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EPI12 PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS AND QUALITY OF LIFE AT GERIATRIC MOBILE DENTURE WEARERS IN MACEDONIA

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Aim. Physical dimension (nutrition and speech) is one important factor for perception of overall oral health and quality of life. Main purpose of this study was to perform an assessment of the influence of the type of edentulism and mobile dentures to a possibility for nutrition and speech at geriatric patients in Macedonia.

Materials and methods. The survey was a prospective transversal (cross-sectional) study conducted among 165 institutionally sheltered patients at Gerontology Institute (inspected group – IG) and 170 patients from the dental specialist clinics (control group CG) at age 65 and older. Statistical program SPSS for Windows ver. 13.0 was used for statistical processing.

Results. Patients with total dentures were dominant (43,6% vs. 26,5%). There was a statistically highly significant difference in restriction in type and quantity of food that patients in both groups can consume ($p=0,000002$). 49,09% of patients of IC and 52,9% of CG very often have problem with biting and chewing different types of food because of the dentures. Patients of IG have significantly more often problems with swallowing than the patients of CG ($p=0,0026$). Patients from IG are highly significantly more rarely prevented

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in normal speech because of the dentures ($p=0,0066$), where patients mostly “often” and “very often” have problems with normal speech.

Conclusion. Geriatric patients with mobile dentures have disrupted physical dimension of the quality of life (nutrition and speech), significantly more expressed at patients of CG. Patients of both groups have significantly different quality of life.

Key words: GOHAI indicator, geriatric patients, mobile dentures, physical dimension, quality of life, nutrition, speech