

Importance of Medical Report Translation and Growing Need for Medical Translation Services

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Abstract: This article talks about the need today to know not only some foreign language, but also the need to understand the terminology of translation, especially medical translation. In recent years, the demand for medical translation services has increased significantly. This increase is due to a combination of factors.

Keywords: medical reports, pharmaceutical companies, diseases, medical translation, terminology.



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Introduction

Translation of medical reports is an integral part of the global healthcare system. People regularly travel abroad for medical care or consultations in our globally interconnected environment. In such situations, their medical records need to be translated appropriately so that international healthcare professionals can fully understand them. These translations are also needed by doctors to share their knowledge across borders and support global medical research.

Translation of medical reports also ensures good communication and helps protect patients. It allows patients and healthcare professionals who speak different languages to communicate more easily. Patient outcomes can be improved by having a comprehensive understanding of their health condition, available treatments, and post-treatment care.

Last but not least, pharmaceutical and medical device companies also recognize the value of translating medical reports. They often have to interpret medical documents intended for submission to regulatory authorities in other countries. Applications for new drugs or devices may or may not be successful depending on the quality of these translations.

In recent years, the demand for medical translation services has increased significantly. This increase is due to a combination of factors.

Firstly, the significant increase in the number of people using healthcare services outside their home country can be attributed to globalization and increased population mobility. This has led to

the need to translate patient records, clinical trial data, and other medical reports into the language of healthcare professionals.

Secondly, the translation of medical records is necessary due to the increasing growth and globalization of clinical research. Medical records need to be published and made available in multiple languages so that they can be correctly interpreted and used in the context of global healthcare collaboration.

Finally, the global regulatory environment is becoming increasingly strict. Companies producing pharmaceuticals and medical devices must provide documents in the national language of the countries in which they plan to sell their products. This increases the need for specialized and accurate medical translation services. In other words, medical translation is no longer just a support function. It is now a critical element in ensuring high-quality and accessible healthcare and in advancing international medical research.

Anatomy of a Medical Report

A medical report often includes a variety of details regarding the patient's past and present health. The patient's name, age, gender, and other identifying information are usually listed at the beginning of the report. The report then provides a history of the patient's current medical condition, describing the patient's symptoms, their progression, and previous treatments.

The next section reviews the patient's medical history, including any surgeries, chronic conditions, allergies, or serious medical problems in the patient's family. The results of the physical examination and the results of any lab tests, x-rays, or other diagnostic procedures are then presented.

The conclusion of the report includes the physician's assessment of the diagnosis, the treatment strategy, the medications prescribed, follow-up care instructions, and often the prognosis. Sometimes a review of the patient's condition in the hospital may be included, including significant incidents that occurred during the hospital stay, procedures performed, and the patient's condition after discharge, especially in hospital discharge summary reports.

Medical Jargon and Terminology

Medical reports are replete with specialized medical vocabulary and jargon. Abbreviations, Latin phrases, and complex medical jargon are common and can be confusing to a layperson or even a translator without a medical background. Terms such as “myocardial infarction,” “fatty liver,” and “hyperlipidemia” must be correctly understood and translated to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the report.

In addition, in-depth knowledge of the subject is necessary due to the complexity of medical information. Misinterpretation or mistranslation of medical data can have serious consequences, including incorrect diagnosis, incorrect treatment, and even jeopardizing patient safety. Therefore, medical report translators must be familiar with medical terminology, understand the meaning of the information being translated, and be up-to-date with developments in the medical field.

The concept of abbreviation and its types

Abbreviation is an active method of word production and an effective means of replenishing the vocabulary of a language. Today, there are a significant number of definitions of the concept "abbreviation", however, none of them is unambiguous, which causes its different interpretation in linguistic studies. In this regard, it seems necessary to clarify it within the framework of this study.

The term abbreviation is understood in linguist circles in different ways. Firstly, as a process associated with the violation of the "morphemic integrity of the original form or its individual components (the original form is a word, phrase or series of words that are subject to

abbreviation)", or associated with "a reduction in the length of the speech signal, also including a reduction in the number of phonemes or morphemes used in the full form that make up the word, and the replacement of the speech message in natural language with more economical codes". Secondly, as a result of the process of abbreviation, that is, as "short phrases or shortened forms of words formed from full forms, created by reducing the number of signs used".

