

**MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY USAGE IN ENGLISH
AND ROMANIAN BOOKS**

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Disease is a term referred to the situation in which an organism does not function normally or is facing certain health problems. It is known that there are two types of diseases: non-communicable diseases (not transmitted from human to human) and communicable diseases.

The communicable diseases are those diseases that spread from one person to another by an infectious agent, such as viruses, bacteria, fungi or parasites. People can get infected with these communicable diseases by several means: either by breathing the contaminated air, and this occurs when a person either coughed or sneezed and did not cover his or her mouth; or by direct contact with an infected person, and this takes place for example when you shake person's hands, or when you kiss him or her or even from the pregnant mother to the babies. There are also indirect ways a person can become infected.

For example, due to the fact that an infected person has touched previously a certain surface like door handle, another healthy person who touches them later can easily become infected.

To the indirect type can also be attributed the way of infection by touching the infected blood for example, or by consuming infected foods or water. Also the bites of an infected insect or animal can spread certain transmissible diseases. The term communicable disease is also called infectious diseases and transmissible diseases; in our thesis we will use all types of pronunciation to avoid in some measure excessive repetition of one and the same term. The most used term in this regard is "infectious disease", and as far as anyone knows, it came from Old French "infeccion" that means "contamination, poisoning" in the 13th century. It came directly from Late Latin "infectionem" meaning "infection, contagion," and it is a noun of action from past participle stem of Latin "inficere" "to spoil, to stain". Meaning "communication of disease by agency of air or water" (distinguished from contagion, which is body-to-body communication), is from 1540s.

It is estimated that infectious diseases constitute the leading cause of death at global level. A prime example is the recent outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). Transmissible diseases can often be seen as a weapon in a white war, as they do not account for the social class of which anyone is a part, neither for their origin nor race. They attack in silence and are most often lethal. In order to prevent these drastic consequences or at least to keep under control the already widespread infections, everyone must have access to information, documents or sources where protection measures are indicated. Of course, access to them is not enough. For this information to be useful, it must be understood, and in order to be understood, everyone must have at least a minimum knowledge of medical terminology in the field of infectious diseases. That is why in this chapter we intend to carry out a study of the terminological aspects related to the field of infectious diseases. We will also analyze and characterize the particularities of medical terminology in the field of communicable diseases in English and Romanian. An appropriate source of terms for our research was the specialized book “*Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine (14th edition), volume 1*” edited by: A Fauci, E Braunwald, K Isselbacher, J Wilson, J Martin, D Kasper, S Hauser, D Longo translated into Romanian “*Tratat Harrison – Principiile medicinei interne ediția a XIV-a,*” In all there are 20 editions of this medical textbook. The first edition was published in 1950 by Tinsley Harrison itself. Generally Harrison edited the first 5 editions of the textbook *Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine*, and these in turn made him famous throughout the world. His books have been then translated into 14 languages. Tinsley Randolph Harrison was born March 18, 1900, in Talladega, Alabama, in a family of doctors. Because he was very smart, he skipped three grades and finished the high school at 15 years. He studied medicine at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

After that, he became a professor of medicine, and while teaching medicine at Vanderbilt, he worked on developing techniques in patient care. He has earned a lot of academic honors as he publishes his researches in various prestigious journals. Besides being a teacher of medicine and dean, he also was a president of the American Society of

Clinical Investigation and the American Heart Association, and from this organization, Harrison received the Gold Heart Award. But it didn't stop there; Harrison also received the Kober Medal in 1967 from the Association of American Physicians and Mastership Award in 1964 and the Distinguished Teacher Award in 1970 from the American College of Physicians. Dr. Harrison authored or co-authored three books: *Failure of the Circulation*, *Principles of Internal Medicine*, and *Principles and Problems of Ischemic Heart Disease*, being a specialist in the fields of activity such as cardiology and pathophysiology of diseases.

The Tinsley Harrison Research Tower, the Tinsley Harrison Medicine Service, the Tinsley Harrison Internal Medicine Residency Program, and the Tinsley R. Harrison Endowed Chair in Medical Resident Education are all named in his honor. Following the interesting and progressive line of Dr. Harrison life, but also the success of his books, we chose as the main source for our research the book "*Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine (14th edition), volume I*".

This book deserves to receive the attention of everyone, both specialists and non-specialists, since at the execution of this exceptional volume, over 100 experts in the field of infectious diseases have contributed. These experts include: Dennis L. Kasper, who conducted several researches in infectious diseases as well as in immunology, microbiology and others; Lawrence C. Madoff who is a specialist in infectious disease field; Stephen E. Straus – an American physician, as well as an immunologist and virologist; Lee M. Wetzler – professor of microbiology and medicine; Daniel M. Musher – Professor of Molecular Virology and Microbiology; and many others.

In this book one can find informative materials from different branches of medicine. But our attention has only fallen to the seventh part which refers to infectious diseases. The seventh part of the book under the name of "infectious diseases" contains detailed information about different diseases, such as common diseases (*e.g. Meningococcal Infections, Gonococcal Infections, Pneumococcal Infections, etc.*) and rare diseases (*e.g. Rat-bite fever, Scarlet fever, Acanthamoeba keratitis, etc.*), but also about their diagnosis (*e.g. differential*

diagnosis, non-invasive diagnosis, definitive diagnosis, etc.) and treatment and prevention. The book is divided into sections, each approaching different topics as the inflammatory response, infections in individual organ systems, and infections generated by different kinds of agents: bacteria, viruses, prions, fungi, and protozoa and helminthes.

All the chapters have the same format, with highlighted headings describing different diagnoses and treatments, but also tables in which different diseases and their symptoms are found. At the end of the book there are different tests that include around 100 questions suitable for those who want to check their knowledge in the field.

Being so thorough in describing diseases, we realized that this book will serve us as an appropriate source in our research based on medical terminology in the field of communicable diseases from English into Romanian. Since medicine is an international industry, there are a lot of specialists and experts from all over the world. Hence, the documents, science books on medicine, research papers in the field, records and other acts used in the domain of medicine must be translated into as many languages, as qualitative and as precise as possible.

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