

---

## DIFFERENCES OF MEDICAL EUPHEMISMS IN UZBEK LANGUAGE ACCORDING TO THE SPEECH OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND AGE

---

**Gaybullayeva Nafisa Izatullayevna,**

Doctor of Philosophy in Philology (PhD)

Department of Uzbek Linguistics

**Khaydarova Nodirabegim Ahtamjonovna**

A Lecturer of the department of

Translation Studies and Language Education

Bukhara State University, Uzbekistan

---

### **Annotation:**

The article discusses the development of medical euphemisms used in the speech of doctors and patients about the development of folk customs, cultural level, aesthetic taste, ethnic norms. In addition, the article focuses on the speech of different social strata and professions, typical of the speech of a medical worker - a specialist (1); medical professionals are divided into groups such as speech-specific (2) and general (3) medical euphemisms. There is also an age-related feature in Uzbek medical euphemisms. In the sense of euphemism, the sign "childhood" is based on differential signs of age; Marked "adolescent"; Marked "middle-aged"; Marked "old age"; "Age-appropriate" neutral medical euphemisms are distinguished. Hence, in the essence of medical euphemism, the specificity of social function is a linguistic unit in which the social stratum and age characteristics are generalized.

**Key words:** euphemistic units, pragmatic situation, social situation, cultural situation, social aspect, psychological mechanism, linguistic background, speech etiquette, communicative communication, addressee, neutral medical euphemisms, definite medical euphemisms

---

### **Introduction**

It is important to approach euphemisms used in place of words that are morally and culturally inappropriate among members of society, especially medical euphemisms in physician-patient communication, from a modern linguistic point of view, exposing them to the speech of different social strata and professions. In this article, the characteristics of different medical professions and age are explained with examples. The occurrence of medical-related euphemisms at the language level was revealed, and the social stratum, age-specific nature of euphemisms in physicians' speech was revealed.

### **Literature review**

Patient-oriented medical speech is characterized by the active use of a softening language tool. The use of such units stems from one of the most basic criteria of communication - the requirement to adhere to the criterion of politeness. It is also an expression of the doctor's professional courtesy, speech etiquette, medical deontology. The study of traditional and socially adapted euphemistic units and factors of their use in speech is reflected in the works of P. Brown, S. Levinson, G. Mukhamedyanova. Typically, euphemisms are studied in three ways: social, psychological, and specific linguistic aspects. This concept was developed by A.M. Katsev. According to the scholar, in the social aspect, under the euphemism lie social, especially spiritual and religious motives. Under their influence, naming things directly by their names gives a negative

shade to the language unit. M.A. Nikitina also emphasizes the importance of three aspects in the euphemism, while commenting on ways to euphemize the speech of school students.

According to N.M. Potapova, the culture of using socially adapted euphemisms serves to form the following qualities of the person:

- 1) worldview, kindness and trust in the interlocutor;
- 2) constructive and conciliatory communication with people;
- 3) mastery of social norms, rules of speech ethics, ability to take into account the ethno-cultural, social and economic characteristics of the interlocutor;
- 4) personal-spiritual consciousness and competence in spiritual-moral solutions;
- 5) independently set goals and objectives.

According to N.M. Potapova, a person belonging to a higher social class also has higher cultural categories. The more educated and intelligent a person is, the more vividly he expresses his thoughts, the more he avoids "obscene" words by using euphemisms. But V.I. Jelvis rejects this view and writes: "The sign of high quality of speech and culture is not limited to the social class. For example, the speeches of intellectuals, as well as prominent politicians, famous scientists and artists do not always meet the requirements of society. Evidence of this can be found in their personal correspondence, statements on the pages of memoirs, works of art. The opinion of both scholars is well-founded. In both cases there is no denying that the arguments they make are related to the speech situation.

N.M. Potapova also emphasizes that the euphemism of speech belongs to the middle class more than the upper strata of society and proves her point as follows: "The demand for euphemism of speech is not strong among the upper class. As long as they are at the top of the ladder, they don't feel the need to further elevate their position. Middle-class people, on the other hand, pay more attention to the subtlety of speech in the communication process in order to further strengthen and enhance their position in society. For example, school teachers (the researcher introduces them to the middle class) use a number of euphemistic units to refer to low-achieving students.

