

# ЛІНГВІСТИЧНЕ СПОСТЕРЕЖЕННЯ НАД ЛАТИНСЬКИМИ ТЕРМІНАМИ NOMINA ACTIONIS ГАЛУЗІ РЕАБІЛІТАЦІЇ

Валентина СИНИЦЯ, Олена МИРОНИК

Буковинський державний медичний університет,

м. Чернівці, Україна

Олена БЕЛЯЄВА, Юлія ЛИСАНЕЦЬ

Полтавський державний медичний університет,

м. Полтава, Україна

## A LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF LATIN NOMINA ACTIONIS TERMS IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION

Valentyna SYNITSIA, Olena MYRONYK

Bukovinian State Medical University, Chernivtsi, Ukraine

Olena BIELIAIEVA, Yuliia LYSANETS

Poltava State Medical University, Poltava, Ukraine

synycja.valentyna@bsmu.edu.ua, myronyk800@ukr.net,

o.bieliaieva@pdmu.edu.ua, u.lysanets@pdmu.edu.ua

ORCID ID: 0000-0002-4132-7494; ORCID ID: 0000-0002-5717-7267;

ORCID ID: 0000-0001-9060-4753; ORCID ID: 0000-0003-0421-6362;

Researcher ID: B-9950-2017

**Синиця Валентина, Беляєва Олена, Лисанець Юлія, Мироник Олена.** Лінгвістичне спостереження над латинськими термінами *nomina actionis* галузі реабілітації. Досліджено структурні моделі, дериваційний потенціал та етимологію латинських термінів, які обслуговують сучасну й надзвичайно затребувану галузь медицини – «Терапія та реабілітація». З'ясовано, що в терміносистемі реабілітації функціонує значна кількість загальномедичних *nomina actionis*, які набувають вузькофахового значення завдяки приєднанню до базового іменника уточнювальних компонентів. Основну увагу сфокусовано на *nomina actionis*, які посідають у досліджуваному прошарку загальної медичної термінології чільне місце з огляду на продуктивність суфіксів -io, -tio, -sio, що підтвердив здійснений авторами квантитативний аналіз. Виявлено, що в досліджуваному прошарку термінології максимальну продуктивність демонструє латинський префікс *ge-* із чітко окресленою семантикою «відновлення, повторність; назад або знову». Значну увагу приділено змісту терміна «*adaptatio, onis f.*». Встановлено, що дериваційні можливості цього терміна, позначуваного латинським віддіслівним іменником, забезпечуються шляхом використання латинських префіксів *ge-* (вказує на відновлення, повторність), *des-* (вказує на усунення чи відсутність чого-небудь), *prae-* (вказує на попередню дію чи явище), *post-* (вказує на дію чи явище, яке настає після чого-небудь), *co-* (вказує на певну дію, що виконується спільно з кимось або чимось). Здійснений аналіз засвідчив, що загальнонаукове значення терміна «*adaptatio*» варіюється залежно від середовища адаптації, що є причиною появи адаптивної потреби, тобто, спостерігається явище міждисциплінарної синонімії. Наголошується, що семантична багатозначність терміна «*adaptatio*» ускладнює визначення та розуміння концепта. У зв'язку із чим коректна інтерпретація може бути забезпечена виключно завдяки приєднанню до базового іменникового терміна додаткових понятійних складових, здебільшого прикметників, які уточнюють і конкретизують його. Посилаючись на законодавчі джерела, автори диференціюють зміст термінів «*abilitatio*» і «*rehabilitatio*». Розглянуто новітні гібридні терміни із терміноелементом грецького походження *τῆλε-*, що належать до *nomina actionis*. У висновках зазначається, що подальший ґрунтовний аналіз структурних, етимологічних, лексико-семантичних особливостей латинських термінів, які утворюють термінологічне ядро галузі реабілітації, сприятиме як формуванню термінологічної компетентності майбутніх фахівців у галузі терапії та реабілітації, так і буде корисним для фахівців у галузі лексикографії, навчальній зокрема.

