

ORTHOPANTOMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS OF THE MAXILLARY SINUS IN THE ELDERLY

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ABSTRACT:

The prevalence of maxillary sinus findings in 200 elderly subjects (50-95 years) were investigated with the use of panoramic radiography. Our results showed that mucosal thickenings were found in 59 (29.5%) cases and mucous retention cysts were found in 19 (9.5%) cases. Both findings were recorded together in 11 (5.5%) cases. The highest percentage of mucosal thickenings was found in the age group of 50-60 years (47.5%) within this sinus finding. Also the highest percentage of mucous retention cysts was also found in the same age group (73.7%). No statistical significant difference was recorded between prevalence of maxillary sinus findings and age of the patients ($P=0.460$). (Maxillary sinus findings were found slightly higher in males, despite that no statistical significant difference was found regarding sex) ($P = 0.600$). (Prevalence of mucous retention cysts was slightly higher in dentate group 11 patients) (10.1%) (but also no statistical difference was found between maxillary sinus findings and presence or absence of teeth) ($P = 0.664$). (In the view of these results, it could be concluded that prevalence of maxillary sinus findings were neither maxilla teeth nor age dependant. Hence, it can be suspected that odontogenic causes may not be a major contributing factor in their formation.