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DENTAL STATUS OF CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

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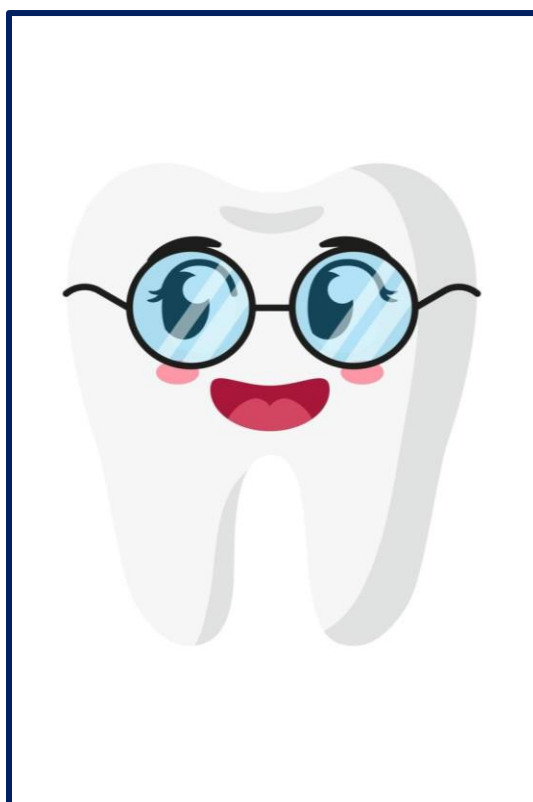
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Abstract. As a result of the analysis of scientific literature, it was found that dental disorders in the oral cavity for children with visual impairments include dental anomalies, changes in the development of soft tissues, as well as carious lesions of teeth and inflammatory processes such as stomatitis, gingivitis, periodontitis and others.

Relevance. Visual impairments are a fairly common pathology of the sensory organs: according to Rosstat, about 20 thousand children in Russia have blindness or reduced vision. Maintaining an optimal degree of oral cleaning in children with this pathology is difficult, which becomes the root cause of the development of various dental pathologies.

The purpose of the work. The study of the dental status of children with visual impairments.

The research objective. To analyze the scientific literature on the topic.



Materials and methods. In the Course of the work, scientific articles from databases such as Medline, Google Scholar, Elibrary, and PubMed were analyzed.



Results. Pathological conditions in the oral cavity in children with visual impairments are different. Dentists identify occlusion disorders, anomalies in the size, shape and position of teeth, and jaw growth, and the frequency of these pathologies is comparable to the frequency in healthy children. For patients with a significant decrease in vision, late teething, a smaller size of the dental arch are distinguished, which is due to reduced mobility of facial expressions due to a reduced reaction to visual stimuli, an open bite (insufficient control over the position of the tongue), and an increased risk of injury in the facial region. Dentists also note a short frenulum of the tongue, high attachment of the lower lip, shallow vestibule of the oral cavity, swallowing disorders due to dysfunction of the temporomandibular joint. It has been established that the viscosity of saliva in children with this pathology can be increased, and the rate of salivation is reduced, which explains the prevalence of pathogenic microorganisms in the oral cavity. Caries, infectious and inflammatory processes of the oral cavity due to reduced enamel resistance and insufficient saliva functions are also frequent companions of children with visual impairments, as patients experience difficulties in maintaining oral hygiene. The inability to recognize the onset of the carious process in a timely manner is one of the reasons for the high prevalence of caries in children with visual impairments.

Conclusion. The results obtained indicate the severity and prevalence of both dental system pathologies and infectious and inflammatory processes occurring in the oral cavity, which indicates the need to develop measures to support oral health in children with visual impairments.