

connection of variable size. The level of the interconnection may be different: in the hand, wrist or forearm. An interconnection between flexor pollicis longus and flexor digitorum profundus is named Linburg—Comstock variation. This variation often involves the flexor digitorum profundus of the index finger and on clinical examination is characterized by a simultaneous flexion of the forefinger during the active flexion of the thumb. The tendinous interconnections between flexor digitorum superficialis and flexor digitorum profundus are also frequent, especially between flexor digitorum superficialis of the little finger and adjacent fingers. Presence of the tendinous interconnections is asymptomatic in most of cases but sometimes they may limit precise movements of the involved fingers, may cause career-threatening disabilities or could complicate some hand injuries. In some patients tendinous interconnections can cause pain and swelling in the palmar aspect of the hand and wrist, tenosynovitis or carpal tunnel syndrome.

PREVALENCE OF THE PALMARIS LONGUS AND ITS IMPACT ON GRIP STRENGTH

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Key words: forearm, palmaris longus muscle, muscle absence, grip strength

Background. Palmaris longus muscle is the muscle of the anterior compartment of the forearm. Its contraction helps the flexion of the wrist and thumb abduction. It is often used in reconstructive surgery of the hand, eyelids and lips. This is one of the most variable muscles in our body. The purpose of this study was to determine the frequency of the palmaris longus muscle and its effect on the grip strength in examinees.

Material and Methods. The research was performed on 100 males and 100 females, average age of 19.46 years. Presence of the palmaris longus muscle was tested with standard and additional clinical tests, while the grip strength was tested with electronic manual dynamometer.

Results and Discussion. Bilateral presence was found in 132 (66%) subjects. Unilateral absence was found in 32 (16%) subjects, while bilateral absence in 36 (18%) subjects. Bilateral absence was noted in 12% in females and 24% in males. Unilateral absence on the left side was observed in 11% of women and 10% of men, while unilateral absence on the right side was equal in both genders (8%). The average value of the grip strength on right side was 40.77 ± 11.60 kg and 38.43 ± 10.93 kg on left side.

Conclusions. Compared to the unilateral, bilateral absence was more prevalent. Unilateral absence was significantly more present in the left forearm. In males, bilateral absence was statistically higher compared to the unilateral absence. Muscle absence in the left forearm was significantly more frequent compared to the right forearm. In females, there were no statistically significant differences between bilateral or unilateral absence. Bilateral absence was significantly more frequent in males. According to the results of this study grip strength of the hand was not affected in the case of palmaris longus absence in both genders.

CYTOMORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE CONTENTS OF PERIODONTAL POCKETS OF PATIENTS WITH PERIODONTITIS IN FRACTURES OF THE LOWER JAW

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Key words: cytomorphological features, periodontal pockets, periodontitis, fracture of the lower jaw

Aim. To study the cytomorphological features of the contents of periodontal pockets of patients with periodontitis in fractures of the lower jaw.

Material and Methods. Thirty patients with periodontitis combined with fractures of the lower jaw were examined, who underwent traditional treatment using dental splints for immobilization of fragments of the jaws.

Results and Discussion. The patients revealed cytomorphological features in the contents of periodontal pockets. Among the cellular elements, mainly polymorphonuclear leukocytes were determined. Their number ($43.7 \pm 1.3\%$) was significantly higher than that of healthy people. The cytoplasm of most neutrophils was vacuolated, had a toxic granularity, degenerative changes in the form of fragmentation were observed in the nuclei, part of the cells were completely destroyed. Monocytes, lymphocytes, whose number was increased, were present in the studied preparations. In the cytograms there was a microbial flora, located mainly outside the cells and represented by cocci, fungal mycelium, leptotrix type filaments, chopsticks, less often — protozoa. In the patients examined, a decrease in the number of neutrophils in the state of phagocytosis was observed, and phagocytosis was often not completed. In the population of epithelial cells, an increase in the smears of epithelial cells, aggregated in the seams, as well as signs of destruction and dystrophy. There were cells with signs of degeneration, having vacuolization of the cytoplasm and nuclei, an increase in the