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ONYMIC BINOMIALS IN ENGLISH AND ROMANIAN MEDICAL NOMENCLATURES

1. Introduction

Aladdin's lamp and *Ali Baba's cave* are two of the most popular names which illustrate onymic binomials. Such lexical units, which comprise a proper noun or a personal name and a (simple or compound) noun phrase [NP, from now on] and are semantically seen like single words, have been given diverse names. Such lexical units, which have their own meanings, are labels for brand new but nameless concrete entities or abstractions. Personal names (PNms, in what follows), which "serve a referential rather than descriptive function" (Motschenbacher 2020: 90), are semantically different from proper nouns (henceforward, PNns) that "are used as names for certain entities, such as persons, cities or countries" (Motschenbacher 2020: 90). The [NP] components in these binomials, on the other hand, are descriptives rather than referentials.

Also known in linugistic studies as "eponymical lexical items or eponymisms" (Rudnicka 2004: 154-5), the set phrases joining a personal name and a common noun are millennia-old constructions probably used to denote such things as the *Gate of Ishtar*, *Cleopatra's Needles* or *Moses basket*.

This approach uses the term *binomial*, which originates in *biōnimus* (< New Latin, *bi-* "two" + *nomen* "name"), was first used in mathematics for "an algebraic expression that is a sum or difference of two terms, such as 3x + 2y" (Collins Dictionary 2014[1]). In linguistics, *binomial pair* has the same meaning as *irreversible binomial*, *frozen binomial* and *binomial expression*, among others. An *onymic binomial* (OB, from now on) is always different from any other type of binomials due to the proper noun or personal name it links to a common word. PNns may be either anthroponyms, toponyms or proper nouns (such as the name of the month of *January* in the phrase *to have January chickens*, i.e., a humorous way of referring to fathering children at an old age). While the structure [PNm] + [NP] is more frequently named "eponym" and [GN] + [NP] "toponym", the last example is simply an "onomastic or onymic phraseme". *Nomenclature* is also a term which has

evolved from its ideological sense of (1) "a social group with exceptional prerogatives in totalitarian regimes" (dexonline.ro[2]) into a polysemous word denoting (2) "a list of names or denominations peculiar to a professional domain", (3) "a set or system of names or terms", (4) "principles of naming conditions or disease processes", and (5) "a list, catalogue or code index". Within the current framework, *nomenclature* is used in its second meaning.

This analysis presents a language-specific structural taxonomy of English and Romanian medical OBs, which is based on the form and typology of both PNns and NPs, which coined together form semantic units with a denominative role. This double-fold view of OBs, which exist in English and Romanian medical nomenclatures, showcases not only the rich variety of PNms but also the categorial, distributional and semantic features of the "common nouns" encapsulated in the NP component of the binomial.

As practice has shown, the (near) similarity of PNs and the lexical flexibility of the NP have often been the sources of misunderstandings, confusions, and hence, miscommunication, misusage or mistranslations. Solutions to these situations always reside in the speakers' theoretical knowledge of nomenclatures and their communicative skills.

2. Previous research

Many studies on eponyms have been issued since the beginning of the twentieth century and, in addition to very few approaches to eponymisms in sciences and education (Slabin and Krasitski 2017), mathematics (Ycart 2013), physics (Ahmad and Musacchio 2003), chemistry (Maftei 2003), nature sciences (Malomud 2020) or economics (Cole 2006), most of the contributions were produced by physicians.

Thus, the medical perspective is predominant in eponymic literature, which mainly focuses on (a) "the man behind the eponym", who is most often a physician (Reymond and Tubbs 2009), (b) the names of patients behind eponyms (Ohry 2013), (c) inventories of eponyms peculiar to different medical specializations (Alalade, Mensah, Morosanu, et al. 2022), (d) trends in the evolution of eponyms (He et al. 2022), (e) biographies of reputed personalities who left an imprint on medical sciences (Berrios and Freeman 1991), (f) aspects regarding the ethics of eponymization (De Stefani 2021) as well as (g) their use (Antonelli, Farook, Colli-Silva et al. 2023) or the need of their elimination (Matteson 2008).

