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## FETAL ANATOMY OF THE MAXILLARY CELLULAR PROCESS

### ФЕТАЛЬНА АНАТОМІЯ КОМІРКОВОГО ВІДРОСТКА ВЕРХНЬОЇ ЩЕЛЕПИ

**Резюме.** В статті наведено дані щодо фетальної анатомії коміркового відростка, визначеної методами морфометрії, рентгенографічного дослідження, комп'ютерної томографії, макроскопічного дослідження, термохімічної та механічної обробки кісток черепа, статистичної обробки отриманих даних. Дослідження коміркового відростка верхньої щелепи проведено на 53 трупах 4-10-місячних плодів та 11 новонароджених. Встановлено, що з 6-го місяця внутрішньоутробного розвитку всі структури верхньої щелепи рентгенконтрасні. На рентгеновських знімках чітко виявляються обриси верхньої щелепи, її лобовий, виличний і комірковий відростки. У 8-10-місячних плодів і новонароджених добре диференціюються комірки зачатків молочних зубів та міжкоміркові перегородки. Висота коміркового відростка обох верхніх щелеп (на різних ділянках) у перинатальному періоді суттєво збільшується на 6-му, 8-10 місяцях та у новонароджених, а найменше – на 4-5-му та 7-му місяцях внутрішньоутробного розвитку. Довжина коміркового відростка правої та лівої верхньої щелепи у плодів і новонароджених суттєво збільшується впродовж 7-10 місяців та у новонароджених, а найменше – впродовж 4-6 місяців внутрішньоутробного розвитку.

**Ключові слова:** верхня щелепа, комірковий відросток, фетальна анатомія, людина.

Every year over 600 children in Ukraine are born with congenital defects of the maxillary-facial area (1:600-1:700 of deliveries), including 400-450 cases with congenital cleft lip or palate [1].

Severity of facial developmental defects is manifested not only by external deformity and pronounced functional disorders, but it produces a negative imprint on psychic development of a child [2, 3]. Understanding of the regularities in the development of structures and topography of the fetus is of great importance for interpreting a real direction of organogenesis processes, mechanisms of normal formation, occurrence of anatomical variants and congenital defects [4]. Without awareness of the processes of a normal organism development to understand its structural-functional organization of organs and systems is next to impossible [5]. Meanwhile the notion of the norm in order to compare it with real results of the examination is nowadays a complicated and in sufficiently known issue [6]. The data concerning organometric parameters of the maxilla during the perinatal period of development make a basis to determine certain congenital facial defects and formation of physiological occlusion.

The morphological study conducted differs from those common ones that the development and formation of the maxillary structures are determined in the perinatal period of human ontogenesis, while the majority of studies [7-10] deals with investigation of topographic-anatomical peculiarities of the maxilla in

the postnatal period of human ontogenesis.

**The objective of the research:** to find out the chronological sequence of changes in parameters, the formation of the structure and the topography of the cellular process of the maxilla during the fetal period.

**Material and methods.** The study was performed on 53 dead 4-10-month fetuses and 11 newborns of both sexes without any external signs of anatomical deviations or abnormalities, and without vivid macroscopic deviations from the normal cranial structure.

The study was conducted according to the methodological guidelines “On Keeping to Ethical and Legal Norms and Requirements while Conducting Scientific Morphological Research” [11], the main principles of the World Medical Association (WMA) Declaration of Helsinki as a statement of ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects (1964-2000) and the Order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine № 690 dated 23.09.2009.

Modern adequate morphological and statistical methods were applied during investigation: morphometry, X-ray examination, computed tomography, macroscopic examination, thermochemical and mechanical processing of the cranial bones, statistical processing of the data obtained.

Before starting the research occipital-calcaneal length (OCL) of the fetus was measured. After OCL was measured the specimens of dead fetuses were fixed in 10 % neutral formalin solution during 2-3

weeks followed by their storage in 5 % neutral formalin solution [12].

#### Results of the research and their discussion.

Anlage of the cellular process of the maxilla occurs during the 4-week of the intrauterine development. The cellular process grows from the maxilla till the 3<sup>rd</sup> month of the intrauterine development. The cellular process emerges arch-like along the perimeter from the maxillary lower margin. It is less marked in the 4-5-month fetuses and resembles a semicircular groove.

