relationship with gender, age, and handedness were assessed.

Results and Discussion. The most common and uncommon form of corpus callosum were splenial bulbosity form (35.6%) and arch mid-body form (7.2%) respectively. Maximum anterior — posterior (AP) distance of corpus callosum was longer in male and older age individuals compared to female and younger ones respectively. No significant differences were seen in AP distance of corpus callosum between right and left handers. Area of corpus callosum was widened in male and younger age individuals compared to female and older ones respectively.

Conclusions. The findings of this study show morphology of corpus callosum in Iranian population. Morphometric parameters of AP and area of corpus callosum are related to sex and age but no to handedness.

VARIABILITY OF RAMIFICATION AND CONNECTIONS OF THE CERVICAL BRANCH OF THE FACIAL NERVE

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Key words: *facial nerve, cervical branch, connections*

Background. Superficial location of the cervical branch (CB) of the facial nerve makes it vulnerable to injures in surgery of the neck and might result in weakening of the platysma muscle with lip motion impairment and asymmetric smile.

Aim. The purpose of our study was to establish ramification and connections of the CB of the facial nerve.

Material and Methods. Thirty-two adult cadaveric semiheads 18 right and 12 left ones, fixed in formaldehyde solution were dissected at the Chair of Human anatomy of Nicolae Testemitanu SUMPh and variations of ramification and connections of the CB of the facial nerve were marked out.

Results and Discussion. Both sides of the head have been dissected on the 20 of those samples. Similar ramifications of the CB on both sides in the same individual were marked out, only in 3 cases. In 5 cases CB was double and in one case multiple. In 4 cases — there were double connections with the transverse cervical nerve. In 8 cases there were connections with the greater auricular nerve and 2 of those connections were double. In 19 cases there was a single connection with the ramus marginalis mandibulae, in one case — double connections, and in 12 cases there were no connections between those branches.

Conclusions. The CB of the facial nerve is variable both in number of ramifications and ways of connections.

PECULIARITIES OF SOMATHOMETRIC CHARACTERISTICS IN EARLY ADOLESCENCE LIVING IN THE KRASNODAR TERRITORY AND KABARDINO-BALKARIAN REPUBLIC

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Key words: *somathometric characteristics, stress resistance index, early adolescence, Krasnodar Territory, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic*

Aim. To find out peculiarities of somathometric characteristics, in early adolescence living in the Krasnodar territory and Kabardino-Balkarian Republic (KBR).

Material and Methods. Data of body height, weight, arterial blood pressure and pulse in 140 children (70 girls and 70 boys) at the age of 13.2±1.6 years living in Kabardino-Balkarian Republic and also 137 children (70 boys and 67 girls) at the age of 13.4±0.1 years living in the Krasnodar territory are collected and subjected to the statistical analysis. The due number of cardia contraction, body surface, level of the stress were started by the formula developed by Yu. R. Sheykh-Zade. Statistical material was processed by method of variation statistics within the StatSoft Statistica 10.0 program.

Results and Discussion. The carried-out statistical analysis has proved that in the thirteen-year old boys living in KBR in comparison with inhabitants of various districts the Krasnodar territory lower anthropometric parameters were revealed: body weight (respectively, 47.63±1.75 and 52.56±1.02 kg), body surface (respectively, 14279.54±176.54 and 15109.95±181.67 cm^2), index of body weight (respectively, 19.12±0.21 and 20.43±0.30 c.u.). In the thirteen-year old girls living in KBR in comparison with inhabitants of the Krasnodar territory lower physiological parameters were revealed: appropriate heart rate (respectively, 68.31±0.54 and 70.78±0.39 min^{-1}), stress resistance index (respectively, 1.14±0.23 and 1.28±0.05 c.u.).

Conclusions. Gender differences of anthropometric and physiological parameters in early adolescence were stated comparing the regions (the Krasnodar territory and KBR).

ULTRASONIC METHOD OF INVESTIGATION OF THE LOWER ALVEOLAR ARTERIES

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Background. The lower alveolar arteries are located in the canal of the jaw and are difficult