R. Holder's dictionary of euphemisms distinguishes two thematic groups: Education and Low Intelligence. An example of the use of such euphemisms is: "The BBC had been offered the series and had turned it down because one of the pupils was academically subnormal." (The British Media Corporation has conducted several tests, and these tests have shown low levels of students.)

According to E.N. Toroptyeva, most euphemisms are interpreted in the pragmatic situation itself, and their lexical meaning is also closely related to pragmatics. The main pragmatic function of euphemisms is pomp, secondary protection, which requires the speaker not to violate internal and external prohibitions.

## Analysis

The observation of medical euphemisms in the Uzbek language revealed that they differ according to the specifics of speech of different social strata and professions. Medical euphemisms can be divided into the following groups based on their adaptation to social stratum speech:

I. Euphemistic units of speech of a medical worker-specialist.

1. *Лаззатланиш ҳиси, резина қочқиқ* - Candidiasis usually has an adverse effect on the human body, weakening sexual desire and reducing *the sense of pleasure*. It is not recommended to have sex during treatment, if it is continued, the partner should use a *rubber bag*. 2. *Репродуктив* - The genitals are also referred to as *organs of the reproductive* or reproductive system. 3. *Ҳайз кўриш, бачадон* - *As menstruation begins*, the shape of the *uterus* gradually shrinks. 4. *Ҳимояланиш механизмлари, ҳаётӣ зарур органлар, туғма мажруҳлик, эмбрионнинг нобуд бўлиши* - The first trimester of pregnancy is a particularly dangerous period. Because in the early stages of development, the embryo is deprived of *effective defense*

*mechanisms*. As a result, during the formation of *vital organs*, their diseases also form, which leads to *congenital malformation* or death of the embryo. 5. *Жинсий майлнинг сусайиши, жинсий фригидлик - Decreased sexual desire* is also observed in women. In medicine, this is called *sexual frigidity* (“Шифо-инфо”, 2016. №7, 20-б).

II. General medical euphemisms. The widespread use of such medical euphemisms by various professions indicates their neutrality in terms of specificity to a particular industry or a particular stratum. It suffices to observe the following examples as proof of our point.

1. *орқа авратлар - The backs* of some babies become red and sometimes inflamed. Minor rashes appear (“Саломатлик тақвими”, 2019.). 2. *Ҳалигидай - After the mother is engaged in such activities*, the fetus is born mentally retarded (From “ИИБ хабарлари”) 5. “*Носоғроқ*” - Everyone knows that Nargis's body is “*unhealthy*”. (“Икки карра икки – беш”, p. 179) 6. *Рухий нуқсонли - Every year, more than six thousand children with mental disabilities* are born in our society.

III. Medical euphemisms specific to the speech of medical professionals. From the euphemisms that make up this group, *гўзаллик ўзриси, юзда очилган баҳор гуллари* (the beauty thief, the spring flowers that open on the face), in the speech of cosmetologists (cosmetologists); *меҳнат дафтарча* (workbook) (abdominal euphemism) and the formation of a healthy lifestyle, appearance in the general physical fitness of the human body (fitness, shaping, aerobics), body “restorers” - in the speech of fitness coaches and masters of sports; it should be noted that such phenomena *аснорасолик комплекси, бахт гармони, кўриши қуввати, мослашувчан механизм, хасталикдан фориғ бўлиши* (infertility complex, happiness hormone, visual acuity, adaptive mechanism, recovery from illness) are used in the speech of psychologists, especially counseling psychologists. 1. *Гўзаллик ўзриси - There are other causes of big and small “beauty thieves” (spots) that appear on the face and body.* (Bekajon, 2018. №100, p. 42) 2. *Меҳнат дафтарчангиз: To beautify your body, add a few parts to your “workbook”.* (Darakchi, 2013. №64. p. 32) 3. *Юзда очилган баҳор гуллари: It is natural that the sunny days of spring make our beautiful girls a little anxious. After all, it causes the bloom of spring flowers or freckles that open on the face.* (“Shifo-info”, 2014. №11, p. 49) 4. *Норасолик комплекси: It formed a complex of infertility, which led to his alienation from the circle of peers.* (V. Sinelnikov. “Love your pain”, p. 341). 5. *Бахт гармони: More smiles do and rejoice, a hormone known as the hormone of happiness is able to work a real miracle in your body.*

The tighter the social control of the speech situation, the stronger the probability of euphemism. Conversely, in situations where speech control is weak or speech is involuntary (family members, friends), euphemisms prefer “openness” or dysphemism. They are evaluated on the basis of their euphemistic character in one condition and their other aspects in another.