In the dictionary terms. O.S. Akhmanova distinguishes the concepts "abbreviation". By abbreviation she means: 1) an elliptical form of speech that naturally arises in some communication situations (telegrams, commands, advertisements, etc.); 2) unclear, reduced pronunciation of the phonemes that make up words (in extreme cases, leading to their complete loss) under the influence of a fast speech rate; 3) a decrease in the length of the speech signal, including a decrease in the number of phonemes and/or morphemes that make up a word, and the replacement of the speech message in a natural language with more economical codes; 4) a word that has undergone a reduction in the number of phonemes and/or morphemes.

In other words, an abbreviation in the broad sense of the word can be considered any process in a language as a result of which a certain original unit loses some of its constituent elements and turns into an abbreviated unit.

Graphic abbreviations are those that are used only in written speech and do not have their own special sound form. In spoken language, they are realized as the corresponding unabridged form. Graphic abbreviations are typical for communication on the Internet, which is carried out in written form. Graphic abbreviations are also numerous and are used to designate measures, units or quantities (kg, km, mph, Dr, Mr). A special subgroup is made up of graphic abbreviations of Latin words that are reproduced in English in speech. This group includes i. e. (Latin id est, English that is); e. g. (Latin exempli gratia, English for example); etc. (Latin et cetera, English and so on), etc. The same type of graphic abbreviations also include the written designations of some monetary signs, for example £ (Latin libra, English pound), d (Latin denarius, English penny).

Methodology

This study employs a qualitative research approach to analyze the growing need for medical translation services and the challenges associated with translating medical reports. The research is based on a review of relevant literature, including linguistic studies, medical documents, and international translation standards. A comparative analysis of medical terminology, abbreviations, and jargon is conducted to assess their impact on translation accuracy. Additionally, case studies of translated medical reports are examined to identify common errors and best practices. The study also considers the role of globalization and regulatory requirements in increasing the demand for specialized medical translation services.

Results and Discussion

The study confirms that the demand for medical translation services has significantly increased due to globalization, growing medical tourism, and stricter regulatory requirements in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. Accurate translation of medical reports plays a crucial role in ensuring effective communication between healthcare providers and patients, facilitating international medical research, and supporting pharmaceutical companies in regulatory compliance. Findings indicate that medical translation is a highly specialized field requiring expertise in both language and medical terminology. The complexity of medical jargon, abbreviations, and neologisms poses challenges for translators, as errors in translation can lead to serious consequences, including misdiagnosis or improper treatment. The analysis also highlights the importance of standardized terminology and the need for professional medical translators who stay updated with advancements in medicine. Furthermore, the study reveals that automated translation tools, while useful for general texts, are not reliable for medical documents due to their inability to interpret context-specific medical terminology accurately. The research supports the

view that human expertise remains essential in medical translation to ensure precision, clarity, and compliance with industry standards. Overall, the findings emphasize the necessity of professional medical translation services in the global healthcare system. Investing in skilled translators and implementing quality control measures can significantly enhance the accuracy of medical translations, ultimately improving patient safety and healthcare accessibility worldwide.

Conclusion

So, translation of medical scientific articles is actually a complex and responsible job. The main difficulties for translators are terms, abbreviations, neologisms and reductions. They need to be carefully checked against international dictionaries and keep in mind that for an ophthalmologist and a cardiologist, the same word can be translated completely differently.

In order to avoid mistakes in translation, you need to be extremely careful, follow the development of medicine in the world and understand that distorting the meaning of an article can, at best, devalue its significance for the reader.

If you want to translate your work into English, but are not confident in your abilities, it is better to contact professionals. Do not rely on the help of online translators, they will never be able to understand the text better than a person and their interpretation may contain gross errors.

It can also be noted that abbreviation as a method of word production will not lose its relevance in the near future. Abbreviations are still, in a certain sense, a mystery to linguists, which leads to contradictory views of scientists on the nature of abbreviated lexical units. Nowadays, abbreviations penetrate deeper into the vocabulary of languages, which makes them not random words, but full-fledged lexical units. Abbreviations and abbreviations reveal a number of grammatical features, which makes the process of their translation difficult.

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