and generalized hypermobility in 2% of men and 4% of women.

Conclusions. Analyzing slight and generalized hypermobility as predictor of connective tissue dysplasia, one can talk of underlying risk for development of the latter in 26% and 37% of young men and women.

STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING/LEARNING HUMAN ANATOMY AT THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LISBON

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Key words: *human Anatomy; teaching/learning activities; soft skills; specific competences*

Aim. To present the strategies used at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon, for Human Anatomy teaching/learning to the ~250 students admitted/year in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Integrated Master.

Material and Methods. The course, with 5 ECTS, is organized in theoretical (2 h/week), practical (1.5 h/week) and tutorial (1 h/week) classes. The theoretical concepts about the body systems are provided in teacher-centered, expositive, theoretical classes. In contrast, the practical classes are students-centered aiming at the consolidation of the concepts through oral presentations by students. These classes also promote team work and the ability to search, select and organize information, thus favoring the development of soft skills besides specific competences in Anatomy. To promote the continuous knowledge acquisition and guarantee a reliable and fair assessment, students perform individual written tests. The performance of the students along the oral presentations and the tests is translated into a practical classification. There is a final examination with 75 multiple-choice questions. The curricular unit global mark results from the practical evaluation (30%) and the final examination (70%).

Results and Discussion. course assessment relies in questionnaires anonymous fulfilled by students, which showed a high level of satisfaction with the teaching/learning approaches. They also showed the students' recognition of the importance of the continuous and integrated work for the consolidation of the concepts, as well as the importance of the knowledge acquired in the course of Human Anatomy for the graduation in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Conclusions. the teaching activities relying in the use of modern educational techniques contributed to the successful learning of Human Anatomy.

MORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES AND CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE POSTERIOR CEREBRAL ARTERY

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Key words: *posterior cerebral artery, segments of the posterior cerebral artery, clinical importance*

Background. Posterior cerebral artery (PCA), arises in the bifurcation of the basilar artery and supplies blood to the back of the cerebral hemisphere. This artery provides branches for thalamus, mesencephalon and other deep brain structures.

Aim. The purpose of the study is to describe the path of the PCA, its length and diameter.

Material and Methods. The study analyzed the brain of 25 bodies (50 PCA preparations). The usual techniques of autopsy have been used to extract the brain from the skull. Extracted brain, we put it in physiological solution, while both posterior communicating arteries are connected at level of their union with internal carotis artery. In the vertebrobasilar arterial system we injected 5% mixed gelatin and India ink. The brain has fixed with 10% formaldehyde and glycerol solution for 30 days, after solidifying gelatin in cold water.

Results and Discussion. The length of P1 segment was averaged 7.5 mm (5–15 mm), and the diameter was 2.2 mm (0.5–3.5 mm). The P2 segment was split into the anterior (P2A) and posterior (P2P) segments. The length of the P2A segment was averaged 22.5 mm (15–30 mm), and the diameter was 1.5 mm (1–3 mm). The length of the P2P segment was averaged 15.8 mm (8–25 mm), while the average diameter was 1.3 mm (0.8–2 mm). The length of segment P3 was on average 20.1 mm (8–31 mm), while the diameter was 1.2 mm (0.5–1.5 mm).

Conclusions. The clinical importance of PCA morphology will serve neurosurgeons in microsurgical interventions; neurological doctors in the diagnosis of PCA occlusive diseases and radiologists in the angiographic detection of pathologies of this artery.