

Caduceus

A PUBLICATION OF THE MEDICAL DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2011

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Administrator

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Summer 2011



Caduceus is a bi-annual publication of the Medical Division of the American Translators Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the recognition of translating and interpreting as professions.

Co-Editors

Suzanne Couture

Donna Furlani

dlfulani@gmail.com

Proofreaders

Patricia Thickstun

Graphic Design

Deborah A. Sales

Please mail all correspondence and contributions to:
caduceusnewsletter@gmail.com

DIVISION COUNTS

Letter from the Editor

Interpreting Bad News: What Interpreters Might Learn From Medical Training and Research

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**BILINGUAL
DOCTOR HOUSE**

**Letter from the
Administrator**

Instructions to Authors

Submissions for publications must be sent electronically in Word format. The deadline for submissions for the Fall/Winter issue of *Caduceus* is **1 October, 2011**.

Caduceus carefully reviews its content in order to eliminate any textual errors. Nevertheless, we apologize for any errors in grammar, punctuation, typography and the like which may inadvertently appear on our pages.

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by Patricia Thickstun



Each season brings changes, and you will see some significant changes in this edition of **Caduceus**. Suzanne Couture, our Interim Editor for the past year, has handed over the reins to a new Editor. Many highly qualified candidates responded to the call for a new editor last year, and, after an extensive review process, Donna Furlani was selected. Donna is ATA-certified for French into English translation and has taught both Spanish and French. Please join us in

welcoming Donna and congratulating her on her first issue!

There will also be changes in the Medical Division. After serving as the Assistant Administrator since 2009, Suzanne Couture will be stepping down at the end of her term this year. Suzanne brought fresh ideas and energy to the Division, conducting a Yahoo! poll on the MD listserv prior to the 2010 ATA Annual Conference, doing a fantastic job as the Interim Editor of **Caduceus**, and managing the MD website. After serving as the Assistant Administrator 2008 - 2009 and then Administrator since 2010, I will be completing my service to the Medical Division this year, but will continue serving ATA in another capacity. Last year the ATA Board approved a new governing policy for Division Leadership that involves establishing a Leadership Council to support the Administrator and Assistant Administrator. I will be serving on the Council for the Science and Technology Division.

2011 is an election year for the Medical Division. Election results for Administrator and Assistant Administrator will be announced at the Medical Division's annual meeting during ATA's 52nd Annual Conference (October 26-29, 2011 in Boston, Massachusetts).

The presenters for the 2011 ATA Annual Conference in Boston have been selected and we will be previewing preconference seminars and conference sessions of interest to medical translators and interpreters in the Fall edition of **Caduceus**.

Enjoy your Summer edition!

Patricia Thickstun is a medical/technical translator and interpreter based in Central Texas. A member of ATA since 1985, she is ATA-certified for French>English translation. Her professional background is in public health, having served the Texas Department of Health as an epidemiologist and as Director of the Office of Language Services. She has also served as Vice-President for Communication and President of the Austin Area Translators and Interpreters.



by Suzanne Couture & Donna Furlani

Dear Colleagues,

These are exciting times – in the coming issues, watch as our newsletter hatches and takes flight! We're going to be transitioning to an online format that will replace our current PDF format. There is a dizzying array of mobile devices available to us today, but large PDF files are cumbersome for reading on the go. Let's face it – sometimes that train ride is the best chance we get for catching up on our reading. A more portable version of **Caduceus** means one fewer task tethering us to our home offices!

Most changes come with some drawbacks, of course. We intend to streamline **Caduceus** and will be doing away with almost all of the images, including the familiar graphics of the cover page. The idea is to aim for a no-frills design that lends itself well to being read on a smartphone. (For fellow language geeks who are also computer geeks: the page will be written in XHTML MP.) We'll be sending out a survey after a couple of issues to find out what devices members are using to access the online newsletter and if the trade-off is worth it. If enough people miss the frills, we'll go back to the drawing-board.

