



47. OPEN BITE MORBIDITY IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

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Introduction. The study of open bite is relevant due to the increase in the incidence of dento-maxillary anomalies in recent years caused by the complexity of functional disorders and orthodontic treatment difficulties. An open bite is a dento-maxillary anomaly characterized by vertical plane disturbances and the lack of contact between the two antagonistic dental arches in various ways, affecting swallowing, phonation, mastication, and physiognomy.

Aim of study. To assess open bite morbidity in school-aged children.

Methods and materials. A descriptive study was carried out based on 115 medical records, including exo- and endooral clinical examination data on school children, aged 11-15, within an educational institution in Chisinau. To determine the incidence of open bite, the schoolchildren were stratified using mathematical calculations.

Results. The data were analyzed, and the occlusal parameters were described according to the reference planes. Most of the children had sagittal malocclusion. The incidence of Angle class I malocclusion made up 75.65% of cases, class II malocclusion - 16.52%, and class III malocclusion - 7.83%. The clinical-morphological signs of dental occlusion in the vertical plane were assessed. The assessment revealed deep occlusion in 20.87% of cases and an open bite in 2.61%. The occlusal relationship in a transverse plane was examined, revealing laterognathia in 5.22%.

Conclusion. An open bite is a less common dento-maxillary anomaly. The assessment of morbidity in the study found 2.61% of cases, a fact contradicted by the complex anatomic-functional semiology of the anomaly. The study is of particular relevance because it emphasizes the importance of early diagnosis of open bite to provide appropriate etiopathogenic orthodontic treatment.