The macroscopic examination found three large cells of the primary teeth rudiments in 11,8% of early fetuses, and four cells – in 88,2 % of 4-5-month fetuses. The apex of the cell of the primary middle incisor rudiment is located  $0,4\pm 0,01$  mm lower from the caudal border of the piriform opening on the right maxilla, and  $0,38\pm 0,01$  mm lower on the left maxilla. The apex of the cell of the primary canine rudiment is located  $0,4\pm 0,01$  mm higher from the piriform opening on the right maxilla, and  $0,37\pm 0,02$  mm higher on the left maxilla. The apex of the cell of II primary tooth rudiment is located in the point of cell connection of the I and III primary teeth rudiments. The top surface of the cells is covered with thin osseous tissue and downwards it is covered with the connective tissue. The apex of the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment is separated from the lower wall of the infraorbital opening by very thin osseous lamina.

In 5-month fetuses all the four cells of the primary teeth rudiments are well marked, and intercellular septa are less marked. The apex of the cell of the I primary tooth rudiment is located  $0,43\pm 0,01$  mm lower from the caudal margin of the piriform opening on the right maxilla, and  $0,40\pm 0,02$  mm – on the left one. The cell of the primary canine rudiment on the right maxilla is located  $0,25\pm 0,02$  mm higher from the caudal border of the piriform opening and  $0,26\pm 0,01$  mm – on the left maxilla. In early fetuses the longest height of the cellular process is found in the area of cells of the I and III primary teeth rudiments. It is  $5,71\pm 0,09$  mm on the right maxilla and  $5,57\pm 0,08$  mm on the left one. The shortest height of the cellular process is determined in the area of cells of the II and IV primary teeth rudiments. It is  $3,25\pm 1,14$  mm on the right maxilla and  $3,22\pm 1,12$  mm – on the left one.

In 4-month fetuses the length of the cellular process of the right maxilla is  $19,44\pm 1,34$  mm and the left one –  $19,25\pm 1,45$  mm, in 5-month fetuses its length is  $21,18\pm 1,89$  and  $20,87\pm 1,67$  mm respectively. It is  $2,1\pm 0,23$  mm thick on the right maxilla and  $2,0\pm 0,25$  mm thick on the left one in the place of location of the cellular rudiments. And the cells of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $1,5\pm 0,12$  and  $1,35\pm 0,15$  mm respectively.

X-ray detects the most marked infraorbital border

and cellular arch of the maxilla in early fetuses. Four cells are found in every maxilla in all the 6-7-month fetuses. The sizes of the cellular processes of the right and left maxillae do not differ considerably and are within the following parameters: the width of the cellular process of the maxilla in 6-month fetuses in the area of cells of the I, II and III primary teeth rudiments is similar along the full length. It is  $2,5\pm 0,12$  mm. The cells of the IV primary tooth rudiment are  $1,67\pm 0,14$  mm, and they are  $6,76\pm 0,48$  and  $3,5\pm 0,54$  mm high respectively. In 7-month fetuses the width of the cellular process of the maxilla in the area of the cell of the I primary tooth rudiment is  $2,7\pm 0,11$  mm; the cell of the II primary tooth rudiment –  $2,34\pm 0,27$  mm; the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment –  $2,74\pm 0,25$  mm and the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $1,8\pm 0,22$  mm. The cells of the I, II and III primary teeth rudiment are  $7,53\pm 0,58$  mm high, and the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $3,8\pm 0,67$  mm.

The apex of the cell of the I primary tooth rudiment in the maxilla is located  $0,28\pm 0,09$  mm lower from the caudal border of the piriform opening in 6-month fetuses on the right maxilla, and  $0,25\pm 0,07$  mm – on the left one. In 7-month fetuses it is –  $0,13\pm 0,04$  mm and  $0,12\pm 0,02$  mm respectively. The apex of the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment in 6-month fetuses in the right maxilla is  $0,1\pm 0,07$  mm higher and in the left one –  $0,12\pm 0,05$  mm. In 7-month fetuses it is located on the level of the caudal border of the piriform opening. In 6-month fetuses the cellular process of the right maxilla is  $21,64\pm 2,02$  mm long, and of the left one –  $21,38\pm 1,62$  mm. In 7-month fetuses it is  $26,08\pm 2,01$  mm and  $25,43\pm 2,51$  mm respectively.

