

《医学索引》介绍（一）（英汉对照）

第二军医大学 翁贻年译注 张紫洞审校

一、英语原文

INTRODUCTION

Index Medicus^① is the National Library of Medicine's monthly bibliography of the literature of biomedicine. The cumulated contents of the twelve monthly issues (January-December) comprise the annual *Cumulated Index Medicus*.

MATERIALS INDEXED^②

Index Medicus contains citations to the serial journal^③ literature.

In the selection of materials for indexing, the National Library of Medicine is advised by a group of distinguished physicians, medical editors, and medical librarians. The Library indexes the literature that has been judged most useful to *Index Medicus* users, but it is not possible to include every journal that might contain useful articles.

An effort is made^④ to maintain a reasonable balance of subject matter. The inclusion of a journal should not be construed as indicating that it is considered superior to one that is not indexed; the omission of a publication does not necessarily reflect on its quality.

Original journal articles are indexed, as well as^⑤ those letters, editorials, biographies, and obituaries that have substantive contents. Abstracts of articles are never indexed. In certain journals which cover fields other than biomedicine^⑥, only those articles related to biomedicine are selected for inclusion in *Index Medicus*.

Some journals that are published in a foreign language are also published in English translation, but *Index Medicus* cites only one source. This is almost invariably the original foreign language publication because it is available earlier and is the ultimate source of information concerning the author's intent. For up-to-date^⑦ information about the availability of English translation journals, particularly consultants Bureau translations of soviet journals, a medical librarian should be consulted.

Beginning^⑧ in 1971, the journal title abbreviations used in *Index Medicus* were formulated according to the rules of the *American National standard for the Abbreviation of Title of periodicals*. The Library^⑨ now follows the *International Standard ISO-4-1972: Documentation-International Code for the Abbreviation of Titles of periodicals*,² which is an adaptation of the American standard

and nearly identical to it.

For the abbreviation of any specific journal cited in *Index Medicus*, see the *List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus (LJI)* in the January issue of *Index Medicus* and in the annual cumulation. LJI is also available separately from the Government printing office (see National Library of Medicine publications, inside front cover of any monthly issue of *Index Medicus*).

A few medical journals publish several editions, intended for different countries, different groups of readers. *Index Medicus* cites only one edition, — usually the one that is most widely distributed in the United States. Although the editors of some of these journals assure that the citation for the edition that is indexed is correct for¹⁰ all other editions, there are other journals for which this is not true. For this reason, the page and issue numbers included in the *Index Medicus* citations may not be helpful to¹¹ the readers of variant editions of such journals.

THE INDEXING OPERATION¹²

Materials selected¹³ for inclusion are indexed by highly trained literature analysts. The content of each piece is described by assigning terms selected from *Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)*,¹⁴ the Library's controlled vocabulary of technical terms. *MeSH* is published as part 2 of the January *Index Medicus* and is reproduced in its entirety in *Cumulated Index Medicus*. Additional copies of *MeSH* may be purchased from the Government printing Office (see NLM publications, inside front cover of *MeSH*).

In indexing, the analyst assigns as many subject headings as are necessary to describe adequately the content of each article.

Each journal article is cited in *Index Medicus* only under those subject headings which represent the most important concepts of the article. All subject headings, including those representing more peripheral concepts, are stored in MEDLINE¹⁵ (Medline Literature Analysis and Retrieval system Online), the Library's computer-based file of citations, for use in machine retrieval.

In *Index Medicus*, citations are published only under terms appearing in *MeSH*. If the medical concept sought is not in *MeSH*, the *MeSH* equivalent must be found. For example, citations on German measles¹⁶ would appear in *Index Medicus* under its *MeSH* equivalent, RUBELLA.¹⁷

When materials are indexed for *Index Medicus*, the most specific terms available in *MeSH* are used. Thus, if an article is concerned with¹⁸ erythromycin, it would be indexed under that term, rather than the broader ANTIBIOTICS. Under the latter term, one would find only: (a) articles dealing with antibiotics generally, (b) those that deal in a very general way with a large number of named antibiotics, or (c) those that deal with specific antibiotics which have not been separately listed¹⁹ in *MeSH*.

