



Analysis of the Dental Status of Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis According to the Questionnaire

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Abstract: Currently, it is known that diseases of the tissues and organs of the oral cavity can be the initial factors of the development of general pathology. In turn, systemic disorders necessarily leave an imprint on the clinical manifestations, course, outcome of lesions of the hard tissues of the teeth, parotid tissues, oral mucosa, which leads to multiple tooth loss, facial pain, disorders in the temporomandibular joint (TMJ), and other severe lesions in young and able-bodied people. Therefore, the study of the relationship of pathological changes in the dental system with damage to other internal organs and tissues of the body remains a very urgent task for dentistry. Recently, it has been proposed to study dental pathologies from the point of view of comorbidity, as this is one of the approaches to considering the body as an integral system. According to literature data, the prevalence of combined pathology in dental practice is 64.2%, and, according to other sources, reaches 73.3% [2.4.6.7.8.10]. At the same time, the dental status of RA patients has not been sufficiently studied. There is no up-to-date data on the features of the course of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and its effect on the health of the oral cavity. Of interest is also the study of the relationship of diseases of the oral cavity with the factors of resistance of the body, with the duration of the course of RA.

Thus, it becomes obvious the need to study the effect of RA as an autoimmune pathology, treatment with antiresorptive drugs on the condition of hard tissues of teeth and parotid tissues, the peculiarities of changes in the morphological characteristics of oral fluid and its fractions.

The purpose of the study. To study the dental status of patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

Material and methods of research. Epidemiological prospective examination of 85 patients using a standard set of disposable dental instruments was carried out in the regional dental polyclinic of Bukhara. Indicators of dental status were included in a special card.

Clinical methods included: finding out the anamnesis of the disease, life, family history, complaints, the presence of common diseases and determining the periodontal status.

During the study, we tested the questionnaire-test "Oral health indicator", which systematized the data of patients' complaints, clinical examination of the oral cavity [1.3.5.7.9.11].

Mathematical methods are implemented using Microsoft Excel for Windows 2010. Generally accepted methods of variation statistics were applied. To determine the reliability of the difference in average values, the values of the Student's criterion were used, a correlation analysis was carried out.

Research results and their discussion. All patients with RA were asked to answer the questions of the author's questionnaire to determine the dental history before examining the oral tissues (Table 1). According to the data obtained, 52.9% of patients with RA noted the presence of bad breath

(halitosis). The existing dryness of the oral cavity was indicated by 34.3% of respondents. The change in the color of the tongue and gums was noted by 28.6% of the respondents. Symptoms of dysgeusia were felt by 7.1% of people, and 27.1% of people had an addiction to smoking. The aesthetic condition of the teeth did not satisfy 45% of patients with RA.

Table 1. Survey results of patients with RA (n=140)

№	List of questions	%
1	Complaints about dry mouth when eating	34,3
2	Complaints about a large amount of saliva	5,7
3	Complaints about saliva discoloration	0
4	Complaints change of taste	7,1
5	Complaints of difficulty chewing	0
6	Complaints of burning in the mouth	9,3
7	Complaints about the presence of ulcers in the mouth	4,3
8	Complaints about gum growth	9,3
9	Complaints about discoloration of the tongue, gums	28,6
10	Complaints of bad breath	52,9
11	Do you smoke?	27,1
12	Complaints of pain when chewing in the area of the n/a joint	2,1
13	Are you satisfied with the aesthetic condition of your teeth	55

A burning sensation in the oral cavity was noted by 9.3% of respondents, and 5.7% of patients indicated the presence of hypersalivation. 13.6% of people indicated pathological changes in the oral cavity from the soft tissues.

The following questions in the questionnaire concerned the attitude to the individual oral hygiene of the examined patients and their motivation for an annual visit to the dentist was established.

