UDK 920.183.7. 563.52
http://dx.doi.org/10.31548/philolog15(2).2024.07

Structural Characteristics of The English Veterinary Metaphoric Terms

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Abstract. The article deals with the structural and quantitative analysis of metaphorical terms, which are an important means of nomination and an active word-formation factor in the English professional language of veterinary medicine. The object of our study is metaphorical terms in the English professional language of veterinary medicine, and the subject is their structural classification. The purpose of the article is to analyze and classify metaphorical terms of the English professional language of veterinary medicine according to the morphological principle. The task is to divide the metaphorical terms of this terminology into certain classes and study their structural models. The corpus of the study consists of metaphorical terms selected by the method of continuous sampling from modern professional dictionaries. The English professional language of veterinary medicine is built on the basis of the commonly used language and is in constant interrelation with it (it uses a common grammar: morphology and syntax), but has different areas of vocabulary realization. That is why the metaphorical terms of the English professional language are characterized primarily by the morphological and syntactic method of term formation. The structural analysis of metaphorical terms is aimed at determining the most effective ways of expressing metaphorical meanings in the studied professional language. It has been established that metaphorical terms can be expressed by root words, composites and phrases. Depending on the belonging of the word used in a figurative sense to a particular part of speech, the noun, adjective and adverbial metaphor terms are studied, the most active of them are identified, and their main structural models are described.

Key words: metaphor, veterinary medicine, structure, simple terms, derived terms, complex terms (composites), phrases.

Introduction. The modern intensive development of the science of veterinary medicine causes the emergence of a large number of new terms. The modern terminology of veterinary medicine is one of the most complex term systems. It includes several thousand words and phrases. The development of the terminological system of veterinary medicine at the current stage of its existence is a reflection of accelerated progress, specialization of veterinary science, which creates a need for a significant number of new terms.

Metaphorical nomination has been and remains one of the most effective mechanisms for creating terminological units necessary for the linguistic fixation of new realities, processes and concepts in veterinary medicine, as well as for rethinking previously accepted terms. As a rule, a metaphorical term reflects the accumulated experience of specialists in a particular field of knowledge and creates new knowledge, enriching the relevant terminological array. The formation of metaphors is atypical for terminology, which follows from the basic requirements for terms (unambiguity, accuracy, etc.), but as for the field of veterinary medicine, it is replete with metaphors.

The question of the role of metaphor in the formation, structuring and functioning of veterinary terminology, together with the high productivity of metaphorical models and the effectiveness of the use of metaphors in modern veterinary medicine, demonstrates the relevance of our study.

Literature Review. Among the studies on veterinary terminology, a significant place belongs to the works of such domestic researchers as Amelina S. and Hopak I. (Amelina, Hopak, 2016), Lashkul V. (Laskul, 2021, 2023), Nemova T., Lychuk M. (Nemova, Lychuk, 2021) Syrotina O., Polishchuk O. (Polishchuk, Syrotina, 2023), Rozhkov Yu. (Rozhkov, 2020), Syrotina O. (Syrotin, 2020), Cherepovska T., Binkevych O. (Cherepovska, Binkevych, 2019). In these

studies of veterinary medicine terminology, linguists define its main characteristics. However, they were not sufficient enough to cover a thorough analysis of metaphorical terms of clinical veterinary medicine.

Metaphor, which is currently an active word-formation factor, attracts the attention of a large number of domestic and foreign linguists such as Baker M. (Baker, 2015), Lakoff D. (Lakoff, 2013), Johnson M. (Johnson, 2008), Zhabotynska S. (Zhabotynska, 2014), Selivanova (Selivanova, 2010), Raad B. (Raad, 2015).

At the present stage of development of linguistic science, scientific metaphor is a relevant area for numerous studies of modern linguists. The literature devoted to the term metaphor deals with the issues of the origin and development of the concept of scientific metaphor, its function in a special text, mechanisms of metaphorization, and reveals the terminological potential of the vocabulary of the general literary language and languages for special purposes.