As for the linguistic features of eponymisms, they have meant next to nothing to either medical terminology physicians, onomasticians or

lexicologists, who rarely explored everyday phraseological constructions and set phrases built around personal names (Pierini 2008, Canziani 2011).

There have been identified a few linguistic approaches to structural taxonomies of eponyms, but they briefly present an assembly view of the genesis of eponyms, most of them disregarding the NP element in these formulaic denominations (Bytsko, Pavlovici, Bilous and Semenko 2017).

3. Research materials, methods and principles

3.1. Research materials

This report continues a wider research project which was developed in two volumes and updates the observations stated in the respective studies. As the examples of the current work mainly rely on the sources presented in the corpora of the above mentioned monographs (Popescu and Popescu 2021a: 287-96; 2021b: 309-20), only the sources and resources published between 2020 and 2023 are mentioned in the current bibliography.

3.2. Methods

The selection of OBs envisaged itself as a difficult operation since either hundreds of dictionary pages had to be carefully scanned not to omit these binomials spelt with lower-case letters, particularly in the case of [NP] + [PN] English binomials, such as *circle of Willis* or *aqueduct of Sylvius,* whose capitalized word does not hold a front position in the dictionary entry.

3.3. Principles of research and selection

To be included among the other PN-based structures, an OB had to meet two basic requirements, i.e., to have an entry in at least three published works, such as dictionaries, manuals of terminology or other textbooks (be they online or hard-copy formats), and to have their eponymee-eponymism relationship etymologically demonstrated and ascertained as such in medical publications.

4. Findings

Specialist English medical literature most often discusses issues on onomastic structures using the term *eponym*, whose overlapped meanings denote not only (a) a personal name, but also (b) a person having a specific name and (c) a new entity which is given the person's name (McArthur 1996: 350). To operate with accurate words that will create no confusion at all, in what follows, the meaning under (a) is referred to as *eponym*, the meaning

under (b) is rendered by *eponymee* or *etymo-referent* and the meaning under (c) is called *eponymism*, by analogy to *specialism*, *Anglicism* or *ageism*, etc.

Specialist literature presents English "binomial eponyms" (Pierini 2008: 48, Canziani 2011: 227) or OBs to consist of the same elements.

(1) [E] [[[a/the$_{(\text{contextual determiner})}$+] [[PN$_{(\text{determinant})}$]] + [NP $_{(\text{determinatum})}$]]].

[R] [[NP$_{(\text{determinatum, with embedded proclitic definite article})}$] + [PN $_{(\text{determinant})}$]].

The formulaic representation of the simplest onymic binomials consists of [PN] + [NP] (van Hoof 1986: 59-62), but as both PN and NP can contain more than one lexical unit, as follows.

I. The [PN] or the onymic element

OBs have the highest frequency of occurrence, when compared to other medical onyms (i.e., acronyms, backronyms and multi-word eponymisms). Both English and Romanian onyms are inspired from both fictitious and real person names, which can be associated with their sources grouped below.

A. Anthroponyms

1. Names of legendary or fictitious persons embedded in onymic patterns:
   - **a) biblionyms**: *Adam's apple*, *Job's syndrome*
   - **b) mythonyms**, further divided into matronyms (*Gorgon's* face) and patronyms (*Achilles* heel, *Cupid's* bow)
   - **c) charactonyms**, i.e., matronyms (*Electra's* complex), patronyms (*Casanova's* fracture), surnames (*Munchausen* syndrome) or adjectivized surnames (*Pickwickian* syndrome)
2. Names of real persons embedded in onymic patterns include:
   - **a)** famous **rulers** of humankind: *Caesarean* section
   - **b)** names of **patients**: *Cowden's disease* after the family name of the first recorded case
   - **c) physicians**: *Hutchinson's* disease
   - **d) hagionyms:** *St. Vitus's dance* and *St Elmo's fire*.

B. Toponyms

Geographical names are used to denote diseases

> "after the place where the condition was discovered (e.g. *Bombay Blood group*) or invented (*Jaipur foot*) or where the disease was first detected (*Rocky Mountain Spotted fever*) or where a consensus meeting was held (*Banff*) or for other reasons (*Argentina flag*, *Congo red stain*)" (Hussain and Pay 2016: 166).