**Ключові слова:** реабілітаційна терміносистема, латинська термінологія, корпус *nomina actionis*, міждисциплінарна полісемія, дериваційний потенціал.

**Introduction.** In recent years, there has been a marked increase in domestic researchers' interest in the linguistic resources of rehabilitation-related terminology. This trend is largely driven by the consequences of the ongoing war in Ukraine and the enactment of the Law of Ukraine «On Rehabilitation in the Field of Health Care», signed by the President in December 2020 (No. 1053-IX). Notably, Article 1 of this law defines more than 20 terms that are widely used in the professional discourse of rehabilitation specialists. Article 2 states that «Other concepts and terms used in this Law are to be understood as defined by the legislation of Ukraine and the specialized glossaries of the World Health Organization.»

**Review of recent research and publications.** An information search focused on the representation of terms

recognized by the World Health Organization in the field of rehabilitation revealed a significant gap in Ukraine: specialized dictionaries containing this terminology are virtually absent. The only notable exception is the Explanatory Dictionary of Terms and Phrases in Physical Rehabilitation<sup>1</sup>, which includes approximately 700 terms and terminological combinations. In contrast, there is a growing body of scholarly publications examining various aspects of the functioning of rehabilitation-related terms in Ukrainian professional discourse. According to Dr. Olena Halytska, PhD in Philology, who has studied the terminology of modern German professional language in rehabilitation<sup>2</sup>, one of the most pressing areas of contemporary linguistic research is the comprehensive study of rehabilitation

<sup>1</sup> Merzlikina O., Huzii O. Tlumachnyi slovnyk terminiv i spoluchen fizychnoi rehabilitatsii [Explanatory Dictionary of Terms and Phrases in Physical Rehabilitation], Lviv, 2002, 48 p. [in Ukrainian].

<sup>2</sup> Halytska O., Valetska V. (2023). Terminys suchasnoi nimetskoi fakhovoi movy rehabilitatsii [Terms of Modern German Professional Language

terminology systems. In Ukraine, the foundational terms of physical rehabilitation have been explored by O. Dubohai and co-authors (2011), Yu. Liannoi and N. Kuksa (2015), and A. Hertsik (2018). A series of publications and the doctoral dissertation of R. Koval (2019) are devoted to a comparative analysis of French and Ukrainian terminology related to physical and medical rehabilitation. Despite Latin's continued status as the foundational language of international medical terminology even in the third millennium, there remains a striking lack of scholarly research dedicated to the functioning of Latin terms in the field of rehabilitation.

In Ukrainian scholarly literature, medical rehabilitation is understood as a system of medical interventions aimed at restoring impaired or lost functions of the human body and activating its compensatory capabilities. This understanding led to the assumption that the terminology of the rehabilitation field must contain a significant number of *nomina actionis* – verbal nouns that denote actions. This assumption formed the basis of our research objective: to identify and analyze Latin rehabilitation terms with procedural (process-related) meaning. The data for the study consisted of a corpus of *nomina actionis* extracted through comprehensive sampling from the four-volume Ukrainian–Latin–English Encyclopedic Dictionary<sup>3</sup>, as well as from scientific articles on rehabilitation published over the past two years in the medical journal Neonatology, Surgery and Perinatal Medicine<sup>4</sup>. Special attention was given to those verbal nouns that include a postpositive Latin suffix –

– io, -tio, -sio – which form a large class of abstract nouns with procedural or action-related nuances. The study employed standard linguistic methods typical of research of this kind. The descriptive method facilitated the inventory and structural analysis of the lexical items under investigation, while the etymological method was used to trace the origins of the selected terminological units.