## Discussion

Among the aspects of euphemism, the social aspect occupies a special place. It is possible to fully agree with the opinion that “the use of euphemisms is related to socially conditioned motives”. There are several reasons to study social conditioning in euphemisms:

- language is a means of communication, it has a social nature;
- Man and his inner world are also social: socially oriented and socially conditioned;
- The psychological mechanism of replacing language units with euphemisms is activated in the process of communication;
- The choice of euphemism stems from the state of communication.

A.R. Degtyarova and M.A. Osadchiy focus on the functional classification of euphemistic units, grouping them according to the different communicative states of the speaker and the listener.

Functional classification of the speaker position:

1. Automatic, unintelligible euphemism.
2. Targeted euphemism:
  - a) the purpose of not deviating from legal norms;
  - b) the purpose of not deviating from ethical norms.

Functional classification of the listener's position:

In terms of randomness and anticipation in the speech process:

- 1) euphemistic units formed by chance in the process of speech;
- 2) pre-prepared, speech-ready euphemistic units.

L.P. Krysin explains the social significance of euphemisms by the fact that the units of communication, in particular the choice of euphemism, often depend on social factors. In his view, the researcher should not only analyze the euphemistic unit itself, but also take into account the socio-cultural and linguistic background that gave rise to the need to apply this euphemism. The communication situation, social classes, the speaker's place and position in society, gender and age are essentially social factors.

Class and gender specificity undoubtedly influence the use of euphemisms. It cannot be said that they limit the conscious choice of units in this or that speech situation. Speech situation is a very important factor in the choice of speech units and means of expression. According to R. Lakov, the choice of adequate means of speech is not limited to class and gender specificity. Specific aspects of the speaker and listener, such as age, health, past, individual ethics, will also be a determining factor in the choice and application of the euphemism. Hence, the application of euphemisms is mainly based on 1) the social class; 2) social role; 3) social status; 4) social status; 5) factors such as sexual orientation.

Sometimes the noun units that indicate the inaccuracy of an action or weakly express a feature do not come in the usual sense, but are represented by a euphemistic unit: *эшитмайди* (about a deaf person), *сал оқсоқланади* (slightly lame) (about a lame).

The main purpose of the speaker in the application of euphemisms in social and personal relationships is to avoid discomfort or mutual conflict during the conversation, to try not to cause discomfort to the interlocutor. The use of the extended combination of retirement in the Uzbek language, *хизматлари эвазига ҳақли равишида дам олиши* which is justified by the more lenient services to retirement units, saves the negative impact and inconvenience of using the word pension (pension) in communication with the retiree. There is also a type of euphemism that is used to soften speech as well as to create a sincere relationship and eloquent expression between the speaker and the listener: *Бу либос ёшингизни улгайтириб кўрсатяпти* (This dress shows as if you were getting older). The goal of creating a warm relationship does not allow the subject of speech to use the word old. In this situation, *Илтимос, ўтириб олинг* (please sit down) and the use of the speech euphemism as a softened form of the sit unit is more socially significant.

There is another important aspect of the communicative purpose that motivates the language owner to apply euphemisms, which is that the information conveyed by the addressee is not intended for a single addressee, but for a specific category of them.

The euphemisms used in this regard, while popular in personal correspondence and formal discourse (speech), gradually spread and became popular in the language community. Such use is characteristic of mass publications, especially various advertisements. For example: *Зарарли одатларга эга шахслар*: Our organization is looking for a driver. *Individuals with bad habits*, please do not apply! This includes those who consume alcohol as well as people with harmful habits (alcoholics).