Like anthroponyms, toponyms can be grouped into:

a) choronyms or names of continents, countries and regions: *Egyptian* ophthalmia, *Japanese* encephalitis, *Norwegian* scabies

b) hydronyms or names of water bodies: Ebola fever, Danube fever

c) astionyms or names of towns: *Marburg* virus (< Marburg, German town), *Aleppo* boil (< Aleppo, a town in Syria), *Aden* fever (< the capital city of Jordan), *Philadelphia* chromosome (< Philadelphia, named after the USA city where it was first described)

C. Capitonyms are pairs of lexical units which consist of one word which behaves as both a PN being always spelt with an upper-case letter and a common word being spelt with lower-case letters, except when it is the first word in a sentence. This double state of a few couples of such 'lexical coincidences' hardly matters in spoken language, but it does matter in written English. The confusing nature of English medical OBs originates in the form of the PN, which can coincide with common words. Thus, *Sweet's syndrome* is not related to sweets; it is named after Robert Douglas Sweet, the doctor who first described it (1964). The *Wolfram syndrome* was first described by Doctor Don J. Wolfram, while the *Miller's syndrome* is named after doctor Marvin Miller, who described the disease in a paper published in 1975. The names of these syndromes will never impact patients suffering from any of them, but things change when patients learn that they are diagnosed with such diseases as *Coffin's syndrome*, *Graves' disease* or *Cross's syndrome*.

II. Nominative vs. Genitive-based formulas

A. The names in the above illustrations most often occur in the nominative case (see the above mythonyms), quite often in the genitive case (see the above hagionyms), but quite rarely in an adjectivized form (see the choronyms). Of the first category of OBs in the nominative, our examples include: *Charnley clamp* and *Anghelescu sign*.

B. Of the English onymic genitival constructions in our data bank, some are always built with the **Anglo-Saxon genitive**:

(2) [E] [PN's] + [NP]
[R] [NP] + lui [PN's]

Thus, the English OBs *Achille's* heel, *Adam's* apple, *Einthoven's* triangle, and *Wood's* glass have their Romanian equivalents as genitival structures (i.e., *călcâiul lui* Ahile and *mărul lui* Adam). In other cases, they have the [NP] +

[PN] structure, as in *triunghiul* Einthoven and *lampa* Wood, which both show the loss of the genitival article in Romanian and create an almost generalized structural simplification for Anglo-Saxon genitive-based English OBs.

As English genitival constructions can include the preposition *of*, a new type of OBs, which corresponds with the common way of expressing the Romanian genitival relationships, is considered:

(3) [NP] + of + [PN], or more exactly
[E] noun in the singular + of + eponym
[R] noun in the singular + lui + eponym

Seen in parallel, these formulas are active in specialist terminology as well:

a) aqueduct: *aqueduct* of Sylvius / *apeductul* Sylvius
b) band / limbus: *band* of Giacomini / *limbus* Giacomini
c) circle/ poligonul: *circle of Willis* / *poligonul* Willis
d) sheath / teaca: *sheath* of Retzius / *teaca* lui Retzius

(4) [E] noun in the plural + of +eponym
[R] noun in the plural + lui + eponym

a) cells: *cells* of Dieters, *cells* of Claudius
b) glands: *glands* of Moll / *glandele* lui Moll
c) islets: *islets* of Langerhans / *insulele* Langerhans
d) pyramids/ piramidele: *pyramids* of Malpighi / *piramidele* Malpighi
* hydatids / hitatidă: *hydatids* of Morgagni / *hidatida* Morgagni

The asterisk showcases the difference between the English and Romanian [NP] which are language-specific, and where an English plural is equated with a Romanian singular.

Onyms in adjectivized forms not only distinguish orthographic and formal similarities and dissimilarities (van Hoof 1986: 68), but they are also mainly built with the suffixes *–ean*, *–ian* and *–(t)ic* (Canabac 2014: 1634). Such adjectivized personal names are illustrated in both English and Romanian OBs with the same constructions: Caesarean *section* / *operație cezariană*, Pavlovian *conditioning* / *condiționare* pavloviană.