**Results.** Among the frequently used deverbal *nomina actionis* in scientific publications are *readaptatio*, *redintegratio*, *recuperatio*, *regeneratio*, *reparatio*, *restitutio*, and the participial *nomina actionis rehabilitatio*. These terminological units were thoroughly examined in our article<sup>5</sup>. To avoid repetition, we will focus only on a few points here. First, in all the above-listed terms – except for the suffix – tio – there is a prepositive component re-, a Latin prefix with a clearly defined semantic meaning of «restoration, repetition; back or again.» Second, we noted the presence of derivational chains within the scope of the studied terms. We propose to consider this phenomenon using one of the common terms related to rehabilitation as an example. This concerns the derivational potential of the lexeme *adaptatio* («adaptation»), which serves as the root for the derivatives *desadaptatio*

(«desadaptation»), *readaptatio* («readaptation»), and *postadaptatio* («postadaptation»).

The Latin *nomen actionis adaptatio, onis f.*, English adaptation, is a deverbal abstract noun derived from the Latin verb *adapto, avi, atum, are*, which means «to adjust» or «to adapt.» From this verb, the general scientific concept of «adaptation» is derived, widely used by specialists across various fields of knowledge, as reflected in numerous scholarly studies (Shlyonska O., 2013; Yeromenko O., 2020). In scientific discourse, the term first appeared in 1865 thanks to the German physiologist H. Aubert (1826-1892) in his work *Physiologie der Netzhaut* (1865). For example, in philosophy, adaptation is understood as the process of adjusting to external and internal environmental conditions, establishing harmony between a system and its surroundings; in biology, it refers to the inherent property of all biosystems to form and develop new biological traits in response to changes in environmental conditions; in physiology, *adaptatio physiologica* (physiological adaptation) denotes the set of physiological responses by which an organism adjusts to changes in its environment, or *adaptatio physiologica receptorum* (physiological adaptation of receptors) refers to adaptations involving changes in peripheral receptors and processes occurring within the central nervous system. Since rehabilitative medicine embraces a multidisciplinary approach to healthcare, including rehabilitation psychology, attention should be paid to terminological combinations such as psychological adaptation and social adaptation. Under the term *adaptatio psychologica* (psychological adaptation), contemporary researchers understand a system of measures aimed at developing an individual's ability to adjust to societal demands, considering its norms and values. Meanwhile, *adaptatio socialis* (social adaptation) refers to the process by which a person adjusts to a new social environment, as well as the outcomes of this process.

Based on the above, we conclude that the general scientific meaning of the term *adaptatio* – adaptation – varies depending on the environment in which adaptation occurs, which is the cause of the emergence of an adaptive need. In other words, an instance of interdisciplinary synonymy is observed. The semantic polysemy of the term complicates the definition and understanding of the concept. Effective interpretation can only be ensured by attaching additional conceptual components – mostly adjectives – to the base unit, which clarify and specify the phenomenon, for example: *adaptatio psychologica*, *adaptatio socialis*, *adaptatio professionalis*, *adaptatio psychica*, *adaptatio diuturna*, and so forth. Observations of the «adaptation» lexical family in contemporary encyclopedic dictionaries<sup>6</sup> show the inclusion of between 8 and 14 terminological

in Rehabilitation], Problemy humanitarnykh nauk: zbirnyk naukovykh prats Drohobyskoho derzhavnoho pedahohichnoho universytetu imeni Ivana Franka. Seria «Filolohiia» [Problems of the Humanities: Collected Papers of Ivan Franko Drohobych State Pedagogical University. Series «Philology»], Vol. 53, 2023, P. 18-25 [in Ukrainian].

<sup>3</sup> Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh [Ukrainian–Latin–English Medical Encyclopedic Dictionary in Four Volumes], Compilers: Petrukh L. I., Holovko I. M. Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2012, Vol. 1. 700 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2013, Vol. 2, 741 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2016, Vol. 3. 742 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2016, Vol. 4, 598 p.

<sup>4</sup> Neonatolohiia, khirurhiia ta perynatalna medytsyna [Neonatology, Surgery and Perinatal Medicine], URL: <http://neonatology.bsmu.edu.ua/gateway/clockss> [in Ukrainian].

