

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND HABITS OF MAINTENING ORAL HYGIENE

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The aim of this study is to determine the correlation between the state of the socio-economic conditions and the habits of maintaining oral hygiene with students.

Material and methodology - The survey comprises of selected groups of students (91) from Shtip, at the age of 15.

The study uses the method of Currie¹² which is based on previously prepared interviews for parents and children. The questionnaires are prepared separately for parents and children and consist of data on socio-economic conditions in which the respondents live and their knowledge of maintaining oral hygiene.

The results from the data on the father's occupation did not show statistically significant difference between the obtained values and the values ($p > 0.05$) of the respondents from the experimental groups A and B. The data on the educational level of the father and the mother had statistically significant difference ($p < 0.01$) in the values between the respondents from the experimental groups A and B. The values on the conditions in which the parents live show statistically significant difference when the number of brothers and sisters ($p < 0.01$) between the experimental groups A and B is taken into consideration. Statistically significant difference has not been observed in the values ($p > 0.05$) regarding the conditions in which the respondents from the experimental groups A and B live.

The results for the general knowledge about maintaining oral hygiene with children indicate that there is no statistically significant difference ($p > 0.05$) in the values obtained from the respondents from the experimental groups A and B.

Oral health largely depends on the habits, attitudes and opinion of the current health behavior in the family. Parent's information and education regarding children's correct diet and oral hygiene at the earliest age represent highly effective measures to prevent the cavities occurrence.

Keywords: socio-economic conditions, oral hygiene, cavities.