C. The [NP] or the non-onymic element of binomials

The NP or the non-onymic element of binomials is most often a common noun in either its singular or plural form. According to van Hoof (1986: 59-62), OBs with a common noun in the singular have the highest frequency of occurrence. The analyses of the OBs in the data bank of the current approach are best described by the two formulaic representations below:

(5) [E] onym + common word in the singular
[R] common word in the singular + onym.

(6) [E] (family name) eponym + common noun
[R] common noun + (family name) eponym:
a) chloroform / cloroform**:** *Yankauer chloroform / cloroform Yankauer*
b) reaction / test:*Wassermann reaction / test Wassermann*
c) test: *Papanicolau test (smear) / testul Papanicolau*
d) tube / tub: *Sengstaken tube / tubul Sengstaken*

(7) [E] genitival eponym + common noun in the singular
[R] genitival eponym + common noun in the singular
a) heel / călcâi: Achille's *heel / călcâiul lui* Ahile
b) hernia / hernie: Amyand's *hernia / hernie* Amyand
c) ointment / uguent: Whitfield's *ointment* / unguentul Whitfield
d) solution / soluție: Ringer's *solution / soluție* Ringer
e) tonometer / tonometru: Schiotz' *tonometer / tonometru* Schiotz
f) triangle/ triunghi: Einthoven's *triangle / triunghi* Einthoven
* glass: Wood's *glass* / *lampa* Woods

The asterisk is indicative of a different NP Romanian equivalent than the English version of *glass* (which might be *sticlă*, for just one example).

(8) [E] (full name) eponym + common noun
[R] common noun + (full name) eponym
a) pupil / pupilă: *Marcus Gunn pupil / Marcus Gunn* pupilă
b) syndrome / sindrom: Charles Bonnet *syndrome* / *sindrom* Charles Bonnet, Pierre Robin *syndrome* / *sindromul* Pierre Robin
c) murmur: Austin Flint *murmur* / *murmur* Austin Flint
d) sign / semn: Grey Turner *sign* / *semn* Grey Turner
e) splint / atelă: Denis Brown *splint* / *atelă* Denis Brown
f) esophagectomy / esofagectomie: Ivor Lewis *esophagectomy* / *esofagectomie* Ivor Lewis
g) technique or method /Karl Fisher *technique* / *metoda* Karl Fisher

(9) [E] full name eponym in the genitive + noun in the singular
[R] noun in the singular + full name eponym:
a) murmur / murmur: George Still's *murmur / suflu* George Still
b) fracture /fractura: Gerard Marchand's *fracture* /Gerard Marchand *fractura*
c) triad / triada: Frederich Müller's *triad / triada* Frederich Müller

d) disease / boala: Frankl Hochwart's *disease / boala* Frankl Hochwart

e) syndrome*:* Foster Kennedy's *syndrome / sindrom* Foster Kennedy.

OBs whose NP component underwent a specialization of meaning are functional in both the language of medicine and other jargons. As a rule, such words are known as semi-technical words.

(10) [E] eponym + semi-technical words
[R] semi-technical word + eponym

The semi-technical words encapsulated in medical OBs include names of:

a) anatomical parts or zones of the human body:
   i) apparatus (i.e., "an array of membranous compartments within the cytoplasm, where proteins combine with carbohydrates to form glycoproteins" Golgi *apparatus* / *aparat* Golgi)
   ii) area / arie: Broca *area* / *aria* Broca
   iii) canal*:* Wirsung *canal* / *canal* Wirsung
b) afflictions:
   i) lymphoma : Burkitt *limphoma / limfom* Burkitt
   ii) granulomatosis: Wegener *granulomatosis* / *granulomatoza* Wegener
c) instruments:
   i) basket "a medical instrument used to extract stones from the ureter": Dormia *basket / sonda* Dormia
   ii) retractor: Farabeuf *retractor* / *depărtător* Farabeuf
   iii) catheter: Foley *catheter* / *sonda* Foley
d) reactions: cycle / ciclu ("a sequence of reactions"): Krebs *cycle / ciclu Krebs*, Carnot *cycle / ciclu Carnot*