<sup>5</sup> Synytsia V. G. Latin terms for the basic concepts of the field of rehabilitation, Modern Engineering and Innovative Technologies, Issue 31, Part 4, P. 1060-1110 [in English].

<sup>6</sup> Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh... op.cit., vol. 1, p. 61; 1, vol. 1, p. 34.

compounds. However, most well-known dictionaries<sup>7</sup> codify only the base word. In our view, the list of possible terminological compounds is not exhaustive, especially concerning the use of this term in the specialized discourse of rehabilitation professionals. This indicates the necessity of compiling a separate narrow-field encyclopedic dictionary with the obligatory inclusion of etymological analysis.

The term *desadaptatio, onis f.*, English *desadaptation* – is an antonym of the core term *adaptatio*. Together, they form a binary opposition, polar in meaning and mutually contrasting. Today, *desadaptation* is understood as a process or state in which a person experiences difficulties interacting with their social environment due to an inability to adapt to its demands and expectations. As noted by Volnova L.M.<sup>8</sup>, the concept of «desadaptation» in its broadest sense can be viewed as a disruption (deviation) of the organism's adjustment process to new living conditions. Componential analysis reveals three Latin-derived elements in the term: the prefix *de-/des(o)-*, which originally means «removal, negation» and when forming terms indicates the negation or alteration of the concept expressed by the following root + the root *adaptat-* + the suffix *-io*.

In the general medical dictionary<sup>9</sup> *readaptatio, onis f.*, *readaptation* – is defined as: 1) repeated adaptation; 2) in psychiatry: the adjustment of patients to daily life and work at a new level; 3) the restoration of lost or weakened functions of the human body in new living conditions. The term *readaptatio* is used by specialists in rehabilitation when referring to the need for an individual to «combat» the psychotraumatic effects of various stressful situations, resulting in the person's renewed adaptation to normal life following extreme experiences (Voshkolup H.Yu., 2022). As with *adaptatio*, distinctions are made among psychological (*readaptatio psychologia*), social (*readaptatio socialis*), and professional *readaptatio professionalis*). The model of the term's formation is traditional: prefix *re-* + root *adaptat-* + suffix *-io*.

It is pertinent to note that the derivational family based on the root term *adaptatio* is not limited to the lexical units discussed above. This group also includes terms such as *coadaptatio, onis f.* (English: *coadaptation*) – referring to the mutually coordinated adaptation between two interdependent organs or organisms, commonly used

as a biological term in scientific discourse; *praeadaptatio, onis f.* (English: *preadaptation*) – describing the emergence in animals and plants of traits that initially had no adaptive significance but may become beneficial under changing environmental conditions<sup>10</sup> and *postadaptatio, onis f.* (English: *postadaptation*) – the process occurring after an individual has undergone the primary stage of adaptation to new conditions. In the context of contemporary shifts in social, economic, and cultural environments, the term *postadaptation* is gaining increasing importance.

An interesting derivational pair, in our view, is the terms *rehabilitatio, onis f.* (English: *rehabilitation*) and *telerehabilitatio, onis f.* (English: *telerehabilitation*). We do not include the term *abilitatio, onis f.* (English: *abilitation*) in this group, as a clear difference in meaning between these terms can be observed. According to the Law of Ukraine<sup>11</sup>, *abilitatio* is defined as «a set of measures that help a person with congenital and/or early-onset limitations in daily functioning to achieve an optimal level of functioning within their environment,» whereas *rehabilitatio* refers to «a set of measures required by a person who is experiencing or may experience limitations in daily functioning due to health conditions or aging in interaction with their environment.»

