



**TRANSLATION PROCEDURES IN PATIENT
INFORMATION LEAFLETS**

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ABSTRACT

The aims of this study were to find out the types of translation procedures in Patient Information Leaflets, to describe the realization of translation procedures and to explain about the reason of certain translation procedures realized in Patient Information Leaflets. The research was conducted by using qualitative descriptive design. The data of this study was translation unit that consists of words, phrases, clauses and sentences in Patient Information Leaflets in two versions, English as the source text and Bahasa Indonesia as the target text. The data was analyzed by using the theory of Translation Procedures based on (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000) to find the types, realization and the reason of certain translation procedures were used in Patient Information Leaflets. The results of the study were; there were eight types of translation procedures in patient information leaflets namely borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, modulation, equivalent, deletion and mixing procedures, there were some realization of translation procedures in patient information leaflets, and there were seven reasons behind the realization of translation procedures.

Keywords: Translation, Translation Procedures, Patient Information Leaflets, English and Bahasa Indonesia.

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INTRODUCTION

Translation is the best way to solve the problem of communicating in any kinds of languages in the world, but translation also demands people to master at least two or more language to conduct it. Besides, there are also some factors that should be considered by the translator to produce a good translation product that are linguistic and non linguistic factors. Linguistic factors consists of words, phrases and sentences while non linguistic factors cover the cultural knowledge on both source and target language culture (Nababan:1999).

The existence of Patient Information Leaflet is very important for the patient because it provides useful information about the medicines that will be consumed by patients. It consists procedural information that instructs the reader what to do. These instructions do not only include the actions a user has to undertake, but also the conditions for an action and the consequences of an action (Bongaarts: 2009).

Nowadays, medicine can be bought over-the-counter or can be prescribed by a physician. In case the patient got it over-the-counter, without intervention of a physician so, the patient needs to decide for himself (whether it is with the help of the pharmaceutical assistant or not) which medicine is suitable. Nevertheless, many patients do not consult a pharmaceutical assistant (or buy medication at the chemists where the employees' knowledge of medication is in most cases either absent or very limited) and therefore gain no extra information about the medicine. For this reason, Patient Information Leaflets are very important especially for over-the-counter medication in order to enable the patient to weigh up the medicine's pros and cons and decide if the medicine is suitable in their situation.

Patient Information Leaflet is considered as medical instructive text. According to Maes and Schellens in Bongaarts (2009) its purpose is to support the instructive function of the text and has function in defining, teaching, warning and advising something in the form of declarative information.

According to Byrne in Peddersen and Halliday (2009) The purpose of a technical translation isto present new technical information to a new audience, not to reproduce the source text or reflect its style or language. Every text has to be suited the reader in order for the reader to use the information easily, properly and effectively. This also means that the translator has to consider other things than just translating words for example the culture, in the respect that in one country a user guide is meant to instruct and in another to explain. It could be applied in Patient Information Leaflet since the reader is (in most cases) willing to take the medicine he has been prescribed, but he does not know how to use it safely and correctly.

In translating technical text, the translator usually face some problems such as there are many technical terms from source language that do not have equivalent meaning in target language. As the researcher found in the translation of Patient Information Leaflet. There are medical terms that have no equivalent meaning in the target language. So, it does not only need translator's knowledge about source and target language but also translator skill to preserve a proper equivalence of terms used in the field is needed in order to convey a good translation.

The quality of translation product depends on the translator. It means that if the translator does not do the translation process well, the quality of the translation product will decline. Therefore the translator is also responsible for the content of the translation product. That is why to achieve good translation products the translator should have adequate knowledge about translation procedures. The following is the example of phenomenon that the researcher found in the translation of patient information leaflets :

SL : The commonly observed adverse reactions are **tachycardia** and **tremor**

TL : *Efek samping yang sering dijumpai adalah **takikardia** dan **tremor***

In the sample above the word *tachycardia* in the source language was translated into *takikardia* in the target language. The translator took the word from the source language and used it in target language with some adjustment in the spelling rules of the TL. For the lay people as the target reader it would not be understood or probably cause misunderstanding of the meaning of the source language. According to Medical dictionary *tachicardia* means the high speed of the heart frequency that reach 100 per minute (for adult people). In this case, the translator applied borrowing procedure. To provide the clearer meaning or the accuracy in translation the translator can apply other types of translation procedures. The phenomenon above showed the importance of translation procedure in translation.