(11) [E] eponym's + semi-technical noun in the singular/
[R] semi-technical noun in the singular + eponym:

a) names of diseases:
   i) abscess: Brodie's *abscess / abces* Brodie
   ii) atrophy: Sudek's *atrophy / atrofia* Sudek
   iii) arthritis: Charcot's *arthritis / artrita* Charcot
   iv) asthma: Pott's *asthma / astm* Pott
   v) ataxia: Leyden's *ataxia / ataxie* Leyden
   vi) angina: Bretonneau's *angina / angina* Bretonneau

b) anatomic particulars:
   i) lacuna (small shallow pits or cavities excavated by osteoclasts in the bone, in which they are found lying): Howship's *lacuna* / *lacuna* Howship
   ii) commissure: Gudden's *commisure* / *comisura* Gudden
   iii) network / rețeaua: Purkinje's *network* (a network of intracardiac conducting tissue with a well specified role) / *rețeaua* Purkinje
   iv) pouch / fundul de sac: Douglas's *pouch* / *fundul de sac* Douglas
   v) contraction / contractura: Dupuytren's *contraction* (a very inconvenient diformity) / *contractura* Dupuytren

Professionals may have had their names associated with **"technical words"** which "are unique to particular subject specializations and which rarely occur outside it" (Mackay and Mountford 1978: 145). The language-specific formulas of such OBs are identical with the preceding ones; only the nature of the NPs is different as these elements are technical words, such as: *retractor / depărtător* (e.g. Finochietto *retractor* / depărtător Finochietto), *sarcoma* (e.g. Ewing *sarcoma / sarcom* Ewing) and *urethrotome* ("urethrometer" with a dorsal blade) (e.g. Otis *urethrotome / uretrotom* Otis).

NPs expressed by **nouns in the plural** behave as collective nouns that denote sets of identical entities. Peculiar to the medical nomenclature are the couples of entities such as *glands.*

(12) [E] eponym + common noun in the plural
[R] common noun in the plural + eponym:
a) flowers: *Bach flowers* (< Edward Bach), names "a form of therapy in alternative medicine in which the active ingredient is spring water on which a flower has been floated in bright sunlight" (L. D. E. L. 1991, 112)
b) exercises: Kegel *exercises / exerciții* Kegel
c) stains / coloranți: Romanovsky *stains / coloranți* Romanovsky

(13) [E] eponym's + common noun in the plural
[R] common noun in the plural + genitival article + eponym:
a) bones: Napier's *bones*
*nodes: Osler's *nodes / nodul (noduli)* Osler
*tubes: Southey's *tubes / tubul* Southey.

Not all of the English patterns have a similar equivalent in Romanian; thus,

in the last two examples of the preceding list, the noun which determines *Osler* is both in the singular and plural, while that which determines *Southey* is always in the singular.

(14) [E] eponym + semi-technical noun in the plural
[R] semi-technical noun in the plural + eponym:
a) bodies: Lewy *bodies / corpii* Lewy
b) cells: Ledwig *cells* / *celulele* Leydig
c) corpuscles: Bennet's *corpuscles* / *corpusculi* Bennet,
d) fibres: Bernheiner's *fibres / fibre* Bernheiner
e) ligaments: Mackenrodt's *ligaments / ligamente* Mackenrodt
f) glands: Cowper's *glands / glandele* Cowper

(15) [E] eponym's + semi-technical noun in the plural /
[R] semi-technical noun in the plural + eponym:
a) granules / corpusculi: Nissl's *granules* / *corpusculi* Nissl
b) nodes / noduli: Heberden's *nodes / noduli* Heberden
c) sounds (graduated, metal, urethral dilators for the treatment of urethral strictor): Clutton's *sounds* / (*bujii uretrale*) *dilatatoare* Clutton
d) lines (transverse red streaks in the skin folds due to capillary fragility in patients with scarlet fever): Pastia's *lines / linii* Pastia *(Grozovici*)

