AGE AND PERIODONTAL HEALTH

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Introduction. The world's population is aging, with people aged 65 and over being the fastest growing age group. In Republic of Moldova, in 2019 it represented 20.8% of the total number of the population with habitual residence.

Keywords. geriatrics, oral health, periodontal.

Purpose. To assess periodontal status in a sample of geriatric population.

Material and methods Total sample: 78 patients from Day care institution; Age: 65 years or older; CPITN index assessment; Dichotomic questionnaire regarding lifestyle.
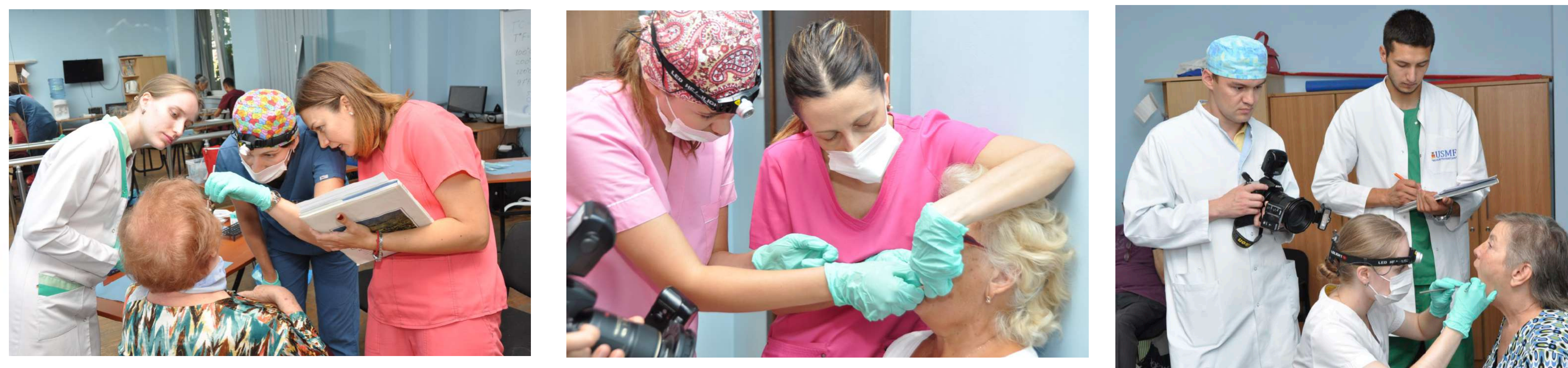

Results. The mean age of the patients was 73.2 years. The mean CPITN index score for the sample was 1.71 with a mode of 3 observed in 36 (46.15%) patients,. 26 patients (33.33%) were periodontal healthy.

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of sample population.

Characteristics	Male	Female	Total	p-value
Age				
65-69	9	24	33	$\chi=4.909$, df=2, p=0.086
70-79	4	19	23	
80+	7	15	22	
Having any chronic disease (Diabetes mellitus)	1	14	15	$\chi=1.809$, df=1, p=0.179

Table 2. Distribution of subjects by periodontal status and gender.

Periodontal status (CPITN scores)	Male, n (%)	Female, n (%)	Total, n (%)	P-value
No disease	10 (50)	16 (27,59)	26 (33,33)	$\chi=5.614$, df=4, p=0.230
Bleeding on probing	3 (15)	5 (8,62)	8 (10,26)	
Calculus	4 (20)	2 (3,45)	6 (7,69)	
Shallow pockets	3 (15)	33 (56,89)	36 (46,15)	
Deep pockets		2 (3,45)	2 (2,56)	
Total	20 (100,0)	58 (100,0)	78 (100,0)	

Conclusions. The present survey indicated a poor oral hygiene among elderly population. Nevertheless, further studies are needed to be performed on larger population.