

**A LINGUOPOETIC AND CONCEPTUAL STUDY OF THE MEDICAL
THRILLER GENRE (BASED THE ENGLISH AND UZBEK LANGUAGES)**

Guzal Babadjanova

JDPU. Faculty of Philology

guzal6445@gmail.com

Abstract

The medical thriller genre occupies a distinctive position within contemporary popular literature due to its interdisciplinary nature, combining elements of medicine, science, crime, and suspense. This article aims to investigate the linguopoetic and conceptual features of the medical thriller genre through a comparative analysis of English and Uzbek literary texts. The study focuses on the stylistic devices, narrative strategies, and conceptual frameworks that shape the genre's expressive power and emotional impact. Special attention is paid to medical terminology, metaphorical language, suspense-building techniques, and culturally specific conceptual metaphors. The research adopts a qualitative methodology based on linguistic, stylistic, and conceptual analysis of selected texts. The findings demonstrate that while English medical thrillers emphasize technical precision and fast-paced narration, Uzbek adaptations and translations tend to foreground emotional intensity and moral evaluation. The article contributes to genre studies and comparative linguistics by highlighting the interaction between language, culture, and genre-specific conventions in medical thrillers.

Keywords

medical thriller, linguopoetics, concept, genre studies, comparative linguistics, English and Uzbek languages

Introduction

In recent decades, the medical thriller genre has gained significant popularity in world literature, particularly in English-speaking countries. Authors such as Robin Cook, Tess Garretson, and Michael Crichton have established the genre as a powerful literary form that combines scientific authenticity with narrative suspense. The growing interest in this genre has also influenced non-English literary traditions, including Uzbek literature, where medical themes increasingly appear in fictional narratives and translations. From a philological perspective, the medical thriller represents a rich field for linguistic and stylistic analysis. The genre is characterized by the intensive use of medical terminology, emotionally charged vocabulary, and complex narrative structures. These features create a unique linguopoetic space in which scientific discourse interacts with artistic expression. Moreover, the genre reflects culturally shaped conceptualizations of illness, the human body, life, and death. The purpose of this article is to analyze the linguopoetic and conceptual aspects of the medical thriller genre using examples from English and Uzbek texts. The study seeks to identify common and culture-specific features that define the genre and to examine how language functions as a tool for suspense and conceptual meaning-making.

Theoretical Background of the Medical Thriller Genre.

The medical thriller is a subgenre of thriller fiction that centers on medical science, healthcare systems, and biological threats. According to genre theory, it combines features of detective fiction, science fiction, and psychological thrillers. Its defining characteristics include high narrative tension, ethical dilemmas, and the depiction of medical professionals as central characters. From a linguopoetic standpoint, the genre relies on the aesthetic organization of language to evoke fear, urgency, and curiosity. Linguopoetics studies how linguistic elements function artistically within a text. In medical thrillers, this involves the strategic use of terminology, syntactic variation, and stylistic figures to enhance dramatic effect. Conceptual analysis, on the other hand, focuses on the mental structures and cultural concepts represented in the text. Key concepts in medical thrillers include disease, risk, control, experiment, and human vulnerability. These concepts are linguistically encoded through metaphors, symbols, and narrative patterns.

Linguopoetic Features of Medical Thrillers in English

English-language medical thrillers are notable for their technical precision and dynamic narration. One of the most prominent linguopoetic features is the extensive use of medical terminology. Terms such as pathogen, autopsy, clinical trial, and epidemic are not merely informational but serve as stylistic devices that create authenticity and tension. Another important feature is the use of short, fast-paced sentences and action-driven dialogue. This syntactic structure reflects urgency and mirrors the high-stakes environment of hospitals and laboratories. For example, fragmented sentences and abrupt paragraph breaks are often employed to convey moments of crisis. Metaphorical language also plays a crucial role. Illness is frequently conceptualized as an enemy, invasion, or weapon, reinforcing the thriller aspect of the narrative. Such metaphors intensify emotional engagement and align medical processes with conflict and danger.

Linguopoetic Characteristics in Uzbek Medical Narratives

In Uzbek-language medical narratives and translations of medical thrillers, linguopoetic features display both similarities and differences. While medical terminology is preserved, it is often accompanied by explanatory or emotionally colored expressions. This reflects the didactic and moral orientation traditionally present in Uzbek literature. Uzbek texts tend to emphasize descriptive passages and internal monologues, focusing on the psychological state of characters. The language often includes evaluative adjectives and expressive syntax, which heighten emotional resonance rather than technical detail. Additionally, culturally specific metaphors are employed. Illness may be conceptualized as a test, fate, or trial, reflecting broader philosophical and ethical perspectives. These conceptual differences illustrate how genre conventions adapt to linguistic and cultural contexts.

Conceptual Analysis of Key Themes

The concept of illness occupies a central position in medical thrillers. In English texts, illness is frequently framed as a scientific problem to be solved, highlighting human control over nature. In contrast, Uzbek texts may present illness as a moral or existential challenge. Another important concept is fear. Linguistically, fear is constructed through sensory imagery, lexical repetition, and suspenseful pacing.

Both English and Uzbek texts employ these strategies; though the emotional intensity is often more explicit in Uzbek narratives. The concept of responsibility is also significant.

Medical professionals are portrayed as figures of authority whose decisions have life-or-death consequences. This concept is expressed through modal verbs, evaluative language, and ethical reflections within the narrative.

Comparative Discussion

The comparative analysis reveals that despite sharing core genre features, English and Uzbek medical thrillers differ in their linguopoetic realization. English texts prioritize scientific realism and narrative speed, while Uzbek texts emphasize emotional depth and moral interpretation. These differences can be attributed to cultural norms, literary traditions, and reader expectations. The interaction between language and genre demonstrates how medical thrillers function as a global genre with localized expressions.

Conclusion

This study has examined the linguopoetic and conceptual aspects of the medical thriller genre based on English and Uzbek language examples. The analysis shows that the genre's effectiveness lies in its ability to merge scientific discourse with artistic language, creating a powerful emotional and intellectual impact. The findings confirm that linguopoetic devices and conceptual structures are shaped by cultural and linguistic factors. Future research may expand this study by incorporating corpus-based methods or exploring translation strategies within the genre.

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