Now for the good news! It will be easier to navigate the newsletter, since readers will be able to simply click on the article title in the Table of Contents to access the full article (no more articles continued on a back page somewhere). Any websites referenced in the text will be hyperlinked. Most significantly, you won't have to download a sizeable PDF file, so you can read **Caduceus** on more than just your home computer. Those of you who like to take a break from staring at a monitor will still be able to print out a hard copy. Finally, updating our newsletter improves our division's image. It's time to embrace the present and future and learn to fly.

So, what can *you* do to help with the transition? Send us an article! The format means nothing without the content, so the sooner we get your submissions, the sooner you'll get the next edition of **Caduceus**, in its new and improved format. Send all correspondence and submissions to caduceusnewsletter@gmail.com.

Best,

Your friendly Caduceus Editorial Staff



It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird:
it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg.

C.S. Lewis

... an unorthodox resource for medical interpreters?

by Yuliya Baldwin
reviewed by Lydia Razran

In the ocean of infinite American TV series, House (Доктор Хаус), created by David Shore, stands out as an intriguing medical drama, captivating its viewers' attention with the unorthodox, impertinent, controversial doctor who trusts, respects, and listens to no one. At the crossroads of his eccentricity and the diagnostic mysteries is always a human life subjected to an unpredictable medical experiment. Yet, for the most part, Gregory House emerges victorious, proving himself a brilliant diagnostician with a fair share of luck.

The drama has been highly successful in the U.S. – it has been honored with Golden Globe (Золотой Глобус) and Emmy (Эмми) awards, to name a few – and is well-liked in many countries around the world. Since 2004, Доктор Хаус has been keeping thousands of Russians glued to голубой экран (blue screen) night after night. It was quite funny for me to hear Hugh Laurie speak Russian with the voice of Kirill Radzig (Кирилл Радциг), though: in Russia voice-over production (закадровый перевод) is preferred over subtitles (субтитры) when dubbing films.



In addition to the egomaniac moody main character with despicable bedside manners, the audience is mesmerized by the plethora of diseases, many of which the mainstream public has never heard of, encountered by Dr. House and his knowledgeable team. Citing Grace Wong from CNN, “there are an estimated 6,000 rare diseases, which are generally defined as those that affect a small number of people compared to the general population.” We certainly learn about a few of them while following the unconventional доктор Хаус even though the knowledgeable critics of the series argue that medical mistakes (медицинские ошибки) both in disease presentation (клинические проявления) and diagnosis are too frequent (i.e., bacterial vaginosis in the mouth – бактериальный вагиноз во рту!).

Here I would like to provide several examples of some maladies investigated by Грегори Хаус as given at House/Medical Research and their translations taken from the Russian version of the series:

English Term	Russian Term
acute intermittent porphyria (AIP)	острая интермиттирующая порфирия (ОИП)
amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/Lou Gehrig's disease	боковой амиотрофический склероз (БАС, болезнь Лу Герига, болезнь Шарко)
antiphospholipid syndrome	антифосфолипидный синдром
aplastic anemia	апластическая анемия
bezoar	безоар, безоаровый камень (конкремент из плотно сваленных волос или волокон в желудке или кишечнике)
blastomycosis	бластомикоз (хроническое заболевание кожи и внутренних органов, вызываемое дрожжевым микроскопическим грибом)
bulbar paralysis	бульбарный паралич (заболевание, при котором поражаются черепные нервы)
chimerism	химеризм
disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)	синдром диссеминированного внутрисосудистого свертывания крови (ДВС- синдром)