(16) [E] eponym + technical noun in the plural
[R] technical noun in the plural + eponym
a) crypts: *crypts of* Lieberkühn / criptele Lieberkühn

A couple of eponymic structures whose full name eponym is accompanied by a noun in the plural includes: dilators: Canny Ryall *dilators*

(17) [E] eponym's + (English) technical noun /
[R] (Romanian) technical noun + eponym:
a) plexus: Auerbach's *plexus* / *plex* Auerbach

(18) [E] adjectivized patronym + semi-technical noun in the singular
[R] semi-technical noun in the singular + adjectivized patronym
a) canal: Haversian *canal / canal* haversian
b) fissure: rolandic *fissure* / şanțul / fisura (lui) Rolando
c) tube: Eustachian *tube / trompa* lui Eustache

(19) [E] adjectivized patronym + technical noun in the singular
[R] technical noun in the singular + adjectivized patronym

a) adenoma: Langerhansian *adenoma / adenom* langherhansian

b) epilepsy: Jacksonian *epilepsy / epilepsie* Jacksoniană

NPs in OBs are also expressed by extremely rarely used technical words commonly known as "highly technical words" and they most often have the simplest structure.

(20) [E] surname + highly technical noun in the singular
[R] highly technical noun in the singular + surname

a) diverticulum / diverticul: Meckel *diverticulum* / *diverticul* Meckel

b) fundoplication: Rossetti *fundoplication* / *fundoplicație* Rossetti,

c) pyloromyotomy: Ramstedt *pyloromyotomy* / *pilorotomie* Ramstedt

d) portoenterostomy: Kasai *portoenterostomy* / *protoenterostomie* Kasai

e) poikiloderma: *poikiloderma* of Civatte / *poikiloderma* Civatte

f) angiokeratoma: a*ngiokeratoma* of Fordyce / a*ngiokeratoma* (lui) Fordyce

5. Commentary

Names in eponymic nomenclature of medicine originate from both English and non-English anthroponyms. While the former category never created any difficulty in usage, due to formal specificities, the latter did. Thus, a few OBs have several formal varieties, which overload the existing inventory. This is because due to the phonetics of a language, Russian anthroponyms, for example, may produce at least two forms for the same name (e.g. *Korsakov* syndrome vs *Korsakoff's* syndrome). This feeling of confusion can also spring from the second member of OBs. Starting from the PN in OBs, the meaningfully similar denominations can be grouped into:

(1) synonymic pairs which consist of:

(a) OBs only: *Don Juan's fracture* is the same as *Casanova's fracture*

(b) an OB and a clinical denomination: *Albright's syndrome* and *osteitis fibrosa disseminata*

(c) an OB which is the abbreviate form of a multi-eponym lexical unit: *Albright's syndrome*, is the reduced form of *Albright-McCune-Sternberg syndrome*

(2) synonymic lines

(a) of OBs: *Carpenter's syndrome* means the same as *Noack's syndrome*, *Sakati-Nyhan syndrome*, and *Goodman's syndrome*

(b) of different structures that include one OB and several clinical denominations: *Banti's syndrome / sindrom Banti* is also known as *hepatolienal fibrosis / fibroză hepatosplenică* and *congestive splenomegalia / splenomegalie congestivă*

NPs in OBs can sometimes be the cause of confusions as they behave either as terms (having no other synonym) or as common words (being used interchangeably). Thus, the couple of words *disease* and *syndrome*, when embedded in OBs built with the same NP, behave as:

(a) perfectly interchangeable synonyms: *Fabry's disease/syndrome*; *Banti's syndrome/disease*; *Behçet's disease/syndrome*

(b) different lexical units: *Barlow's disease* (or infantile scurvy) vs. *Barlow's syndrome* (or floppy-valve syndrome), and *Caffey's disease* (or infantile cortical hyperostosis) vs. *Caffey's syndrome* (or the battered baby syndrome)

(c) both *disease* and *syndrome* are synonyms of other NPs: *Boeck's disease = Boeck's sarcoid, Hashimoto disease = Hashimoto goitre*

6. Conclusions

This structural taxonomy of English and Romanian medical OBs, analysed both the PN and NP members. The double-fold perspective unfolded a variety of both the sources of PN, which are names of both fictitious heroes and real people as well as the outstanding categorial, distributional and semantic features of the common words encapsulated in the binomial NPs.