The user who is interested in²⁰ one concept may find that the broader²¹ term is also worth examining for articles of possible interest. Although one may be interested primarily in penicillin sensitivity, report on the general subject of antibiotic sensitivity may be useful.

The user who wants information on some aspect of the use of antibiotics in pediatric practice would certainly want not only the general materials that would appear under ANTIBIOTICS, but also those concerned with specific antibiotics.

Because it is impossible to group together all terms directly or indirectly related to a particular concept, the following should be considered²² when searching this bibliography²³:

1. Direct form of the term (LUNG ABSCESS)
2. Inverted form of the term (ANEMIA, HEMOLYTIC)
3. Noun form (LIVER, KIDNEY, BRAIN)
4. Adjective form (HEPATIC COMA, CEREBRAL REVASCULARIZATION)
5. Function words which imply the concept in mind²⁴ (THINKING for BRAIN, DIGESTION for GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM)
6. Terms for techniques which imply the concept in mind (ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY for HEART)
7. Synonyms or near-synonyms²⁵ (VERTIGO for DIZZINESS)
8. Broader and narrower²⁶ terms.

The best way to find broader and narrower terms is by reference to²⁷ the "tree structures" in *MeSH*, where terms are grouped into fourteen subject categories and arranged in a hierarchical manner with specific terms indented under the more general one. For example, in subcategory D20, under ANTIBIOTICS, many types of antibiotics, such as ANTIBIOTICS, ANTINEOPLASTIC are listed. Indented under that term are several even more specific terms.

(Terms followed by an asterisk (*) may be used for machine retrieval, but never appear as subject headings in *Index Medicus*.) Thus, broader or narrower terms may be found merely by scanning these hierarchical lists.

The *Index Medicus* user generally starts with one or more medical terms in mind which express his or her own subject interest. If the user does not find a given term in the alphabetical list examination of an appropriate "tree structure" may reveal a synonym or a broader term under which the desired literature might have been indexed. When a usable term is found, examination of nearby entries in the alphabetic list may reveal related terms that are also worth searching in the *Index Medicus* Subject Section.

二、注释

① Index Medicus 简称IM, 意为医学索引。Medicus 拉丁文(医学的、医药的), us结尾表示阳性形容词, 用来修饰前面阳性名词index(索引)。

② indexed 为index 的过去分词形式, 用作形容词, 形容前面的materials(资料), 有被动的含意, 可译为被编入索引的资料。因是小标题, 所以字母都用大写。

③ serial 连续的、系列的; serial journal连续的期刊。

④ An effort is made是被动形式, 主语An effort, 谓语is加make的过去分词made, 等于常用词组make an effort 尽一番努力。

⑤ as well as 也、和、又、既…又…。

⑥ which……引起的是定语从句, 修饰前面的某些期刊, 即指某些涉及生物医学领域以外的期刊。

⑦ up-to-date 是复合形式的形容词“最新的、直到最近的”等。

⑧ begining 现在分词作状语用, 表示开始。

⑨ The Library 专用名词, 指美国国立医学图书馆, 故开头第一个字母L大写, 其前还加定冠词the。

⑩ correct for 做……校正, 做……修正。that is indexed is correct for all other editions 为定语从句修饰前面主语edition(版本)。

⑪ may not be helpful to 可能无助于, 可能对……没有用。

⑫ The indexing operation中的indexing 是现在分词作形容词用; operation操作、工作、手术。因而可直译为“编索操作”, 也可意译为“编索须知”。