The term *telerehabilitatio*, referring to the medical science field focused on the development of technologies for remote management and monitoring of the rehabilitation process, has only recently entered scientific discourse. This can be attributed, on one hand, to the rapid advancement of modern technologies, and on the other, to the emerging possibility of integrating remote service delivery into rehabilitation systems<sup>12</sup>. Etymologically, *telerehabilitatio* belongs to «hybrid» formations, as its first component derives from the Greek term *τῆλε* (*tēle*), meaning «far» or «at a distance,» which in compound words indicates remoteness or remote control<sup>13</sup>, while the following two components are of Latin origin. It is worth noting that dictionary<sup>14</sup> also records other composite terms related to telemedicine components: *telemedicina*, *ae f.* and *teletherapia*, *ae f.*; *tediagnosis*, *is f.*; *teleelectrocardiographia*, *ae f.* and *teleelectrocardiographium*, *i n.*; *telecardiogramma*, *atis n.*; *telecardiographia*, *ae f.*; *telemetria*, *ae f.*; *telepneumographia*, *ae f.* None of these terms belongs to

<sup>7</sup> Arnaudov D. Terminologia medica polyglotta. Latinum–Russkij–English–Français–Deutsch, Sofia, Bulgaria, Medicina et physcultura, 1979, 943 p., Rudzitis K. Terminologia medica in duobus voluminibus, Riga, Liesma, 1973, Vol. 1, 1039 p. Riga, Liesma, 1977, Vol. 2, 866 p. [in Ukrainian].

<sup>8</sup> Volnova L. M. Poperedzhennia psykhologichnoi dezadaptatsii poranenykh u systemi sotsialno-psykhologichnoi reabilitatsii viiskovosluzhbovtiv [Prevention of Psychological Maladaptation of the Wounded in the System of Social and Psychological Rehabilitation of Military Personnel], Aktualni problemy psykhologii: zbirnyk naukovykh prats Instytutu psykhologii imeni H. S. Kostiuka NAPN Ukrainy [Current Issues in Psychology: Collected Papers of the H. S. Kostiuk Institute of Psychology of the National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine], 2017, Vol. XI, Psychology of Personality, Psychological Assistance to Personality, Issue 15, P. 76-84 [in Ukrainian].

<sup>9</sup> Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh... op.cit., vol. 4, p. 372. Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh [Ukrainian–Latin–English Medical Encyclopedic Dictionary in Four Volumes], Compilers: Petrukh L. I., Holovko I. M. Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2012, Vol. 1, 700 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2013, Vol. 2, 741 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2016, Vol. 3, 742 p.; Kyiv: Medytsyna, 2016, Vol. 4, P. 372 [in Ukrainian].

<sup>10</sup> Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh... op.cit., vol. 3, p. 277 [in Ukrainian].

<sup>11</sup> Zakon Ukrainy «Pro reabilitatsiiu u sferi okhorony zdorovia» [Law of Ukraine «On Rehabilitation in the Field of Health Care»], Document N. 1053-IX, current version, URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1053-20#Text> [in Ukrainian].

<sup>12</sup> Neonatolohiia, khirurgiia ta perynatalna medytsyna [Neonatology, Surgery and Perinatal Medicine], vol. 14, N 4 (54), 2024, pp. 83-190, URL: <http://neonatology.bsmu.edu.ua/gateway/clockss> [in Ukrainian].

<sup>13</sup> Anhlo-ukrainskyi iliustrovanyi medychnyi slovnyk Dorlanda u dvokh tomakh [Dorland's English-Ukrainian Illustrated Medical Dictionary in Two Volumes], Lviv: Nautilus, 2002, 2003, Vol. 1-2, 2688 p. [in Ukrainian].

<sup>14</sup> Ukrainsko-latynsko-anhliiskyi medychnyi entsyklopedychnyi slovnyk u chotyrok tomakh... op.cit., vol. 4, p. 34.

*nomina actionis*; therefore, their structure is beyond the scope of this article.