English Term	Russian Term
eastern equine encephalitis	конский энцефалит
eosinophilic pneumonia	эозинофильная пневмония (<i>увеличение содержания эозинофилов в крови</i>)
hemochromatosis	гемохроматоз (<i>пигментный цирроз печени, бронзовый диабет</i>)
Huntington's disease	болезнь Хантингтона (<i>генетическое заболевание нервной системы</i>)
hyperammonemia	гипераммониемия
interstitial lung fibrosis	интерстициальный фиброз лёгких
Legionnaire's disease	легионеллёз/болезнь легионеров (<i>бактериальная инфекция, протекающая в виде тяжёлой пневмонии с выраженной интоксикацией, а также с поражениями ЦНС и почек</i>)
listeriosis	листериоз (<i>редкое заболевание, вызываемое микробами, которые могут находиться в некоторых пищевых продуктах, в почве и в экскрементах животных</i>)
lupus	волчанка
ornithine transcarbamylase deficiency (OTD)	гипераммониемия II типа/ орнитинтранскарбамилазная недостаточность
paraneoplastic syndrome	паранеопластический синдром (<i>одно из проявлений злокачественной опухоли</i>)
pleural effusion	плевральный выпот (<i>накопление жидкости в плевральной полости</i>)
psittacosis	орнитоз/пситтакоз (<i>острое инфекционное заболевание человека и птиц, возникающее у человека при заражении от попугаев</i>)
pulmonary fibrosis	фиброз лёгких/лёгочный фиброз
pure red cell aplasia	эритроцитарная аплазия
purpura	пурпура (<i>мелкопятнистые капиллярные кровоизлияния</i>)
rhabdomyolysis	рабдомиолиз (<i>некроз мышц</i>)
sodoku	содоку (<i>болезнь от укуса крыс</i>)
syringomyelia	сирингомиелия (<i>образование полостей в спинном мозге</i>)
thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP)	тромбоцитопеническая тромбогемолитическая пурпура (ТТП)
Wegener's granulomatosis	гранулематозно-некротизирующий системный васкулит/ гранулематоз Вегенера (<i>аутоиммунное гранулематозное воспаление стенок сосудов</i>)

Russian admirers of *House* have even identified a hitherto unknown but highly contagious disease – **хаусомания** (House mania). However, the true evidence of the vast popularity the series has acquired in Russia are multiple quotes from «Доктор Хаус» that have become proverbial among Russians and have given birth to the neologism **хаусизмы** (houseisms). Perhaps this has something to do with the fact that some of them are a propos of Russian life and culture:

Russian Term	English Term
Что это? Ладонь. Применяется довольно часто. Можно дать пощечину или взятку и много чего еще сделать. А сейчас она ждет свои 50 баксов и сеанс унижения.	What is this? It is a palm. It can be used relatively frequently. It can deliver a slap in the face or a bribe, and a lot more to do. Now it's waiting for your fifty bucks and a session of humiliation.
Обожаю запах гноя по утрам. Пахнет победой.	I love the smell of pus in the morning. Smells like victory.
Приготовьтесь к осложнениям.	Prepare for complications.
Все лгут.	Everybody lies.
Если ему станет лучше, прав я. Если он умрет – права ты	If he gets better, I am right. If he dies, you are right.
Расслабься, у меня есть чем тебя порадовать.... на нас подали в суд.	Relax, I have just the thing to cheer you up ... we are being sued.
Это может быть волчанка.	It could be lupus.
Он не нарушает правила, он их игнорирует.	He doesn't violate the rules, he ignores them.

The last **хаусизм** is undoubtedly the one most beloved and routinely used by Russians, as they find many situations to apply it to.

The episodes of *House* are only loosely connected and could be watched at your leisure without any prior plot knowledge. Personally, I think that **Доктор Хаус** could be a fun and painless way for interpreters to gain new medical vocabulary and learn the proper pronunciation of various medical terms.

You can find free episodes of *Dr. House* in Russian at <http://video.yandex.ru/> (type **доктор хаус** in the search window) as well as full episodes in English at <http://www.fox.com/house/>.



Yuliya Baldwin is a constant contributor and member of the editorial board of *SlavFile*, an ATA member and a lecturer in Russian studies at UNCC.