⑬ selected 为动词select(选择、挑选)的过去分词, 用作形容词有被动的含意, 意为被挑选出的、精选的、被选用的。

⑭ MeSH 是Medical Subject Headings 的缩写词, Heading(标题、标目), 以前有人译为“医学主题标识”, 现在一般都译为“医学主题词表”。

⑮ MEDLINE 医学文献联机检索系统(MEDLARS on-Line)的简称, 1971年起美国国立医学图书馆将MEDLARS数据资料库的全部文献资料通过计算机同美国国内外一些生物医学中心的终端装置建立联机检索, 这样读者就能在数分钟内找到所需参考文献。

⑯ German measles 俗名风疹(德国麻疹)

⑰ Rubella 风疹

⑱ be concerned with 参与, 干预, 关系到……, 与……有关。

⑲ which……引起的为定语从句, 修饰前面抗生素。

⑳ be interested in 对……感兴趣, 关心。

㉑ broader, 是broad(宽的, 广阔的)的比较级, broader term 广义术语, 广义词。

㉒ the following 为主语, should be considered 为谓语, 可译为: 下列各点应加考虑。

㉓ when 引起的为时间状语, 当检索引文目录时。

㉔ Function words which imply the concept in mind, which……引起的定语说明前面words, 可译为“本身具有概念联系的功能词”。

㉕ synonyms 同义词, near-synonyms 近同义词。

㉖ narrower terms 狭义词, 狭义术语。

㉗ by reference to……参照……, 这里用作表语与前面is组成谓语。best way 是主语。全句可译为: 寻找广义词与狭义词的

最好方法是参照“医学主题词表”中的“树形结构”。

三、参考译文

美国《医学索引》介绍

《医学索引》是美国国立医学图书馆编辑出版的生物医学文献文选目录月刊。全年12个月（正月到十二月）的月刊累积内容汇编成册称“医学累积索引”年刊。

编入索引的资料

《医学索引》包括连续期刊的引文。

编入索引中材料的选择，美国国立医学图书馆征询了一些著名的医生、医学编辑及医学图书馆学者。因此我馆编入索引的文献均经过审定认为对《医学索引》使用者最为有用的，但不可能把所有刊载有用文章的期刊都一一包括进去。

编者力求保持题材方面的合理平衡。因而不能把一种期刊是否被编入认为比没有被编入的期刊要优秀一些；某一出版物的漏略并不反映该刊物的质量。

本索引既编入原始期刊的论文，也引用那些含有实质性内容的通讯、评论、传记及讣告。论文的文摘概不收录。某些涉及生物医学领域以外内容的期刊，则仅选其中一些有关生物医学的论文编入《医学索引》。

某些用一种外文出版并又译成英文出版的期刊，《医学索引》只引用一种来源，几乎不变的都是引用原始外文出版物，因为它能较早地被利用，并且也是能较确切地反映作者意图的最终情报源。至于一些可资利用的英文翻译的期刊，特别是美国顾问局翻译出版的苏联期刊中的最新情报，可向医学图书馆专家谘询。

1971年开始，《医学索引》所用期刊名称的缩写系按照《美国期刊名称缩写国家标准》的规定组成的，本馆现在是遵照《国际标准ISO—4—1972：文献编集—期刊名称缩写国际条例》，后者是美国标准的改编本，几乎与美国标准近似。

要了解《医学索引》内所引用的任何专门杂志的缩写，可参阅每年一月号《医学索引》或累积索引年刊中所载的“医学索引编入杂志名称表”。此名称表政府出版局亦单独地发行（参见“美国医学图书馆出版物”，刊载于每月的《医学索引》的封二部份）。

为了适应不同国家和不同读者的需要，少数医学杂志出版几种版本，《医学索引》只引用其中一种版本——通常它是在美国发行面最为广泛的版本。虽然某些杂志的编者确信选用他们版本的引文是符合所有其他版本的，但对另外一些杂志来说这并非事实。为此，《医学索引》引文中所标明的页数或期号，对此类期刊不同版本的读者，未必是有用的。