Understanding the limits of shame and obscenity, politeness and impartiality in the social relations, interactions and communication of members of society has led to the application of euphemisms to the subtleties of the contradiction of these concepts. Indeed, many euphemisms have arisen out of a sense of shame, forming a system of behavior and norms in society. Nowadays, the growing attention to the issue of



common language and culture requires new aspects of euphemism, the study of euphemisms on the basis of modern scientific approaches.

Linguist N. Ismatullaev in his dissertation showed the use of euphemisms in six functions:

- 1) instead of the name of the intimidating object;
- 2) in place of an unpleasant and annoying word;
- 3) instead of words that are considered obscene;
- 4) instead of a frightening word;
- 5) instead of masking the stated concept;
- 6) in place of an insignificant word denoting the organization and specialization.

Although medical euphemisms in the Uzbek language differ in age, they do not distinguish the age characteristics of the subject of speech. Specific age-specific traits are present in the general meaning structure of the euphemism as age-related differential semaphores. For example, *тананинг сўлиши* (the weakening of the body) is characteristic of old age; *етилиши палласи* (puberty) is characteristic of adolescence; differ on the basis of the characteristic feature of middle age. But there are medical euphemisms that are age-neutral *орқа авратлар, вази камайиши, қулоқдан қолиши* (such as back pain, weight loss, deafness) that apply equally to people of different ages. Hence, the differentiation of age-related symptoms is characteristic of medical euphemism. They are grouped based on age differential sign as follows:

1. Medical euphemisms for "childhood":

1. *Рахум – Rickets - a lack of ultraviolet light in children who do not enjoy the morning sun*. ("Сихат-саломатлик", 2018. №4. 14 p.) 2. *Катта бош касаллиги*: Rickets - during the outbreak of the disease, the child's skull bends, sometimes in severe cases, the head becomes triangular, rectangular, the forehead is bumpy, so it is also called a *major headache*. ("Сихат-саломатлик", 2018. №4, p. 14) 3. *Сут тиш куртаклари*: In particular, tetracycline has a severe effect on the formation of *fetal milk tooth buds*, resulting in the child suffering from caries. ("Саломатлик сирлари", 2018. №12, p. 12)

2. Medical euphemisms for "adolescence." 1. *Эркатой қизалоқ улгайиб, кўркам қизга айланади*: Pubertat - puberty can be observed at the age of 12-17 years. This period lasts 5-6 years, and as a result of the changes, *yesterday's girl grows up and becomes a beautiful girl*. ("Family and Society", 1997. 21.12.) 2. *Етилиши палласи, қиз бола насл қолдиришига тайёр бўла бошлайди, балоғат даври*: At this time is the *stage of maturation*, the genitals develop, the girl begins *to be ready to bear offspring*, standing, doing household chores, is also observed in their psyche and worldview. ("Сихат саломатлик", 2018. №4.) 3. *Жисмоний нуқсонли йигитлар*: The fate of *physically challenged* young men does not leave anyone indifferent, after all. ("Юракка сизмаган гаплар", 18-б.) 4. *Оралиқдаги муддат*: *It is important to remember that during adolescence, a person is not considered big or small. It is an interval term.* ["Ташхис", 2018. №1, 32-б]

3. Medical euphemisms marked "middle age".

1. *Фарзанд кутаётган аёллар, бошқоронгулик*: Nausea, weakness, dizziness are observed in *pregnant women* in the morning and evening. In the vernacular, this is called *governance*. (Shifo-info, 2018. №18, p. 27) 2. *Фарзандли бўлиши*: Childbirth is not recommended for older women. For women, the best age *to have children* is between the ages of 20-35. ("Shifo-info", 2016. №7, p. 40) 3. *Ота бўлиши*: Negative habits such as drinking, smoking, drug use also damage the characteristics of a man's fatherhood ... A man is able *to become a father* at the age of 13-14 is calculated. (Shifo-info, 2016. №7, p. 40) 4. *Бўлажак онани*: It is known that pregnancy is a serious period for a woman, which worries the *expectant mother* with its unexpected gifts. (Doctor Press, 2016. №26, p. 14). 5. *Ҳомиладорликни тўхтатиши, устидан бола кўриши, бачадон ташиқарисидаги ҳомиладорликка* – Partial or total displacement of the intrauterine device leads to

pregnancy. In this case, the *pregnancy should be terminated. Seeing a baby on top of it leads to an ectopic pregnancy.* (“Shifo-info”, 2016. №19, p. 21)

