

Dermatology and the Brazilian Portuguese language orthographic reform

Reforma ortográfica da língua portuguesa no Brasil e na dermatologia

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Abstract: The Brazilian Portuguese language orthographic reform has promoted changes in writing in less than 2% of its lexis. However, these changes have affected medical practice. The authors present in this article the main changes in the orthographic rules and gather a group of words that have had their spelling altered by this new language reform emphasizing the dermatological terms.

Keywords: Dermatology; Language; Vocabulary

Resumo: A reforma ortográfica da língua portuguesa promoveu modificações na escrita em menos de 2% das palavras do vocabulário, porém essas alterações têm-se mostrado sensíveis no cotidiano médico. Os autores apresentam as principais mudanças das regras ortográficas e reúnem um grupo de exemplos de palavras cuja grafia foi alterada pela nova reforma, enfatizando os termos dermatológicos.

Palavras-chave: Dermatologia; Linguagem; Vocabulário

Language is one of the most characteristic cultural manifestation of a group of people being itself an element of national integration. Its dynamic character is unquestionable which makes periodic reforms necessary.¹

The 2009 spelling reform of the Portuguese language or orthographic reform is in force in Brazil since January, 2010 and its final implementation is expected to be achieved up to 2012. Although controversial, it had the aim of bringing together the cultures of the eight countries that have the Portuguese language as their idiom.²

Although less than 2% of its lexicon has changed these changes have affected the routine of medical practice and, for now, they generate disagreements even among distinguished lexicographers.

There are not yet publications to guide doctors on the changes arising from the reform in relation to medical writing. Dermatology is a specialty with a

huge amount of vocabulary, full of adjectives and jargon that have also changed.

The most significant changes were in the accents of the words.

Homographic words had the differential accents abolished as in: pelo, polo, pela, pera, para. However, when the accent distinguishes verbal tenses they were kept as in: intervém/intervêm, tem/têm, vem/vêm, detém/detêm, pode/pôde, convém/convêm, mantém/mantêm. They were also kept in *pôr* and *por*.

Words spelled or written with umlaut had it abolished. Words such as unguento, arguição, frequente, subsequente, sequela, consequente, cinquenta, consanguíneo, sequência and tranquilo; have a different spelling now. Umlauts arising from names and its derivatives such as: Köbner, Schönlein, Schüller, Löfgren, Löwestein, Sjögren, Björnstad, Gökerman, Könen, Vörner, Münchhausen, Müller and mülleriano, were not altered.

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Carets were excluded from words ending in hiatus *oo*, such as: *enjoo*, *voo*, *magoo*, *perdoo* and *povoo*. Third person plural (they) had carets excluded in the present indicative and subjunctive. Their new spelling is: *creem*, *leem*, *veem* and *deem*.

The acute accent disappears in the group of verbs ending in *gue*, *gui*, *que*, *qui*, such as : *enxague*, *averigue*, *apazigue*, *argui*. Similarly, it also disappears in verbs ending in *guar*, *guer* and *guir* when pronounced with tonic *u* in the present indicative, subjunctive and imperative like: *enxaguo*, *enxaguas*, *enxagua*, *enxaguam*; *enxague*, *enxagues*, *enxágüem*. However, if pronounced with tonic *a* and *i* they keep the accent.

Paroxytones with the open diphthongs *ói* and *éi* had the accent abolished (Chart1). However, oxytones ending with the open diphthongs *éu*, *éus*, *éi*, *éis*, *ói*, *óis* keep it like in: *herói*, *chapéu*, *troféu*, *papéis*.

Paroxytone words with tonic *i* and *u*, when preceded by diphthong, cease to be marked like in: *feiu-ra*, *baiuca e Bocaiuva*. However, oxytones ending in *i* or *u* followed or not by *s*, remain marked like in *Piauí* and *tuiuiú*.

The verbs *argüir* and *redargüir* have the acute

TABLE 1: New spellings of words containing the open diphthongs *ói* and *éi*, commonly used in dermatology

androide	coroide	hioide	prurigoide
adenoide	corticoide	histoide	queloide
alcaloide	debiloide	ideia	reticuloide
amenorreia	dermoide	jiboia	retinoico
amiloide	diarreia	linfoide	retinoide
anafilactoide	diarreico	linfomatoide	reumatoide
angiolinfoide	discoide	linoleico	rupioide
assembleia	dispneia	liquenoide	sarcoide
asteroide	dispneico	livedoide	seborreia
azelaico	eczematoide	lupoide	seborreico
azoico	epiloia	marfanoide	sequóia
Basileia	epitelioide	mastoide	tablóide
benzoico	erisipeloide	mongoloide	tapiroide
benzoila	esfenoide	moreia	tifóide
bóia	esteroide	morfeia	tióis
bowenoide	etmoide	mucoide	tipóia
Cananeia	européia	nevoide	tiroide
cancroide	formaldeido	nucleico	toxoide
carcinoide	fungoide	onicoide	tramóia
caucasoide	furunculoide	opioide	traqueia
caviuna	geleia	panaceia	tuberculoide
cefaleia	ginecoide	paraminobenzoico	uréia
cocoide	gonorreia	paranoia	valproico
colmeia	hemorroida	penfigoide	xifoide
coloide	heroico	pinoia	
condroide	hidrocoloide	plateia	
cornoide	hidroxiureia	proteico	

accent abolished for the second and third person singular and third person plural in the present indicative such as in: *arguis*, *argui*, *arguem*.