There is a growing interest in English-language metaphorical terms in humane and veterinary medicine, as evidenced by a number of scientific studies by Klochko T., Isaieva V. (Klochko, Isaieva, 2020), Push O., Hasiuk N. (Push, Hasiuk, 2021) Rozhkov Yu. (Rozhkov, 2020), Syrotina O. (Syrotina, 2023), Usyk H. (Usyk, 2020) Tsisar N. (Tsisar, 2019), Gonzales M. (Gonzales, 2022).

English-language metaphorical terms of veterinary medicine are increasingly becoming the object of scientific research. The cognitive mechanisms of the use of metaphor in the English-language terminology for animal diseases are considered in depth by S. Amelina and Hopak I. M.. Based on the theory of conceptual metaphor, the main donor domains that served as a source of metaphorical nominations for animal diseases in the studied terminology were identified, and the types of metaphorical transfers available in the terminological array for animal diseases were characterized: structural, gestalt, diffuse (Amelina, Hopak, 2020).

The study by Rozhkov Yu., Syrotin O. attempts to consider the cognitive basis of anthropomorphic metaphor as one of the mechanisms of creation of veterinary terms in English. Based on the theory of conceptual metaphor, the author identifies the sources of anthropomorphic metaphor formation and examines the semantic groups of metaphor terms (Rozhkov, Syrotin, 2022: 225).

The analysis of biomorphic metaphor as the most productive way of forming terms in the veterinary lexicon is carried out by V. Lashkul and Y. Rozhkov. The authors substantiate the important role of biomorphic metaphor in the formation, structuring and functioning of veterinary medicine terminology and present the high productivity of metaphorical models (Lashkul, Rozhkov, 2023: 195).

However, the structural characterization of metaphorical terms in the veterinary vocabulary has been insufficiently studied in the scientific literature.

The aim of our work is to analyze and classify veterinary metaphorical terms in English according to the morphological principle.

Materials and methods of research. The material for observations was reference literature and specialized dictionaries:

Veterinary Dictionary by Nakamura R. (Nakamura, 2019), Black's Veterinary Dictionary by E. Black (Black, 2015), Dictionary of Veterinary Nursing E-Book by Lane D. R., Guthrie S., Griffith S. (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007), Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary by Taylor E. J. (Taylor, 2018), Dictionary of epizootological terms by Nedosekov V., Polishchuk V. (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014), Concise veterinary dictionary by Brown C. M., Hogg D. A., Kelly D. F. (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018).

The main **methods** used in our study are the differentiation and identification of terminological units formed by metaphorization, as well as their analysis and systematization.

Results and Discussion. Metaphorization as a special case of the semantic method of word formation is one of the most effective ways of forming terminological units. O. Selivanova interprets metaphor as "the most productive creative means of enriching the language, a manifestation of linguistic economy, a semiotic regularity manifested in the use of signs of one conceptual sphere to denote another" (Selivanova, 2010: 214).

The structural analysis of metaphorical terms, as part of our comprehensive study, is

aimed at determining the most effective ways of explicating metaphorical meanings in the studied professional language. From a cognitive point of view, the morphological word formation of metaphorical terms is not very important, since the cognitive function (the main function of a conceptual metaphor) and other functions can be performed by a metaphor of any part of speech. However, it is always interesting to know which parts of speech prevail in the verbalization of a concept by metaphors. The morphological classification of metaphors is based on the part of speech of the metaphorically used word. The basis for the morphological classification of metaphorical terms of the English professional language of veterinary medicine was taken the classification proposed by Diakov A. S., who, from the structural point of view, divides the terms into: root words, derivative vocabulary, compound words, phrase terms, abbreviations, letter symbols, symbols and nomenclatures (Diakov, 2000: 118).