*Nomina actionis* occupy a prominent place in modern Latin medical terminology due to the

remarkable productivity of the suffixes -io, -tio, and -sio. Our quantitative analysis of terms formed through suffixation, based on source<sup>15</sup>, confirms this assertion (see Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Productivity of Latin suffixes in the medical terminological system

**Conclusions.** The derivational potential of the deverbal noun *adaptatio* is enabled through the use of Latin prefixes such as re- (indicating restoration or repetition), des- (indicating removal or absence), prae- (denoting a preceding action or phenomenon), post- (indicating an action or event occurring after something), and co- (signifying a joint action performed together with someone or something). No formations with Greek prefixes were identified. The general scientific meaning of the term *adaptatio* varies depending on its use within specific academic fields, while retaining its original sense, derived from the verb *adaptare* – «to adjust» or «to adapt» – a meaning documented by the Roman scholar and encyclopedist Gaius Suetonius Tranquillus (75-160 AD)<sup>16</sup>. The lexeme *adaptatio* is not recorded in Vallauri's dictionary, suggesting that this derivative appeared in Late Latin. Within the rehabilitation terminological system, a substantial number of general medical *nomina actionis* are in use, which acquire specialized, narrow meanings through the addition of specific qualifying components to the base noun. Further comprehensive analysis of the structural, etymological, and lexico-semantic features of Latin suffixal terms in rehabilitation will contribute to a deeper understanding and clearer delineation of specialized professional concepts within the field of rehabilitation.

**Синиця Валентина** – кандидат філологічних наук, доцент кафедри іноземних мов Буковинського державного медичного університету, автор міжнародних та вітчизняних наукових статей, тез, доповідей, співавтор національних підручників з латинської мови для студентів вищих медичних і фармацевтичних навчальних закладів. Коло наукових інтересів: дослідження лексико-семантичних та дериваційних процесів у латинській медичній терміносистемі.

**Synytsia Valentyna** – Candidate of Philological Sciences, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages Department of Bukovinian State Medical University, author of international and national scientific articles, theses and reports, coauthor of national textbooks on Latin for the students of higher medical and pharmaceutical institutions. Focus of scientific interest: investigation of lexical-semantic and derivative processes in Latin medical terminology.

**Беляєва Олена** – кандидат педагогічних наук, доцент, завідувачка кафедри іноземних мов з латинською мовою та медичною термінологією, Полтавський державний медичний університет. Коло наукових інтересів: лінгводидактика, методика навчання латинської та іноземної мови за професійним спрямуванням, термінознавство, тестологія, професійна педагогіка, лінгвокультурологія, античні мотиви у французькій драматургії першої половини XX століття.

**Bieliaieva Olena** – Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, Associate Professor, Head of the Department of Foreign Languages with Latin and Medical Terminology, Poltava State Medical University. Focus of research interest: linguodidactics, methods of teaching Latin and foreign languages for professional purposes, terminology studies, testology, professional pedagogy, linguoculturology, ancient motifs in French drama of the first half of the 20th century

**Лисанець Юлія** – кандидат філологічних наук, доцент кафедри іноземних мов з латинською мовою та медичною термінологією, Полтавський державний медичний університет. Коло наукових інтересів: світова література, гендерні студії, медичний дискурс, нараторологія.

**Lysanets Yuliia** – Candidate of Philological Sciences, Associate Professor, Associate Professor of the Department of Foreign Languages with Latin and Medical Terminology of Poltava State Medical University. Focus of research interest: world literature, academic writing, medical discourse, narratology.

**Мироник Олена** – кандидат медичних наук, доцент кафедри інфекційних хвороб та епідеміології Буковинського державного медичного університету, автор наукових та методичних статей. Коло інтересів: гепатологія, медична термінологія.

**Myronyk Olena** – candidate of Medical Sciences, Associate professor of Bukovinian State Medical University at the Department of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology, author of scientific and methodological articles. Research interests: hepatology, medical terminology.

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<sup>15</sup> Rudzitis K. Terminologia medica in duobus voluminibus. Riga, Liesma, 1973, Vol. 1, 1039 p.; Riga, Liesma, 1977, Vol. 2, 866 p. [in Ukrainian].

<sup>16</sup> Vallauri T., Durando C. Dizionario Italiano–Latino, Latino–Italiano, Libreria, 2000, P. 13.