

Ph.D. Thesis Abstract

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**The development of German medical vocabulary in the 19th and 20th centuries**

Keywords: medicine, surgery, progress, specialist language, term

The main purpose of the Ph.D. thesis is to present the state of German medical vocabulary at the beginning of the 19th century and to watch its increase and change in meaning over the next two centuries on the basis of textbooks for medical students. Due to the extensive scope of the subject, the spatial extent of the research was limited to the field of surgery.

Considering the aforementioned research goal, the main research problem was formulated as follows: how did the surgery vocabulary develop and what impact did the change in meaning have on progress in medicine and groundbreaking scientific findings in the study period?

The complexity of the problem required comparative research based on specialized publications, both compact and continuous, published mainly in Germany.

The analysis of source documents was applied as a research method, which enabled reaching the causes, effects and conditions underlying the changes.

The quantitative and qualitative vocabulary analysis in the field of surgery conducted by the author of the dissertation showed not only a significant increase in new vocabulary but also the withdrawal of some terms due to the obsolescence of the processes and objects they defined.

The thesis consists of five chapters, a list of used literature and other source material as well as a list of tables, graphs, images and diagrams.

Chapter One is an introduction and it explains the subject and purpose of the thesis and presents the hitherto prevailing state of research.

Chapter Two presents and maintains basic terminological issues. The deliberation subject includes the reflection on the notion of specialized language, the origin and development of German medical language and the influence of foreign languages that formed it.

In Chapter Three, the specifics of surgery, its name, history and division into operational disciplines of narrower specialization were introduced.

The Fourth Chapter contains empirical analysis of 287 specialized words in the area of surgery divided into primary concepts and eleven thematic groups.

The last chapter presents statistical results of the research and verification of hypotheses. The influence of rapid progress of medicine in the 19th and 20th centuries on the quantitative and qualitative development of its vocabulary were demonstrated.