For the English professional language of veterinary medicine, metaphorical terms are characterized by the following structural types: simple terms, derived terms, complex terms (composites), and multi-word terms (metaphorical phrases).

A simple term is a non-derivative term, the basis of which remains unchanged and includes the main meaning of the word. It consists of only one root morpheme, which can be joined by morphological inflections. Among the simple metaphorized veterinary terms, nouns are used mostly, e.g: *cyst, hunch, papilloma, nodule, comedo, pustule, anbury, papule, petechia, roseola, eczema, crop, spur, caruncle, etc.*

The main function of a noun is to name a subject reality or phenomenon, so noun metaphors are the most common structural type of one-word metaphors, for example *stress* - “a physiological state of an organism that develops as a result of trauma, illness or anxiety” (Black, 2015: 212); *cyst* (from rp. Kystis – bubble, cyst) – “a bubble-like cavity that occurs in pathological tissues, filled with liquid or semi-liquid contents” (Black, 2015:108); *papule* – “one of the forms of infectious rash – small dense nodules that appear on the skin, from which vesicles, pustules are formed or epithelial necrosis occurs, and the nodules turn into crusts” (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 43); *passage* – “sequential infection of susceptible objects (animal, chicken embryos, cell culture) with microorganisms” (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 42); *isolate* – “a sample of a pathogen obtained from one strictly defined source” (Black, 2015:17); *tartar* – “calcium deposits on the teeth” (Taylor, 2018: 108), *roseola* – one of the forms of infectious rash - small rounded well-contoured red spots caused by inflammatory hyperemia of skin vessels and disappearing when pressed (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 14); *furuncle* – (from Latin fur, furis – thief, furunculus - thief of the I century BC. later “a process on the vine”), in the first century AD it appears in the meaning of “boil”, the scientific definition is an acute purulent-necrotic inflammation of the hair follicle and surrounding tissue caused by staphylococcus.

The study of single-word metaphorical terms in the professional language of veterinary medicine has shown that it also has derivational terms, i.e. terms in which it is possible to distinguish motivational bases and word-formation affixes. A derived term contains one root morpheme and one (or more) affixed morphemes. There are three models of derivative term formation:

- prefixation: *hemiplegia* – paralysis of the left or right half of the body (from the Greek hemisus - half + plege - blow), i.e. a blow that was inflicted by the disease on the right or left side of the body; the term *polyp* (from the Greek poly (many) + pus (leg) = millipede) has the meaning of a benign epithelial tumor of the mucous membranes (often in the form of a voluminous formation on the leg) (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 389).

- suffixation: *inflammation* – “the body's protective reaction to various pathogenic effects” (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 194); *frostbite* – “cold injury; tissue damage caused by hypothermia” (Taylor, 2018: 214); *screening* – “examination of a large group of animals, usually with the help of inexpensive tests, to detect a particular disease” (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 304); *carrier* – “an infected animal (individual) without clinical signs of disease, potentially capable of becoming a source of the pathogen” (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 36); *depression* (from the Latin deprimo - depressing) – “an animal that is inactive, does not respond to calls or shouts, lies down a lot, has a reduced or

absent appetite (Black, 2015:123); *granuloma* (from the Latin granulum - grain + -oma - tumor; carcinoma (from the Latin cancer, which means crab).

- prefixation-suffixation: *exacerbation* – "the transition of a disease to a more severe form" (Nakamura, 2019: 160); *infertility* – "a disorder of reproduction of offspring caused by abnormal conditions of existence of females and males, arising from the impact on the body of adverse factors of the external and internal environment" (Nakamura, 2019: 59); *agalactia* (from the Greek a- – to deny, galakt – milk) – the absence of milk in the mammary glands of a certain animal.

Word compounding, as a way of forming metaphorical terms in the English professional language of veterinary medicine, is characterized by high productivity among single-word terms. This is due to the fact that "compound words are needed not only to satisfy the need for new words, but also to express two ideas in one word" (Doroshenko, 2014: 118).

