

Francisco Alonso-Almeida / Begoña Bellés-Fortuño (eds.)

# Corpus-based Studies in Specialized Discourses



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## The Translation of Deontic Modals into English of Nicolas de Blegny's *Le Remede Anglois pour la Guerison des Fievres*

### 1. Introduction

In this chapter, we study the translation of deontic modal verbs from seventeenth-century French into Modern English. Instances of modal devices have specifically been excerpted from the Nicolas de Blegny's *Le Remede Anglois pour la Guerison des Fievres* (1682a), and from a contemporary English translation, i.e. *The English Remedy or Talbor's Wonderful Secret for Cureing of Agues and Feavers* (Blegny, 1682b). The main goal of this paper is to compare the uses and functions of deontic modal verbs in these texts in order to identify possible deviations between the source text and the target text. For this, we follow previous research in the field of modality to indicate our understanding of the notion (Palmer, 2001; Collins, 2009; Alonso-Almeida, 2015; Álvarez-Gil, 2018; Alonso-Almeida & Álvarez-Gil, 2019). Our methodology of enquiry will also involve corpus linguistics methodology in order to offer a quantitative and a qualitative interpretation of deontic modals in French and their equivalents in English in the texts analysed. The identification of deontic modals in the original text requires the analysis and characterisation of all the modals in this text. The figures obtained in this analysis will be offered in the relevant section, even