Hyphenation has never been an easy issue and it became the most controversial topic of the reform. The hyphen is used before words beginning in *b* with the prefixes *anti*, *macro*, *mini*, *proto*, *auto*, *sobre*, *super*, *ultra* (Chart 2 – line a).

On the other hand, when the prefix ends with a vowel different from the vowel that begins the second word, the hyphen is not used (Chart 2 – line b). Likewise, do not take hyphen words which have the prefix ending in vowel and the first letter of the second element beginning with consonant different from *r* and *s* (Chart 2 – line c).

Do not take hyphen, and double the letters, words which have the prefix ending in vowel and the second element begins with *r* and *s* (Chart 2 – line d) except when the prefixes end with *r*, like in: *hiper-requintado*, *inter-resistente e super-revista*.

Words which have the prefix ending with the same vowel that begins the second element are hyphenated (Chart 2 – line e).

Do not take hyphen words with the prefix *re* followed by element beginning with letter *e* (Chart 2f). Lose the hyphen words which have the prefix *póstero*, as well as words that follow the prefix *co* are not hyphenated and the letter *b* from the second element should be suppressed (Chart 2- line g).

Take the hyphen words with the prefix *sub* preceding word beginning with *r* : *sub-região*, *sub-raça*. The same applies to words beginning with *m*, *n* and vowel preceded by the prefixes *circum* and *pan* (Chart 2 – line h).

Get hyphen the words: *beri-béri*, *tique-taque*, *tim-tim*, *Mega-hertz* and *chá-da-índia*. On the other hand, the words *xiquexique* and *tão só* begin to be written without hyphen

Compound nouns of Tupi-Guarani origin require hyphen such as : *Mogi-mirim* and *jacaré-açu*; as well as words preceded by the prefixes *vice*, *ex*, *sem*, *além*, *aquém*, *recém*, *pós*, *pré*, *pró* (Chart 2 – line i).

Compound words that do not have an element of liaison and constitute semantic unity, besides words related to taxonomy, keep the hyphen (Chart 2 – line j) except for the words that have lost the idea of compound and therefore have the hyphen abolished such as : *mandachuva*, *paravento*, *paraquedas*, *paraquedista*, *pontapé*.

Still, the hyphen has to be repeated at the beginning of a new line if, at its end, the division of a word or the combination of words coincide with the hyphen.

The alphabet reincorporated the letters *K*, *W* and *Y*, totalizing 26 elements and therefore allowing

TABLE 2: New spellings of words commonly used in dermatology related to the changes of the hyphenation rules. Each group of words exemplifies one rule*

Rule*	Group of words
a	anti-higiênico, mini-hospital, sobre-humano, anti-histamínico
b	intraocular, intrauterino, autoanticorpo, anteontem, antiarrítmico, antieducativo, autoescola, infraestrutura, semianalfabeto, socioeconômico, contraindicação, antioxidante
c	anteprojeto, semicírculo, semideus, antipedagógico, autoproteção, microcomputador, seminovo, ultramoderno, ultramicroscópico, semiautomático, semiárido, autoajuda, extraoficial, hiperacidez, hiperatividade, interestadual, interurbano, subumano, subespecialidade, autoimune, antitumoral, anticonvulsivante
d	ultrassom, antisseptico, antirrábico, antessala, antirrugaa, antissocial, suprarrenal, extrassístole, contrassenso, biorritmo
e	anti-inflamatório, micro-ondas e micro-ônibus
f	reeleger, reeditar, reeducar, reembolso, reencontro, reexame
g	comorbidade, coabitar, covariável, coautor, coaptar, coobservar, coedição
h	circum-navegação, pan-americano
i	vice-presidente, ex-aluno, pós-graduação, pré-natal, ex-marido
j	imuno-histoquímica, anátomo-patológico, salpingo-oforectomia, anos-luz, azul-escuro, médico-cirurgião, contagotas, guarda-chuva, segunda-feira, beija-flor, couve-flor, erva-doce, mal-me-quer, bem-te-vi, óleo-de-copaíba, linfo-histiocitário

* Refer back to the text to correlate with the rules.

the use of symbols of units and measures (kg, km and W), loanwords and its derivatives (bowenoide, show).

Cases of ambiguous phonetic such as *clitóris* and *clitoris*, keep both forms of stress.

More than mere erudition, or to minimize the

work of reviewers of journals and publishers, the orthographic changes are final and should be incorporated to the daily writing practice as they are relevant to the appropriate professional communication for the next generations.^{3,4} □

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