Compound metaphorical composite terms include words formed by combining two different noun roots, for example, heatstroke, lockjaw, and spasm of the masticatory muscles. As with any composite word, the semantic center of composite terms is the second morpheme, which verbalizes the problem, and the first morpheme has the function of definition, for example, *fibrosarcoma* – (fibra, from the Greek for thread and sarcos for meat), the disease got its name because of the thread-like appearance of the tumor. In borrowed roots, an important feature is the combination of Latin and Greek roots, which are no longer free morphemes, but their combination is based on the same semantic principle.

A small number of metaphorical composite terms are words formed by combining noun and adjectival roots, for example, *Blackleg* – "cattle disease (emphyseous carbuncle)"; *Blackhead* – an infectious disease of birds (infectious enterohepatitis); *Bluetongue* – infectious catarrhal fever of sheep, *Pink-eye* – acute infectious conjunctivitis (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 69).

According to the method of combining components, complex metaphorical terms are divided into:

1) terms formed by combining two morphemes: *rinderpest, heartstroke, sunstroke*. Examples include the following metaphorical composites: *Lionhead* – a small breed of rabbit with long fur around the face (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 18); *Ringworm* – any of several contagious fungal skin diseases, hair, or nails of humans and domestic animals that are characterized by ring-shaped discolored skin patches covered with vesicles and scales. The name given to certain skin diseases manifesting in circular patches (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 39).

2) terms formed on the basis of an interfixed combination of morphemes. The word-forming means of this method of term formation are the connecting elements -i and -o-, for example: *kernicterus, myxomatosis*. Etymologically, the term *myxomatosis* is derived from the Latin myxa – mucus + mitosis – cell division, for the combination of which the connecting vowel -o- or the vowel -a- borrowed from Greek was used in English. In the same way, the metaphorical term *fibrosarcoma* is formed, where the abbreviated word is *fibra*, from the Greek for thread and *sarcos* for meat, which are combined with the connecting vowel -o-.

In the terminology under consideration, the vast majority of metaphorical terms are phrase terms. The researchers explain this by the fact that "in compound names that have a nominative orientation and retain the meaning of words, their components fix the essential features of the depicted object, so that such a name of reality is included in the system of concepts of a certain field of knowledge"(Doroshenko, 2004: 75).

Modern science is increasingly striving to concretize existing terms, and in this regard, scientific texts show a significant tendency to multicomponent terms, which allows to present objects in a detailed and refined form.

We understand a phrase as "a nominal syntactic unit consisting of two or more full-sense components connected by subordinating conjunction, one of which is the core (main) and the other is the dependent" (Zagnitko, 2013: 88).

According to the structure, metaphorical terms-phrases of the English professional language are divided into two-component and multicomponent terms. In the analyzed terminology, two-component terms prevail, which make up 65.7% of the total number of

the studied terms. Two-component metaphorical phrases include a main component that names the main concept and a dependent component that indicates its more specific features.

The most productive structural model of two-component metaphorical term phrases is the noun model (N+N), which is involved in the formation of metaphorical term phrases. It is worth noting that the N+N model performs an attributive function, which is a characteristic feature of the English language. The most common model is N+N: *Vestibular disease, Radiation sickness, Abdomen diseases, May sickness, Travel sickness, Lyme disease, Muscle dystrophy.* Here are some more examples of the noun model of metaphorical term combinations: *milk stones* – "formed in the milk ducts as a result of phosphorus deposition in them" (Nakamura, 2019: 160); *summer mastitis* – "this disease is also called pyogenic mastitis; *rain scald* – dermatophilosis (rain skin) – "a skin disease that occurs in cattle of all ages, but especially in young animals. It is usually associated with wet weather (hence the name)" (Nakamura, 2019: 88); *clover disease* – clover poisoning – 'intoxication that occurs in animals when they eat large amounts of pink clover on bright sunny days' (Black, 2015: 198); *potato eczema* – "manifested as vesicular inflammation of the skin on the lower parts of the limbs. It occurs in cattle when they are fed a large amount of potatoes in the spring" (Black, 2015: 175); *soil infections* – 'diseases whose pathogens persist in the soil for a long time and are transmitted through it' (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 12); *milk fistula* – 'a narrow channel connecting the cavities of the milk tank or teat canal with the surface of the udder nipple, from which milk is constantly released in drops' (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 160); *Wall eye* – strabismus – "a violation of the position of the eyes caused by the uncoordinated work of the oculomotor muscles" (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 185).