编制索引须知

选用编入的资料是经过训练有素的文献分析员编制索引的。每篇文章的内容均选用本图书馆规定的专业术语词汇表，即“医学主题词表”中所指定的术语来表达的。“医学主题词表”刊载在一月号《医学索引》第二部分，并全部再度刊登在《医学累积索引》。“医学主题词表”的复制本可以向政府印刷局购买。（参见“美国医学图书馆出版物”中医学主题词表内封面）。

编索引时，分析员按需要可能多地选用主题来充分描述每篇论文的内容。

《医学索引》内所收录的每篇杂志论文只出现在那些能表达该论文最主要概念的主题词

的项下。所有的主题词（包括那些阐明边缘概念的主题词）都贮存在“医学文献联机检索系统”（亦称医学文献分析及检索系统），这是本馆的引文的计算机数据库，以备机器检索使用。

在《医学索引》中，引文仅在“医学主题词表”的有关术语下刊出。如果要检索不属于“医学主题词表”术语中医学概念，那就得查阅“医学主题词表”的相当术语，例如有关俗名德国麻疹的引文，在“医学索引”中可能收录在“医学主题词表”风疹这一同意术语项下。

《医学索引》在收录文献资料时是采用“医学主题词表”中载有的最特定的术语。因此，一篇涉及红霉素的论文，它就必然编在红霉素项下，而不会编在较为广义的“抗生素”项下。后一术语项下只能检索到的论文为：（1）抗生素的一般论述，（2）虽指名许多抗生素，但内容论述很为一般，（3）有关某些在“医学主题词表”中尚未被单列的特定抗生素的论述。

对某一概念感兴趣的使用者，为了找到一些可能涉及这一概念的文章，检索一下较为广义的术语也是值得的。尽管某人主要对青霉素过敏感兴趣，但有关对抗生素过敏性的一般主题或许也是有用的。

想要找一些有关抗生素在儿科临床中应用方面的资料的使用者，显然不仅仅是要看在“抗生素”项下所出现的一般资料，而是还要关心特殊抗生素的文章。

由于不可能将所有直接或间接有关某一特定概念的术语都汇编收载，因而在检索本引文目录时应考虑到下列各点：

- 1、术语的直接形式（肺脓肿）
- 2、术语的倒置形式（贫血、溶血性）
- 3、名词形式（肝、肾、脑）
- 4、形容词形式（肝性昏迷、大脑的血管再形成）
- 5、本身具有概念联系的功能词（有关脑的思维、有关肠胃系统的消化）
- 6、本身具有概念联系的专业术语（心脏用的心电描记术）
- 7、同义词与近同义词（眩晕代替头晕）
- 8、广义词与狭义词。

找寻广义词与狭义词的最好方法是参照“医学主题词表”中的“树形结构”，它把“医学主题词表中”中的术语划分为十四个主题范畴，由一些特定术语围绕最常用的一个术语成锯齿形排列为等级体系。例如，在D20的款目内“抗生素”项下，可能出现许多种抗生素如“抗生素”、“抗肿瘤药”等都被列入。在该术语项下还会分枝出一些更特殊的术语。（后面有一个星符号（*）的可供机器检索用的，但不会以主题词形式在《医学索引》中出现。因此，需要检视一下这些等级体系的目录，才能找寻到广义词或狭义词。

《医学索引》使用者通常从他认为能表达他自己有关主题的一个或几个医学术语开始寻找。如果他在字母顺序目录中找不到需要的术语时，可查阅一下相应的“树形结构”就可能在那里查到一个同义词或广义词；据此可能找到需要的文献。当某一有用的术语查到后，还可以检视一下字顺目录中的邻近项目，也许会查出一些有关的术语，因此在《医学索引》主题部份再继续查找也是值得的。

注：英语原文选自美国《医学索引》1984年第9期第8~9页。