Translation Task Force

WikiProject Medicine

State of Translations — 2016

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&
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Health information for everyone — in a way that is accessible to them
The digital divide

The internet was supposed to be the great equalizer

Allowing anyone with a computer or a smartphone to access the sum of available knowledge.

It isn’t there yet

Content on the web is segregated

Internet by Language
- English: 56%
- European (10): 28%
- Jap, China and Korean: 8%
- Arabic, Hindi and Bengali: 7%
- Other: 7%

World By Language
- English: 48%
- European (10): 15%
- Jap, China and Korean: 12%
- Arabic, Hindi and Bengali: 18%
- Other: 6%
Why is this important?

- Every day thousands die for lack of health care and a major factor is poor access to information
  - More than half of people from Africa said that a friend or family member could have been saved if they’d had information in their own language
  - Many believe fluids should be withheld if their child has diarrhea

- Issue: Little health care content exists in most languages
Wikipedia

Internet by Language

Wikipedia by Language

World By Language
Outbreak in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Nigeria

- The most used internet site in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea for Ebola
- Greater than CNN, CDC and World Health Organization
- Content available in 115 languages
3 or 4 paragraph summaries

Referencing every sentence

Important topics
   Essential medicines
   Diseases
   Sanitation/engineering
>300 articles prepared
Rabies is a viral disease that causes acute inflammation of the brain in humans and other warm-blooded animals.\(^{[1]}\) The time period between contacting the disease and the start of symptoms is usually one to three months; however, can be less than one week or more than one year.\(^{[1]}\) The time depending on the distance the virus must travel to reach the central nervous system.\(^{[2]}\) Early symptoms may include fever and tingling at the site of exposure.\(^{[1]}\) This is then followed by either violent movements, uncontrolled excitement, and fear of water or an inability to move parts of the body and confusion that leads to loss of consciousness.\(^{[1]}\) In both cases once symptoms appear it nearly always results in death.\(^{[1]}\)

The disease is spread to humans from another animal, commonly by a bite or scratch.\(^{[1]}\) Infected saliva that comes into contact with any mucous membrane, is also a risk.\(^{[1]}\) Globally most cases are the result of a dog bite,\(^{[1]}\) with this being the cause in more than 90% of countries in countries where dogs commonly have rabies.\(^{[3]}\) In the Americas and Australia, less than 5% of cases are from dogs, with bats being the most common cause.\(^{32}\) Rodents are very rarely infected.\(^{[3]}\) The rabies virus travels to the brain by following the peripheral nerves. The disease can also be diagnosed after the start of symptoms.\(^{[1]}\)

Animal control and vaccination programs have decreased the risk of rabies from dogs in a number of regions of the world.\(^{[1]}\) Immunizing people before they are exposed is recommended in those who are at high risk including those who work with bats or spend prolonged periods in areas of the world where the disease is common.\(^{[1]}\) In those who have been exposed to rabies, rabies vaccine and sometimes rabies immunoglobulin are effective in preventing disease if given before the start of symptoms.\(^{[1]}\) Washing bites and scratches for 15 minutes with soap and water also appears to be somewhat effective.\(^{[1]}\) Only a few people have survived a rabies infection and this was with extensive treatment.\(^{[4]}\)

Rabies causes about 26,000 deaths annually worldwide,\(^{[5]}\) more than 95% of which occur in Asia and Africa.\(^{[1]}\) It is present in more than 150 countries and more than 3 billion people live in regions of the world where it occurs.\(^{[1]}\) In most of Europe and Australia rabies is only present in bats.\(^{[6]}\) Many small island nations are entirely rabies free.\(^{[7]}\)

References

7. CDC. Rabies-Free Countries and Political Units. 2013.
Milestones

Major milestones since the project got rolling

~ 2011
James Heilman started the project together with TWB

June 2014
First full-time coordinator to do community organizing

August 2014
Meeting with Rubric after Wikimania 2014, they start donating

June 2016
1900+ articles live

2012 ... 2013 ... 2014 ... 2015 ... 2016 ... 2017 Future
Translating Content
Since last Wikimania

46 full translations (637 total)

1,002 short translations (1,337 total)

217 on vaccines

Worked in 41 languages

Burmese, Malay, Oriya, Persian, Romanian, Lithuanian
Translation efforts

Working on the leads (summaries)

Vaccine campaign

23 essential meds

Launching women’s health campaign

Now using Content Translation tool
Why Summaries (Leads)?

The lead is all readers typically need (see graph)

Manageable workload for translators

Breadth of topics can make Wiki people’s “go to” source
Good content increases Google ranking

Dec 15, 15 -> ave page position = 3.96

Jun 10, 16 -> ave page position = 3.57

Other languages:

Jun 20, 16 -> G.co.in = 2.74

Oriya 1st for all vaccines on both G.com and G.co.in

Increase in readership Jan 123 -> Feb 164 -> Apr 213 -> May 469 -> Jun 933 as of today
Partnerships

Started in 2012 with TWB
All human translators (no machine translation)

A number of translation workflows

Wordperfect documents
  Hackpad / facebook
  Content translation (new WP tool)
  On WP directly

Some languages have improved content specifically for their audience
Campaigns

Vaccines

Women’s health

Ability to list all articles ready for translation that are missing in a target language
Content Translation Tool

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SM-BOmAy2U

152 of 235 (65%) vaccine translations completed with Content Translation tool

Workflow completely within Wikipedia

Self-directed and more efficient than Translators Without Borders

Potential to nurture life-long editors
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Success Stories

Persian

Narges Rasouli, The Pasteur Institute (Iran)

Burmese

Dr. Yin Myo Aye, Bureau of Epidemiology Department of Disease Control

“This kind of project is really helpful as it motivates us to work faster. Thank you.”

Oriya

Dr. Subas Rout
Success Stories

Romanian

Irina (translator) & Cristian (Wikipedian)

Yoruba

2 translators & Issac (Wikipedian)

Greek

Mix of Content Translation and Translators Without Borders

Burmese Talk Page - Positive Dialogue
“Participating in this project changed my perspective on knowledge. In finding a balance between using precise professional terms and common words to explain a medical condition, I learned a lot. It has helped me to have better communication with my patients.”

Aaron Huang
Digital Last Mile
600 million People
Collaborators

and more…
Questions? WP:MEDT