The N+N model is also typical for object phrases. Syntactically, they are a combination of a noun and a determiner in the genitive case and are the most important means of specifying the object. For example: *bowel obstruction* – "disruption of the passage of intestinal contents in the direction from the stomach to the anus" (Nakamura, 2019: 245); *host range* – "the range of organisms (species) susceptible to a given pathogen" (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 23); *drum belly* – "excessive accumulation of gases in the intestine caused by increased fermentation processes and disruption of its motor-secretory function") (Nakamura, 2019: 153); *elephant leg or elephantiasis* – "chronic thickening of the skin and subcutaneous fat cells, which is accompanied by a pronounced stagnation of the lymph" (Lane, Guthrie, Grifith, 2007: 463); *hare lip* (Lat. labiurn – lip, leporinus – hare) – "congenital defect: bifurcation of the upper lip" (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 39).

A variation of this model is the prepositional structure N+of+N, for example: *portals of infection* – "the place where a pathogenic microbe enters the body" (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 10*), retention of placenta* – "retention of membranes in the uterus after a certain time after the birth of the fetus" (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 194),

Another variant of this model is the use of a noun in the possessive case N's+N, e.g: *nun's murmur* – "a continuous systolic-diastolic murmur heard over the internal jugular vein" (Black, 2015: 322); *hare's eye (lagophthalmos)* – an abnormal condition in which an eye cannot close completely (Black, 2015: 154).

Terms that include disease nominations formed from proper names often become an integral part of the noun model, for example: *Addison's disease, Agaspher syndrome, Chagas disease, Barlow's disease, Carrion's disease, Barlow's disease, Cushing's disease, Bamberger's disease, Waldmann's disease, Hodgkin's disease*.

An adjectival metaphor is a characterization metaphor; it combines the functions of nomination and description with an emphasis on the descriptiveness of the metaphorical expression (Datsyshyn, 2020).

This type of metaphor is inferior to the noun metaphor (21.5% of the number of two-component metaphorical terms). With the help of an adjective, a feature of an object or phenomenon in veterinary medicine is expressed. In attributive phrases, the main element is expressed by a noun in the nominative case, and the attributive element by an adjective that performs the function of a prepositive definition; structural type: "adjective + noun". At the same time, the main element of the terminological combination determines the generic feature

of the concept, and the attributive element - the specific one. For example: *spotty liver* – "the most common *hepatosis* in which fat accumulates in liver cells" (Nakamura, 2019: 112); *wooden tongue* – actinomycosis of the tongue (Black, 2015: 68); *Brown nose* – hypopigmentation of the nose of animals*; natural host* – "species of animals, individuals of which are the natural environment of an uninhabited causative agent of an infectious or invasive disease" (Nedosekov, Polishchuk, 2014: 50); *fleshy mole* – "a pathological formation of yellow-red color in the uterus at the death of the fetal egg" (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 162); *proud flesh* – "tissue growth above the surface of the wound" (Brown, Hogg, Kelly, 2018: 104); *communicable diseases* – diseases that are transmitted, pathological conditions of the body that arise as a result of infection with a pathogen; *slow infections* – "a group of diseases, the distinctive features of which are the incubation period from several months to several years". The adjective metaphor should also include the adverbial metaphor (Part. II+N), in which the adverb acts as a designation and denotes not an action, but a sign inherent in a phenomenon in veterinary medicine, for example: *broken wind, propagated outbreak, dropped sole.*