To the questionnaire question "How many times a day do you brush your teeth?" The following results were obtained, which are shown in Figure 1

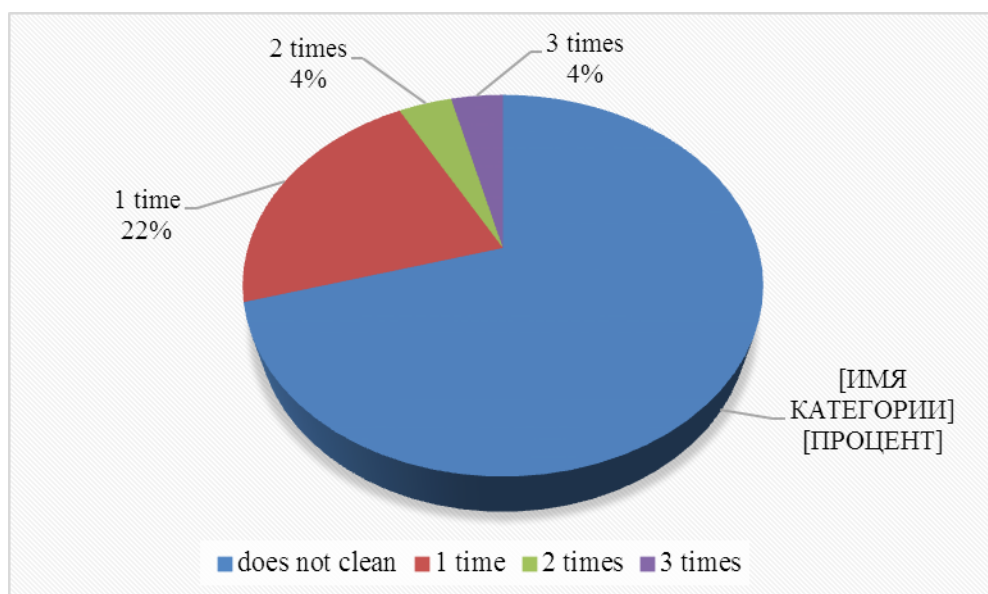


Fig.1. Distribution of patients with RA according to the frequency of individual oral tissue hygiene performed, %

A survey of patients showed that they prefer to carry out one-time oral hygiene per day (63.6%), almost half as many patients brush their teeth twice a day (32.1%). 2.1% of the surveyed patients with RA indicated a radical rejection of brushing their teeth and carrying out three-time oral hygiene.

To the questionnaire question about the regularity of visits to the dentist, the answers were distributed as follows (Fig. 2).

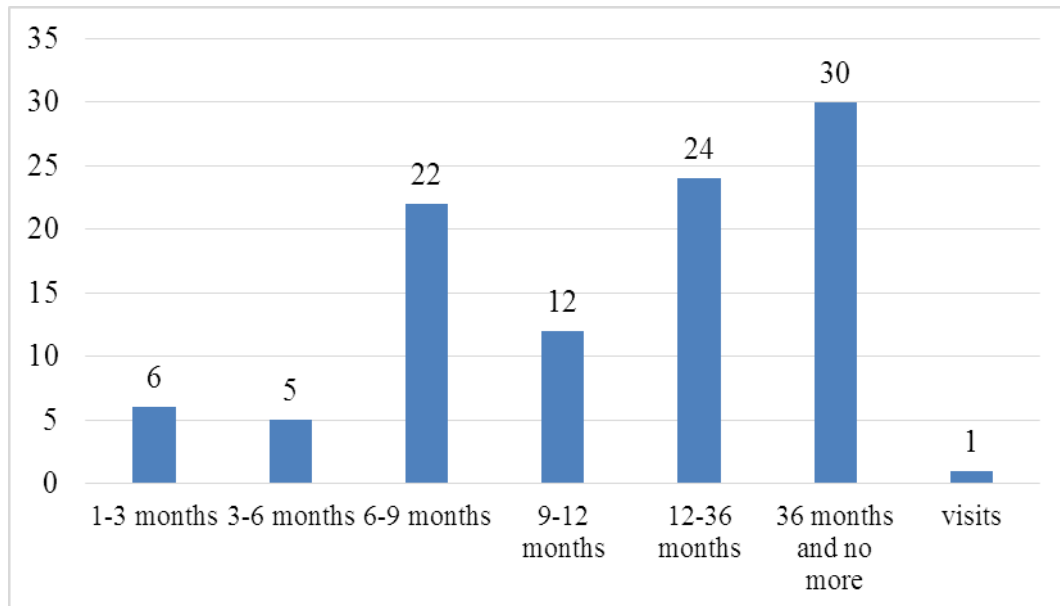


Fig.2. Distribution of the frequency of visits to the dentist by patients with RA, %

In the group of surveyed patients, the maximum number visits a dentist 1 time a year (30%) or every 3 years (24%). A very low percentage of patients do not visit a dentist (1%) [12.13.14.15.16].

Thus, the attitude to the individual oral hygiene of the examined patients indicates their motivation for an annual visit to the dentist.

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