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LEXICAL-SEMANTIC FIELD “INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF CUTANEOUS COVERING” IN FILM-DISCOURSE

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Investigations based on modern cinematograph are perfectly suitable to reveal the general awareness of people about medicine and to compare the medical communicative situations people find interesting to observe with the actual state of medicine.

The aim of the investigation was to delineate lexical units comprising the topic of infectious diseases of cutaneous covering, which are found in the products of modern cinematograph, such as medical TV-shows, medical documentaries and non-documentary films about physicians and diseases. It will be necessary for future comparative analysis, which will reveal the most popular topics applied in modern film discourse. The tasks of the research are the following: to gather, to systematize and to analyze on the morphological level the lexical units concerning the topic “infectious diseases of the skin”.

The procedure of the research contained the following steps: to single out lexical units of morphological and phrasal levels by means of complete sample method, to subdivide them into lexical-semantic groups, to count the morphological types of lexical units and to contrast them using comparative-quantitative analysis.

Lexical-semantic field can be understood as the scope of lexical units of different levels, which are related to each other in terms of their meaning. These units are linked paradigmatically, in other words by means of subcategorization, inclusion, derivation, contrast, similarity, etc. They all share one and the same constant, embedded in one word or a phrase, which can be used to characterize all the lexical units lexical-semantic field may contain. For instance, lexical-semantic field “sickness” might contain nouns, such as diabetes, the measles, adjectives such as sick or weak, verb or noun phrases such as suffer pain or cardiac dilation, etc. Lexical-semantic field (LSF) must not be confused with lexical-semantic group (LSG) which is a narrower notion than the one of LSF. The latter usually contains several lexical-semantic groups, which are linked not only semantically, but also morphologically. Thus, lexical-semantic group “hernias” might contain the following noun phrases: external hernia, internal hernia, inguinal hernia etc.

The research was conducted on the basis of famous modern TV-shows: “House M.D.”, “The Good Doctor”, “The Clinic”. The scripts of 177 episodes of “House M.D.”, 79 episodes of “The Good Doctor” and 66 episodes of “The Clinic” were processed and 87 lexical units of lexical-semantic field “infectious diseases of cutaneous covering” were singled out. The following lexical-semantic groups were created in the process of the analysis of the revealed samples: “the condition of the patients”, “the symptoms of infectious diseases of cutaneous covering” and “the names of the infectious diseases of cutaneous covering”. These groups are placed in the previous sentence according to the number of lexical units, they contain. Thus, the first mentioned lexical-semantic group contains the largest share of lexical units (39), the scope of the symptoms of the diseases under the investigation is a bit smaller (24) and it was singled out only 16 lexical units in the last lexical-semantic group. These groups contained all the parts of speech.

To draw a conclusion, infectious diseases of cutaneous covering appeared to be not really popular topic in medical TV-shows. However, the variety of the applied lexical units is rather vast, for it contains different lexical-semantic groups and all the parts of speech on the morphological level. The collected findings may and will be used in the further research of lexical-semantic fields, based on medical issues in order to identify the most popular and discussed ones.