Conclusion. Our analysis of two-component metaphorical terms showed the heterogeneity of the role of their constituent components in metaphorical reinterpretation. A metaphorical phrase consists of the main component, which is a categorical, generic concept, and a dependent component, which indicates more specific, qualitative or quantitative features of the concept. The most common form of metaphor expression is two-part phrases, in which the metaphorized core component (the second) is a word of common language and defines the meaning of the entire phrase, and the first component is related to the terminology vocabulary of veterinary medicine. The core metaphorized component: a) defines the concepts: *bowel obstruction, drum belly, hare lip*; b) characterizes the concepts: *fungal ulcer, milk fistula, fleshy mole.* Noun phrases are a productive model of the three-component structure of a metaphorical term. 42.4% of metaphorical three-component terms-phrases from the total number of three-component terminological phrases of the studied terminology, formed according to the following models, were found: N+N+N: *grass seeds abscess, kidney stone disease, Rift valley fever;* N+N of+N: *Border disease of sheep*. A small group of adjectival metaphorical phrases stands out among three-component terms. The performance of the A+N+N model revealed participation in the formation of 18% of metaphorical phrases from the total number of three-component phrases. Such an observation leads to the conclusion that adding a meaning to a two-component phrase turns it into a three-component one, for example: *Greasy pig disease, Cold cow syndrome, Blind end of esophagus, Dry eye syndrome, Crazy chick disease.*

Thus, the carried out structural analysis of the English metaphor terms of veterinary medicine shows that these terms are characterized by the same word-forming means as veterinary terminology and commonly used vocabulary in general. The classification of metaphors according to the morphological principle makes it possible to understand how the process of naming veterinary objects and processes is affected by the choice of one or another part of the language for their metaphorical reinterpretation. A noun creates a new nomination, while an adjective shows their essential features. We see the perspective of the research in the study of the cognitive aspect of the metaphorical terms of veterinary professional language.

Acknowledgement. None.

Conflict of Interest. None.

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Структурні характеристики англійських ветеринарних метафоричних термінів

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Abstract. У статті здійснено структурний та кількісний аналіз метафоричних термінів, які є важливим засобом номінації та активним словотвірним чинником в англійській фаховій мові ветеринарної медицини. Об'єктом нашого дослідження є метафоричні терміни англійської фахової мови ветеринарної медицини, а предметом – їх структурна класифікація. Метою статті є аналіз та класифікація метафоричних термінів англійської фахової мови ветеринарії за морфологічним принципом. Завдання зводиться до поділу метафоричних термінів цієї термінології на певні класи та вивчення їхніх структурних моделей. Корпус дослідження складають метафоричні терміни, відібрані методом суцільної вибірки з сучасних фахових словників. Англійська фахова мова ветеринарії будується на основі загальновживаної мови й знаходиться з нею в постійному взаємозв'язку (використовує загальну граматику: морфологію і синтаксис), але має різні сфери реалізації лексики. Саме тому для метафоричних термінів англійської фахової мови характерний передусім морфологічний та синтаксичний спосіб термінотворення. Структурний аналіз метафоричних термінів спрямований на визначення найефективніших способів експлікації метафоричних значень в досліджуваній фаховій мові. Встановлено, що метафоричні терміни можуть бути виражені термінами-кореневими словами, композитами та словосполученнями. В залежності від належності слова, яке вжито в переносному значенні, до тієї чи іншої частини мови досліджено іменникові, прикметникові та прислівникові терміни-метафори, визначено найактивніші з них, описано їх основні структурні моделі.

Ключові слова: метафора, ветеринарна медицина, структура, прості терміни, похідні терміни, складні терміни (композити), словосполучення.