The mentions in the commentary pinpoint two sources of confusions, i.e., that of PNs, which, for one example can be taken for common words (see the section on capitonyms) and that of the NPs, which may or may not be substituted by synonyms. OBs are formulas that require the same attention to be paid to both PNs and NP, which even if (nearly) similar they can refer to different entities and, hence, create regrettable confusion and errors.

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BINOMURILE ONIMICE ÎN NOMENCLATOARELE MEDICALE ENGLEZEŞTI ŞI ROMÂNEŞTI

Rezumat:

Cadrul general: Binomurile onimice sunt structuri lexicale alcătuite din două elemente (un nume propriu şi un substantiv comun) ce constituie o unitate lexicală cu formă fixă şi cu sens propriu care nu rezultă din suma sensurilor componentelor.
Obiective: clasificarea bazată pe criterii lingvistice şi descrierea structurilor particulare ale binomurilor onimice din nomenclatura medicală a limbilor engleză şi română
Metode: binomurile onimice au fost selectate din corpusurile utilizate în două studii monografice elaborate între anii 1996 şi 2019 şi publicate în iulie 2021. Selectarea manuală a fost completată cu exemple înregistrate în urma căutărilor efectuate în următoarele resurse electronice: PubMed, Web of Science, Semantic Scholar and Elsevier. Science direct.
Rezultate: Binomurile onimice sunt construite cu diverse tipuri de antroponime şi toponime. Formulele descriptive fac distincţie, pe de o parte, între construcţiile nominale şi cele genitivale şi, pe de altă parte, între tipurile de substantive comune folosite, respectiv cele aparţinând fondului principal lexical, sau cuvintelor semi-tehnice, tehnice şi supratehnice.
Limitări: Studiul nu a fost alcătuit cu scopul de a inventaria numărul total de binomuri onimice active în nomenclatura medicală engleză şi/sau în cea română, ele fiind atât de numeroase încât ar putea acoperi paginile unui dicţionar specializat.
Concluzii: Deşi limbile engleză şi română fac parte din ramuri diferite ale

trunchiului Indo-European, binomurile onimice studiate au evidenţiat însuşiri comune, vizibile atât la nivelul numelui propriu cât şi la nivelul substantivului comun precum şi particularităţi dictate de contextul sintactic în care apar, putând produce confuzii cu impact asupra comunicării orale.

Cuvinte cheie: *binom onimic, semi-tehnicisme, taxonomie, sinonime.*

Abstract :

General framework: onymic binomials are lexical structures composed of two elements (a proper name and a common noun) that constitute a lexical unit with a fixed form and a meaning that does not result from the sum of the meanings of the components.
Objectives: to classify on the basis of linguistic criteria and to describe the particular structures of onymic binomials in the English and Romanian medical nomenclature
Methods: onymic binomials were selected from corpora used in two monographic studies developed between 1996 and 2019 and published in July 2021. Manual selection was supplemented with examples recorded from searches of the following electronic resources: PubMed, Web of Science, Semantic Scholar and Elsevier. Science direct.
Results: Onymic binomials are constructed with various types of anthroponyms and toponyms. The descriptive forms distinguish, on the one hand, between nominal and genitival constructions and, on the other hand, between the types of common nouns used, namely those belonging to the main lexical background, or to semi-technical, technical and super-technical words.
Limitations: The study was not compiled with the aim of inventorying the total number of active onymic binomials in English and/or Romanian medical nomenclature, as they are so numerous that they could cover the pages of a specialized dictionary.
Conclusions: Although the English and Romanian languages belong to different branches of the Indo-European trunk, the onymic binomials studied revealed common features, visible both in the proper noun and in the common noun, as well as particularities dictated by the syntactic context in which they appear, which may cause confusion with impact on oral communication.

Keywords*: onymic binomial, semi-technicalisms, taxonomy, synonyms.*