In 8-month fetuses the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment is slightly marked. In newborns all the cells of the cellular process are well marked. The sizes of the cellular process on the right and left maxillae do not differ much and are within the following parameters: in 8-month fetuses the cellular process of the maxilla in the area of the cell of the I primary tooth rudiment is  $2,9\pm 0,54$  mm thick, the cell of the II primary tooth rudiment –  $2,45\pm 0,32$  mm, the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment –  $3,1\pm 0,13$  mm, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $1,95\pm 0,34$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $1,46\pm 0,22$  mm. The cells of the I, II and III primary teeth rudiment are  $7,91\pm 0,14$  mm high, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $4,03\pm 0,23$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $2,05\pm 0,16$  mm. In 10-month fetuses the cellular process of the maxilla in the area of the I primary tooth rudiment is  $3,15\pm 0,44$  mm wide, the cell of the II primary tooth rudiment –  $2,85\pm 0,32$  mm, the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment –  $3,24\pm 0,14$  mm, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $2,12\pm 0,31$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $1,57\pm 0,28$  mm. The cells of the I, II

and III primary teeth rudiments are  $8.2 \pm 0.53$  mm high, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $4.27 \pm 0.39$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $2.29 \pm 0.23$  mm. In newborns the cellular process of the maxilla in the area of the cell of the I primary tooth rudiment is  $3.4 \pm 0.46$  mm wide, the cell of the II primary tooth rudiment –  $3.13 \pm 0.11$  mm, the cell of the III primary tooth rudiment –  $3.57 \pm 0.36$  mm, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $2.35 \pm 0.29$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $1.82 \pm 0.45$  mm. The cells of the I, II and III primary teeth rudiments are  $9.08 \pm 0.85$  mm high, the cell of the IV primary tooth rudiment –  $4.68 \pm 0.44$  mm, the cell of the V primary tooth rudiment –  $2.45 \pm 0.31$  mm. In 8-10-month fetuses the apices of the cells of the I and III primary teeth rudiments of the right and left maxillae are located on the level of the caudal border of the piriform opening. Intercellular septa are marked and deep. In 8-month fetuses the cellular process of the right maxilla is  $26.5 \pm 2.06$  mm long, and the left one –  $26.10 \pm 2.01$  mm. In 10-month fetuses the cellular process is  $28.6 \pm 1.9$  mm and –  $28.2 \pm 1.8$  mm long respectively. Macroscopic examination determined that in newborns the cellular process of the right maxilla is  $31.1 \pm 1.9$  mm long and the left one –  $30.8 \pm 1.9$  mm.

At the end of the fetal period the cellular process of the maxilla is well marked with a wide cellular canal. In 8-month fetuses the cellular groove is completely closed in the anterior part, at the same time it is not completely closed in the lateral part. In 10-month fetuses the cellular groove is completely closed.

Intercellular septa of the maxilla in the early period of ontogenesis are slightly marked. Till the end of the perinatal period the intercellular septa between all the cells of the primary teeth rudiments are clearly outlined. Since the 6<sup>th</sup> month of the intrauterine development all the structures of the maxilla are radio-opaque. The outlines of the maxilla are clearly seen on the radiograms including its frontal, zygomatic and cellular processes, and the piriform opening. In 8-10-month fetuses and newborns the radiograms show clear outlines of the maxilla and zygomatic bone, frontal, zygomatic and cellular processes. The cells of the primary teeth rudiments and intercellular septa are well differentiated.

Macroscopic examination determined that the height of cellular process of the right maxilla in the

area of the cells of the I and III primary teeth rudiments in fetuses and newborns increases from  $5.71 \pm 0.09$  mm to  $9.41 \pm 0.2$  mm, and the cellular process of the left maxilla – from  $5.57 \pm 0.08$  mm to  $9.24 \pm 0.1$  mm, which is indicative of an even increase of this parameter 1,68 times as much. The height of the cellular process of the right maxilla in the area of the cells of the II and IV primary teeth rudiments in fetuses and newborns increases from  $3.25 \pm 1.14$  mm to  $9.41 \pm 0.2$  mm, and the cellular process of the left maxilla – from  $3.22 \pm 1.12$  to  $9.24 \pm 0.1$  mm, which is indicative of an even increase of this parameter 1,68 times as well. This parameter becomes much larger on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8-10<sup>th</sup> months and newborns. It is the least – on the 4-5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> months of the intrauterine development for the cellular processes of both right and left maxillae.