The writer in this thesis actually wants to see the product of translation that is in the form of translation of Patient Information Leaflets while English as the source text (ST) and Bahasa as the target text (TT). The writer wants to find out the procedures of translation used by translator. How they are realized and why the translator used those kinds of procedures.

In this thesis, the writer would like to analyze the translation procedures found in the Patient Information Leaflets.

The following is the example of translation procedure in Patient Information Leaflet:

Example:

ST: **Therapy** should be discontinued in case **contraindication** is discovered

TT : ***Terapi** harus dihentikan saat ditemukan **kontraindikasi***

In the sample above, the translator used direct translation procedure that is borrowing. According to Vinay and Darbelnet (2000) the translator used borrowing by incorporating a source text element into

target text, by easily filling a gap in the target language and add a bit of source language colour to the target text. In this case, the translator directly carried over the lexical items from the source language (English) into target language (Bahasa). The words *therapy* and *contraindication* are translated into *terapi* and *kontraindikasi*, in this case naturalized borrowing was realized by changing the form of the words without changing the meaning of the words. It was just changing or deleting some letters, like in translating as in the sample above the translator only deleted the letter [h] and changing the letter [y] become [i]. Actually the term therapy can be translated into *pengobatan* but the translator left it untranslated. Therapy means the attempted remediation of a health problem, usually following the diagnosis. In the medical field, it is usually synonymous with treatment. In Indonesia the term *terapi* has been a common term and widely used. The translator left this term untranslated since Indonesian has already known this term and would like to maintain the technical terms of the source language.

The researcher is interested to analyze Translation Procedure in Patient Information Leaflet as first, it is the translation product which is issued by pharmaceutical company that has very important function to provide vital information about medicine for the patient especially the patient who consume the medicine for a long period. It is hoped that this research can be useful for many people. Second, the research about translation of medical or technical text is more needed nowadays as the development of technology and science so the researcher is interested to make a research in another source of data that is Patient Information Leaflet. Third, there are many problems in translation especially in translating scientific or technical text because there are many technical or scientific terms in the texts so the researcher would like to see what procedure that the translator used in translating Patient Information Leaflet (PIL).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The method of this research was descriptive qualitative research. The unit of analysis of this study was Patient Information Leaflets issued by Pharmaceutical companies which consists of 25 leaflets namely :1. Kaltofren, 2. Mefinal, 3. Amoxicillin, 4. Lansoprazole Capsule, 5. Ketokonazole, 6. Tetracycline Hcl, 7. Sanexon, 8. Systane, 9. Urotractin, 10. Retaphyl, Nonflamin, 11. Norit Tablets 12. Osteocare 13. Pregnacare, 14. Urispas 200, 15. Ossopan 800, 16. Corovit, 17. Retivit, 18. Salbuven, 19. Intidrol, 20. Sanmol, 21. Buscopan, 22. Methycobal, 23. Urdafalk, 24. Zoloral and 25. Super Tetra.

The data of this study were the translation unit which consist of words, phrases, clauses and sentences found in Patient Information Leaflets. Source of data is Patient Information Leaflets. Overall appearance of text as the data is divided into two parts, namely English text as Source Language (SL) consists of 25 pages Patient Information Leaflets, while in Bahasa as the Target Language (TL) also consists of 25 pages Patient Information Leaflets.

Technique of data collection is how the researcher collected and got the data. This research used document analysis method as suggested by Bogdan and Biklen (1982). The identified and obtained data was classified and tabulated in such way so the analysis could be done easily. The technique implemented to support document analysis method is note taking. Note taking technique was adopted because this is a library research and the source of data is bilingual text.

