

PREVENTABILITY OF DENTAL DISEASES

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Relevance of the topic. Numerous studies prove that the dental status of the Russian population has a steady tendency to deteriorate (Kuzmina E.M., 2001; V.I. Starodubov, K.G. Dzugaev, A.A. Kalininskaya, 2006; D.G. Meshcheryakov, 2006; V.G. Butova, 2008). Already at the age of fifteen, 91.9% of schoolchildren suffer from caries (E.G. Semenchenko, 2006). Every year in Russia there are cases of death due to diseases of the teeth and oral cavity (S.T. Sokhov, S.M. Airapetyan, T.P. Sabgaida, 2009).

Analysis of the practical activities of dentists shows that they are mainly engaged in purely medical work (I.V. Gunenkova, G.B. Ospanova, 2001). However, it is known that the primary focus on medical work cannot lead to a decrease in dental morbidity among the population (V.K. Leontyev, 1998; N.M. Kunitsyna and D.G. Meshcheryakov, 2005; B.V. Trifonov, 2009). The development of modern dental treatment technologies also does not lead to a decrease in the incidence of caries among the population (D.Ts. Sandakova, 2004). For this, it is necessary to develop a preventive direction in dentistry (V.N. Sorokin, 2006; D.G. Meshcheryakov, 2006).

Research has established that adequate economic, organizational and managerial decisions aimed at developing preventive work in the dental service help reduce costs in providing medical and preventive care to the population (E.M. Kuzmina, 2001; G.P. Silantyeva, 2006).

The World Health Organization is confident that by 2010 in Europe, with the help of mass preventive measures, it will be possible to reduce the incidence of dental caries to

80% of absolutely healthy 6-year-old children, and those who have reached 18 years of age will not have teeth removed due to caries (Mathers C.D., Loncar D., 2005).

The importance of the problem of preventing dental diseases has been increasingly studied in recent years by domestic authors, who emphasize the predominantly declarative nature of awareness of this problem (Jl.M. Dubinina, 2008; I.N. Kustov, 2008; V.T. Shestakov, 2008). Episodic and unsystematic use of methods for preventing dental diseases discredits this method, since with such an approach to its use it is impossible to achieve a stable preventive effect (B.J. Drescher, 2003).

The current shortage of dental professionals in most regions of Russia ultimately leads to poor organization of treatment and, especially, preventive work (I.N. Prokudin, 2007). It has been noted that over the past 15 years, the country has virtually lost specialists capable of creating federal preventive programs (V.T. Shestakov, O.O. Yanushevich, V.K. Leontyev, 2008). The effectiveness of preventive programs at the population level is determined not only by the work of medical institutions, but also by the health-preserving behavior of the population itself. First of all, it is necessary to have an interest in preventive measures by the population, and to undergo dental examinations on a timely and regular basis (Zh.G. Muravyannikova, 2007). Unfortunately, the behavioral characteristics of the population are more inert than the organization of the health care system. At the same time, it is quite easy to increase the level of knowledge about proper oral hygiene and measures to prevent the development of dental diseases in the population. This task is very urgent today, because a number of researchers have shown an insufficient level of knowledge and skills in oral hygiene, especially in children and adolescents (Kuzmina E.M., 2001; N.M. Kunitsina, 2003; L.Yu. Orekhova et al., 2005; G.P. Silantyeva et al., 2006).

If the behavior of the population changes in the direction of maintaining dental health and actively using disease prevention measures, then the scale and structure of the required dental care will change. Since maintaining the health of the population has finally been recognized as a priority state task, then we should expect an increase in the social

value of health and be prepared for a change in the population's demand for certain types of dental care.

The purpose of the study was to assess the preventability of dental diseases by increasing the population's commitment to preventive measures. Objectives of the study:

1. To assess the population's commitment to preventive measures for dental diseases and to identify age, gender and social risk groups.
2. To study the opinion of experts (dentists) on the effectiveness of various preventive measures to improve dental health and their dissemination among the population.
3. To study the nature of the population's appeals for dental diseases.
4. To provide a forecast of dental morbidity in the context of a new model of preventive behavior of the population.
5. To determine the reserves of preventability of dental diseases, including tooth loss, in the context of increased preventive work.

Subjects of the study (studied phenomena)

Adherence of the population (patients of a dental clinic and patients of a general clinic) to preventive measures for dental diseases, reasons for the population seeking dental care, the presence of concomitant chronic diseases and the frequency of pathological changes in the dentoalveolar system in patients of different age and gender groups. Perception of experts (dentists) of the importance of prevention in improving dental health, the effectiveness of individual measures to prevent dental diseases and the possibility of increasing the population's commitment to these

The scientific novelty of the study lies in the fact that for the first time:

- a comprehensive analysis of the opinions of various groups of patients (depending on gender, age, education, employment, self-assessment of income level and reason for visiting a clinic) on the effectiveness of primary prevention measures for dental diseases, their commitment to these measures and the availability of modern methods of prevention was given;

- based on a sociological study, expert assessments were obtained of the prevalence of sanitary and hygienic measures for dental care among the population and the effectiveness of measures to involve the population in prevention;

- based on mathematical modeling, a forecast was given for the reduction of dental morbidity in the working-age population with increased preventive work; reserves for the preventability of dental diseases (reduction of dental health losses) were determined in the context of a new model of preventive behavior of the population.

Practical significance of the work: A group of patients was identified - young people aged 16-25, mainly men, with a low level of education, requiring active work to increase their involvement in prevention. Effective preventive measures have been identified, the implementation of which requires the combined efforts of specialists from dental and other medical (antenatal clinic) and educational institutions (preschool institutions and primary school). Expert assessments of the preventability of dental diseases by preventive measures have been obtained, based on which a forecast for the reduction of dental morbidity has been given and reserves for reducing losses in dental health have been identified in the context of a new model of preventive behavior of the population.

The main provisions submitted for defense: 1. Low commitment of the population to measures for the prevention of dental diseases determines the need to develop a set of measures to improve the organizational forms of preventive work.

2. The adequacy of the population's attitude to maintaining dental health is determined by the social well-being of society and

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