The length of the cellular process of the right maxilla in fetuses and newborns increases from  $19.44 \pm 1.34$  mm to  $38.29 \pm 0.31$  mm, and the length of the cellular process of the left maxilla – from  $19.25 \pm 1.45$  mm to  $38.05 \pm 0.29$  mm, which is indicative of an even increase of this parameter twice as much from both sides. This parameter increases considerably during 7-10 months and newborns, and it is the least – during 4-6 months of the intrauterine development for both maxillae.

**Conclusions.** 1. Beginning from the 6<sup>th</sup> month of the intrauterine development all the maxillary structures are contrast on X-ray. The outline of the maxilla, its frontal, zygomatic, cellular and pear-shaped opening processes are clearly seen on X-ray images. In 8-10-month fetuses and newborns the cells of the temporary teeth germs and intercellular septa are well differentiated. 2. The height of the cellular process of the right and left maxillae (in different areas) in the perinatal period increases considerably on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8-10<sup>th</sup> months and newborns, and the least – on the 4-5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> months of the intrauterine development. 3. The length of the cellular process of the right and left maxillae of fetuses and newborns increases considerably during 7-10<sup>th</sup> month and newborns, and the least increase is observed during the 4-6<sup>th</sup> months of the intrauterine development.

**The prospect of further research.** To study out the chronological sequence of changes in parameters, the formation of the structure and the topography of the cellular process of the maxilla in infants.

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### ФЕТАЛЬНАЯ АНАТОМИЯ АЛЬВЕОЛЯРНОГО ОТРОСТКА ВЕРХНЕЙ ЧЕЛЮСТИ

**Резюме.** В статье приведены данные относительно фетальной анатомии альвеолярного отростка верхней челюсти, определённые методами морфометрии, рентгенографического обследования, компьютер-

рної томографії, макроскопічного обстеження, термохімічної і механічної обробки кісток черепа, статистичної обробки отриманих даних. Дослідження альвеолярного отростка верхньої щелепи проведено на 53 трупах 4-10 місячних плодів і 11 новонароджених. Виявлено, що з 6-го місяця внутрішнього розвитку всі структури верхньої щелепи рентгеноконтрастні. На рентгеновських знімках чітко видні очертання верхньої щелепи, її лобний, скуловий і альвеолярний отростки. У 8-10-місячних плодів і новонароджених добре диференціюються альвеоли зачатків молочних зубів і межальвеолярні перегородки. Висота альвеолярного отростка обох щелеп (на різних участках) в перинатальному періоді суттєво збільшується на 6-ом, 8-10 місяцях і у новонароджених, і менше – на 4-5-ом і 7-ом місяцях внутрішнього розвитку. Довжина альвеолярного отростка правої і лівої верхньої щелепи в плодів і новонароджених суттєво збільшується протягом 7-10 місяців і у новонароджених, і менше – на 4-6 місяцях внутрішнього розвитку.

**Ключевые слова:** верхня щелесть, альвеолярний отросток, фетальна анатомія, людина.

#### FETAL ANATOMY OF THE MAXILLARY CELLULAR PROCESS

**Abstract.** The article provides data concerning fetal anatomy of the maxillary cellular process, determined methods of morphometry, X-ray examination, computed tomography, macroscopic examination, thermochemical and mechanical processing of the skull bones, and statistical processing of the obtained data. The study was performed on 53 dead 4-10-month fetuses and 11 newborns. Found that beginning from the 6<sup>th</sup> month of the intrauterine development all the maxillary structures are contrast on X-ray. The outline of the maxilla, its frontal, zygomatic, cellular and pear-shaped opening processes are clearly seen on X-ray images. In 8-10-month fetuses and newborns the cells of the temporary teeth germs and intercellular septa are well differentiated. The height of the cellular process of the right and left maxillae (in different areas) in the perinatal period increases considerably on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8-10<sup>th</sup> months and newborns, and the least – on the 4-5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> months of the intrauterine development. The length of the cellular process of the right and left maxillae of fetuses and newborns increases considerably during 7-10<sup>th</sup> month and newborns, and the least increase is observed during the 4-6<sup>th</sup> months of the intrauterine development.

**Key words:** upper jaw, cellular process, fetal anatomy, human.

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