According to Bogdan and Biklen (1992) that qualitative research has the natural setting as the direct source of the data and the researcher is the key instrument, the instrument of this research is the researcher herself. In analyzing the data, Miles, Huberman and Saldana (2014) technique used with three concurrent flows of activities, they are: data condensation, data display, and data verification/conclusion drawing. In qualitative research, trustworthiness of the research study is important to support the argument that the researcher's findings are "worth paying attention to" (Lincoln & Guba, 1985). There are four issues of trustworthiness demand attention, namely : credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Findings

Having all the data been analyzed based on the three research problems, the findings are described as the following :

1. It was found that there were eight types of Translation Procedures used in translating patient information leaflets namely Borrowing (30,5%) , Calque (16.1%), Literal Translation (3,8%), Transposition (15,3%), Modulation (11,4%) and Equivalent (16.9%), deletion (3,4%), and mixing procedures (2,5%). There was one procedure that was proposed by Vinay and Dalbernet that was not found namely : Adaptation, but the researcher found other new procedures namely deletion and mixing procedures. Deletion was applied by omitting the parts of source language and rendered into the shorter form in Target Language. There were some translation procedures proposed by Vinay and Dalbernet that could not be applied solely, so the translator combined two or more types of procedures. It can be said as Mixing Procedures. As figured out on the data display, there were twelve process how the translation procedures were realized in translating patient information leaflets namely : Pure loanwords (10,6%) , naturalization (19,9%), structural calque (9,7%), lexical calque (6,8%), word for word translation (3,8%), obligatory transposition (4,2%), optional transposition (11%), free modulation (11%), obligatory modulation (0.4%), equivalency (16,9%), combining procedures (2,5%) and reduction (3,4%).

2. From the analysis, the researcher found that in patient information leaflets, there were some reasons of using certain translation procedures, they were : maintaining original terms of the source language, naturalness, clarity, familiarity, preserving the verbatim meaning of original language, unequivalent grammatical structure and the concept of the source text which is unknown in the target text.
3. It was found some reasons of the translator using certain translation procedures, they are : the concept of the source text is unknown, preserving the verbatim meaning, unequivalent grammatical structure, maintaining the original term of the source text, naturalism, clarity, and familiarity.

Discussions

Dealing with the research findings above, there are some points as the important ones to be discussed in this study. It is very important to match whether the result of the study are contrastive to the theories.

The discussion of the types of translation procedures are forwarded, then the researcher investigates the findings of the types of translation procedures were used in Patient Information Leaflets and the theories. Furthermore, having investigated the findings, the researcher found there was a gap between the findings and the theories.

Vinay and Darbelnet (2000) divided translation procedures into two namely Direct or Literal Translation which cover three procedures and Oblique Translation cover four procedures namely borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, modulation, equivalent and adaptation, while according to research findings from seven translation procedures by Vinay and Darbelnet only six procedures were applied. They were : Borrowing, Calque, Literal Translation, Transposition, Modulation and Equivalent. But, the reseracher found another procedures that were not found in Vinay and Darbelnet's theory. They were considered as Deletion, and Mixing Procedures. There was one procedure of Vinay and Darbelnet's theory which was not found in this research namely *adaptation*.

Adaptation is used when the type of situation referred to by the SL message does not function or unknown in TL culture. In such cases the translator must recreate a situation that can be regarded as more or less equivalent (Walinski, 2015).

According to Jarniewicz in Walinski (2015), adaptation are particularly common in translation of books and movie titles. In translating Patient Information Leaflets, the translator did not use adaptation procedures may be because Patient Information Leaflets is a kind of medical text that can be categorized as scientific text which has characteristic as truth to particular reality, has referential meaning and rare to use idiomatic expression hence the translator did not find the SL message that cannot be found in TL culture. This findings is contrast with Muslim (2016) who investigated translation procedures of Pharasal

verb in *Breaking Down Novels*. He found out that the procedure that was not applied in translating the novel is borrowing procedures since the data of his research was phrasal verbs while borrowing procedure is mostly used in words than phrases. Since the source of data of his analysis is novel which is considered as literary works which has expensive use of figurative language and idiomatic affixation so adaptation procedure should be applied by the translator.

According to the research findings there were also some data that were unable to translate by applying the seven Translation Procedures by Vinay and Darbelnet solely, hence, the researcher found some procedures to complete the translation process of Patient Information Leaflets. The procedure were deletion, note and mixing. Deletion was realized by reducing a part or some parts of the source language but without changing the meaning. It was applied to produce naturalism in translation. Note procedure was realized by adding additional information in the brackets or after the slash to provide the clearer meaning of the source language or prevent from misunderstanding of the meaning of the SL. In this study note procedure was not applied solely but it was combined with other procedures. Combining two or more procedures was realized in this research since there were some data that were not be able to translate by using only one procedure, so the translator used other procedures.

