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Epidemiological Survey of Gingival Status among Children in Belarus

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Background. Gingivitis in Europe is found in 80% of children aged 10-12 years old and almost 100% at the age of 14-15 years.

The purpose of the present study is to analyze the prevalence and distribution of gingivitis in children and adolescents in Belarus.

Methods. Gingival data from 1920 children, 960 children in each of the following age groups, 12 and 15 years from urban (660 boys and 660 girls) and rural (300 boys and 300 girls) areas, constituted the material. All data were analyzed using the Statistica 10.0 software suite.

Results. The prevalence of gingivitis was 60% in 12-year-olds children. The lowest prevalence (43%) indicated in Minsk adolescents and the highest (67%) in the Minsk region ($p < 0.01$). The mean GI was 0.80 in 12-year-olds adolescents. The GI ranged from 0.69 for children in the Gomel region to 0.94 for adolescents the Vitebsk region. The mean PLI in children of 12 years of age is 0.92 points. The PLI varies from 0.69 among children of the Gomel region to 1.09 in the Vitebsk region.

In 15-year-old children, gingivitis was diagnosed in 60% of cases, ranging from 47% in adolescents in the Gomel region to 68% of children in the Brest region. The mean GI was 0.73. The index data ranged from 0.79 in the Minsk region to 0.91 in the Vitebsk region. The PLI was 0.82 points, with the lowest indicator being 0.68 in the Gomel region and the highest 0.89 in the Vitebsk and Minsk regions.

Conclusion. Children of 12 and 15 years old have a high prevalence of gingivitis. The intensity of gingival inflammation correlated with bad oral hygiene.