‘The stages of surgery’. The semantic classification of the verbs showed the most common meanings ‘to open’, ‘to close’, ‘to enter’, ‘to connect’ and ‘to delete’.

Keywords: coronary artery bypass, terminology, meaning, thematic groups, parts of speech, phrases

Recently, there has been an increased interest to the study of medical terminology within various domains [2], [4]. However, much remains to be studied within the semantic and lexical features of surgical terminological units.

The Coronary Artery Bypass (hereinafter CAB) is a surgical operation which aims at restoring normal blood flow in a blocked coronary artery [1]. This type of surgery remains one of the most frequent operations performed by the cardiac surgeons. Undoubtedly, surgeons use various terms to describe their actions. The research relevance is predetermined by the study of the contextual, semantic and lexical features of the surgical terminology.

The study is aimed at revealing the semantic and lexical specifics of cardiac surgery terms used to describe the stages of the Coronary Artery Bypass graft surgery.

To achieve the aim we developed the following research tasks:

- 1) to select cardiac surgery terms from the text about CAB;
- 2) to sort the selected units into five topic blocks: Types of CAB, Devices and Instruments, Anatomy, Stages of surgery and Problems;
- 3) to determine the synonymous verbs which denote a certain action;
- 4) to reveal the semantic features of the most frequent verbs in the text;
- 5) to find lexical specifics of the one-word units and word combinations;
- 6) to perform lexical and grammatical analysis of phrases;
- 7) to compare the obtained results.

The research is based on the following methods: continuous sampling, description, lexicographic analysis, componential analysis, contextual analysis, comparison and contrasting. The material of the study was composed of the terms elicited from the video ‘Coronary Artery Bypass with Sevak Darbinian, MD’ (2017) [3].

The research was implemented in 5 stages. At the preliminary stage, we elicited the units for the research material from the video stated above.

At stage 1, we divided the terminological units into five topic blocks: The types of CAB, the Devices and Instruments, Anatomy, the Stages of surgery and the Problems (see Table).

Table – The topic blocks of the terms

<i>Topic blocks</i>	<i>Number of units</i>	<i>Examples</i>
The types of CAB	18	traditional CABG, off-pump CABG
The Devices and Instruments	30	electrocoagulator, electric saw
Anatomy	28	coronary artery, saphenous vein
The Stages of surgery	35	to make incision, to expand the cut area
The Problems	15	plaques, vasoconstrictors

As the table suggests, the prevailing block is ‘The stages of surgery’ accounting for 35 units (Nouns – 15, Verbs – 20). The number of Verbs prevails, for example, **to expand the cut area, to inject heparin** [6].

The remaining blocks are implemented in 91 units. For instance, ‘The devices and instruments’ – **an electric saw, a retractor**; ‘Anatomy’ – **the heart, the atrium**). The block ‘Types of surgery’ is composed of 18 units (Nouns – 8, Adjectives – 7, Verbs – 3). For instance, **traditional CABG, off-pump CABG, open-heart procedure, minimally-invasive direct coronary artery bypass**.

Coronary Artery Bypass surgery is performed to treat diseases caused by a number of ‘Problems’, and so this thematic block includes 15 units, for example, **plaques, vasoconstrictors** [5].

At stage 2 we combined all verbs from the block ‘the Stages of surgery’ into 5 main groups with the following meanings: to open, to add, to remove, to close, and to connect. We shall exemplify the obtained results by the most frequent verbs.

For example, the seme ‘to add’ is found in the word combination **to inject heparin**. The seme to ‘remove’ is present in the phrase meaning the evacuation of the liquid, i.e. **to drain the liquid, to remove tubes of heart-lung machine, to clean tissue, to detach device, to reverse heparin**. The ‘connection’ is nominated in using the suturing material **to apply suture, to connect both cannulae, to anastomose graft with aorta**.

All meanings of the group ‘open’ are implemented in units such as, **make incision, to expand the cut area, open pericardium**.

At stage 3, we conducted a part-of-speech classification of one-word units in all blocks. It includes 77 one-word units. The most nouns were found in the thematic block ‘the Devices and Instruments’, for example, **retractor, defibrillator, intravenous catheter**.

At stage 4, we performed lexical and grammatical classification of the phrases into verbal and nominal type. In general, verbal phrases are manifested by 14 examples. The number of nominal phrases prevails and they are represented by 27 examples from all topic blocks.

Conclusions. We came to the conclusion that the most frequent thematic terminological group is the block ‘the Stages of surgery’, which includes descriptions of the surgeon's actions and thus involves a lot of verbs.

The number of word combinations prevails over one-word terms. The latter are implemented in the following parts of speech: nouns, verbs, adjectives. The prevailing group is nouns.

The syntactic context of these verbs is widely diverse and is used in the nomination of the instruments, the drugs, the tissues and other structures.

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