The mostly translation procedures used by translator in translating Patient Information Leaflets is borrowing procedure since there were many medical terms. It is very difficult to find out the proportional meaning of those terms in target language. So, to prevent from inaccuracy of translating the terms the translator prefer to borrow or took the word directly from the source language into target language. According to Silalahi (2009) the purpose of the translator of medical text mostly used borrowing procedure to translate medical terms is to create the universality and familiarity hence the terms that were used in one country can be understood by the user in other places. It contrast to the investigation did by Dewi (2010) who found that in translating the bilingual text in BBC Indonesian News the mostly translation procedures is Literal translation and Transposition. These translator procedures are used to keep the meaning in the TL approximately as equal as in the SL text.

According to Vinay and Darbelnet (2000) Borrowing procedures is most frequently used since new technologies entering rapidly the surrounding reality. Another reason for using borrowing is that the concept discussed in the source text is relatively unknown to the target audience. As pointed out by Vinay and Darbelnet, perhaps the most interesting aspect of using borrowings relates to creating specific stylistic effects in order to introduce the flavour of the source language (SL) culture into a translation, the translators may use the foreign terms. In such cases the translator does not want to leave the foreign element of the source text. Usually, the terms borrowed from English is associated with the modern socio-economic development. As patient Information Leaflets consist of many medical terms the translator tend to use the same format as the source language.

Based on the research findings there were twelve process of the realization of translation procedures in patient information leaflets. They were pure loanwords, naturalization, structural calque, lexical calque, word for word translation, optional transposition, obligatory transposition, free modulation, obligatory modulation, equivalency, reducting and combining two or more procedures. Based on the theory Vinay and Darbelnet there were only ten process of realizing the translation procedures in patient information leaflets namely pure loanwords, naturalization, structural calque, lexical calque, word for word translation, optional transposition, obligatory transposition, free modulation, obligatory modulation and equivalency while reduction and combining two or more procedures were not found. .

In this study there were seven reasons of using certain translation procedures in translating Patient Information Leaflets. The first is the Concept of the source text is unknown. Since the translator would like to find the equivalent or the closest equivalent procedure if the concept of the source text is unknown in the target text. It is impossible to translate it literally.

The second reason is preserving the verbatim meaning of original text. In this case literal translation was applied since the application of this procedure can keep the original message of the source language to prevent the misleading in translation. Then the third reason is unequivalent grammatical structure. It was possible since English as the source language has different grammatical structure with bahasa as the target text. Providing the naturalism in translation was also becoming the reason of the translator in using certain translation procedure. This reason was mostly found when the translation used modulation procedure where there was a change of point of view between the source text and the target text. The last three were clarity, maintaining original terms in the source language and familiarity.

The most dominant reason of using certain translation procedure was maintaining original term of the source language. Since there were many medical terms in patient information leaflets so the translator decided to use the terms of the source language and used it in the target language.

Based on the discussions above it can be concluded that this study is contrary to the theory proposed by Vinay and Darbelnet (2000).

CONCLUSIONS

From overall analysis of Translation Procedures in Patient Information Leaflets, it was concluded that :

1. Based on the data analysis that has been found in the research of Translation Procedure, there were eight translation procedures used in translating patient information leaflets namely Borrowing, Calque, Literal Translation, Transposition, Modulation, Equivalent, Deletion and mixing procedures.

2. There were twelve realization of translation procedures in patient information leaflets, namely : pure loanwords, naturalization, lexical calque, structural calque, word for word translation, obligatory transposition, optional transposition, Free modulation, obligatory modulation, equivalency, combining and reduction. The most dominant realization was naturalization since the translator took the words or expression form source language and used it in the target language with some adjustment as the spelling rules of the target language.
3. There were seven reasons of using certain translation procedures, they were : The concept of the source text is unknown, Preserving verbatim meaning of original text, Unequivalent grammatical structure, Maintaining the original terms of the source language, naturalism in translation, clarity and familiarity.

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