4. Medical euphemisms for "old age". 1. *Тананинг сўлиш белгиларидан* - Hair bleaching is a physiological process and is one of the *signs of fading of the body.* (“Shifo-info”, 2018. №15.7 p.) 2. *Кексалик даврига қадам қўяётганлар* - Everyone, especially those entering old age, should seek medical advice frequently in April and May, when atmospheric pressure fluctuates. (“Health”, 2018. №4, p. 14) 3. *Юзинчи бир баҳорни кутиб олди, сўнги баҳор келганини* - Saadi welcomed a hundredth spring and felt that the last spring had come. (“Health”, 2018. №4, p. 26). 4. *Қувватдан қолиш даврида* - You often get sick during periods of power outage. (“Doctor Press”, 2016. №26, p. 22)

5. “Age-appropriate” neutral medical euphemisms. 1. *Қирғинбарот юқумли касаллик* - The World Health Organization has called tuberculosis *the most deadly infectious disease* in the world and called for urgent action to combat it. (Shifo-info, 2016. №21, p. 34) 2. *Наслий тизим органлари* - The genitals are also referred to as *organs of the reproductive* or reproductive system. (“Diagnosis”, 2018. №12, p. 12) 3. *Асаб толалари қобиғи зарарланиши, ақлий қобилятнинг пасайиши, мия жароҳатланиши* - Sclerosis - damage to the *sheath of nerve fibers, decreased mental ability, brain injury.* (“Diagnosis,” 2018. №1, p. 21)

## Conclusion

In general, factors such as speech situation and condition, social class, social role, social status, sexuality, and age specificity serve to determine the social characteristics of medical euphemisms. The units highlighted may be euphemistic in some contexts and dysphemical in others. Their euphemism is evident from the linguistic ability of the language owner, the cultural level of the communicative goal, the state of speech.

## References

1. Вильданова Г.А. Гендерный аспект эвфемизации: автореф. дис. ... канд. филол. наук. – Уфа, 2001. – 22 с.; Кацев А.М. Эвфемизмы в современном английском языке (Опыт социолингвистического описания): дис. канд. филол. наук. – Л., 1997. – 190 с.;
2. Қодирова Х. Абдулла Қодирийнинг эвфемизм ва дисфемизмлардан фойдаланиш маҳорати: Филол. фанлари номзоди... дисс. – Тошкент, 2009. – 23 б.;
3. Холманова З. “Бобурнома” лексикаси тадқиқи: Филол. фанлари докт... дисс. – Тошкент, 2009. – 325 б.
4. Маджаева С.И. Эвфемизация как способ пополнения медицинской терминологии // Гуманитарные исследование, 2010. – №3 (35). – С.55-61.
5. Омонтурдиев А. Бир сўз луғати. – Термиз: Жайхун, 1996. – 45 б.
6. Тиллашайхов М., Усмонхўжаев А., Алиджанов Х. Сир сақланмайдиган касаллик: простатит // Тиббий рисола. – Тошкент: Янги аср авлоди, 2016. – 64
7. Khaydarova Nodirabegim Ahtamjonovna. (2021). Significance of Phraseological Units application in Medical Discourse of English and Uzbek Language. *Middle European Scientific Bulletin*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.47494/mesb.2021.11.471>
8. Izatullayevna, G. N. (2018). Semantic and structural variation of euphemisms. *Научные исследования*, (6 (26)).
9. Sayfullayeva R. R., Gaybullayeva N. I. Classification of the structural groups of medical euphemisms in the Uzbek language // *International Journal of Control and Automation*. – 2020. – Т. 13. – №. 1s. – С. 115.
10. Gaybullayeva N. I. (2019). Classification of thematic groups of medical euphemeralism // *European Journal of Business & Social Sciences*, ISSN: 2235-767X. – 2019. – Т. 7. – №. 05. – С. 1721.

11. Косимова Нафиса Фарходовна К исследованию асимметрии лингвистического знака // International scientific review. 2016. №14 (24).