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## Profil stomatoloških pacijenata Sveučilišne stomatološke klinike i privatne prakse u Portugalu

### *Profile of Dental Patients in University-Based and Private Practice in Portugal*

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#### Sažetak

**Svrha:** Namjera je bila odrediti profile pacijenata koji odlaze na stomatološke zahvate na sveučilište i one koji biraju privatne klinike. **Materijali i metode:** Opisna i istraživačka studija provodila se u Portugalu od studenoga 2010. do ožujka 2011. i autori su se pritom koristili upitnikom European Medical Risk Related History. Sveukupno su sudjelovale dvije tisuće pacijenata (1000 je posjećivalo privatne klinike – PC-e; 1000 se lječilo na Sveučilišnoj klinici u gradu Viseu – u UBC-u). Privatne klinike bile su u Portugalu na 21 lokaciji (37 % na obali, 63 % u unutrašnjosti) i u njima rade bivši studenti Portugalskog katoličkog sveučilišta, a Sveučilišna stomatološka klinika smještena je, kao što je već istaknuto, u Viseu. Promatrane varijable bile su dob, spol, stručna spremna, zanimanje, vrijednosti ASA-e (Američke udruge anestezijologa – American Society of Anesthesiologist), medicinski rizik i anamneza te lijekovi koji su ordinirani pacijentima. **Rezultati:** Za Sveučilišnu kliniku ( $p<0,05$ ) odlučili su se pacijenti u dobi iznad 45 godina s nižom ili srednjom stručnom spremom, bilo studenti bilo kućanice uvršteni u rizik II prema ASA-i, a patili su od padavice, uzimali antidepresive, anksiolitike, hipnotike te lijekove za snižavanje kolesterola i triglicerida. Pacijenti između 18. i 44. godine, visokoobrazovani, zaposleni, uvršteni u rizik III i IV prema ASA-i, a bolovali su od angine pektoris i aritmije, imali su veće mogućnosti za odabir privatnih stomatoloških klinika ( $p<0,05$ ). **Zaključak:** U ovom istraživanju ističe se koliko je važna anamneza u kliničkoj stomatološkoj praksi. Dobiveni rezultati olakšavaju procjenu, vođenje te poboljšavanje dodiplomskog stomatološkog nastavnog plana te potiču trajnu edukaciju stomatoloških profesionalaca.

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#### Ključne riječi

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#### Uvod

Profil stomatoloških pacijenata mijenja se tijekom desetljeća. Pritom je najvažnije da je stanovništvo sve starije i zato oboljeva od mnogih kroničnih bolesti pa troši po osobi i nekoliko lijekova. Osim toga sve je zahtjevnije kad je riječ o oralnom zdravlju (1–8).

Trajna izobrazba stomatološkog osoblja morala bi voditi računa o navedenim promjenama. Trebalo bi odvojiti dostatno vremena kako bi se osiguralo dovoljno medicinskog znanja za razvijanje vještina dijagnosticiranja i određivanje stomatološke terapije te za implementaciju svih dobivenih podataka o pacijentu u vezi s oralnim i općim zdravljem (9, 10). Ako fakultetski nastavni planovi prate potrebe stanovništva, može se zaključiti da je postignut najviši standard kliničke edukacije (9, 11, 12). Osim toga, prihvaćeno je da dodiplomsko kliničko obrazovanje mora biti usmjereno prema pacijentu, pa se takav pristup provodi i u privatnim praksama (13, 14). Stomatološke usluge na razini sveučili-

#### Introduction

The profile of dental patients has been changing in recent decades: these patients have become increasingly aged; suffer from polypathologies and take various medications; and have become more demanding with regard to oral healthcare (1–8).

Continuing dental education should reflect these changes. A substantial amount of time should be given to the acquisition of general medicine competencies: the development of skills to elaborate on diagnosis and treatment plans; and the ability to integrate all patient data relating to oral and general health (9, 10). The highest quality of clinical competency-based education was achieved when dental curriculum was related to the needs of the population (9, 11, 12). Moreover, it has been accepted that undergraduate clinical training should be patient-centered, as this is more representative of what will happen in private practice (13,14). The oral healthcare provided to patients in a university-based clinic (UBC) is different. It is performed by dental professionals who are still

šta malo su drugačije. Obavljaju ih profesionalci-početnici pod nadzorom mentora. Sa stajališta pacijenta glavna prednost sveučilišne klinike jest besplatan ili jeftin tretman te njegova dostupnost (15). Iako pacijenti mogu utjecati na kliničko obrazovanje studenata, malo se zna o profilima onih koji odabiru liječenje na sveučilišnoj klinici i onih koji radije odlaže u privatne stomatološke ordinacije (16).

Svrha ovog istraživanja bila je procijeniti razlike između profila pacijenata koji se liječe u privatnim stomatološkim ambulantama i pristaju da ih liječe mladi stomatolozi i onih koji se liječe na Sveučilišnoj stomatološkoj klinici pod nadzorom mentora.

## Materijali i metode

Ovo istraživanje bilo je deskriptivno i eksplorativno. Skupljeni su podaci od dvije tisuće pacijenata u dobi od 18 godina naviše koji su zatražili liječenje na jednoj od dviju spomenutih klinika – 1000 pacijenata posjetilo je privatne stomatološke klinike gdje su ih liječili stomatolozi koji su nedavno diplomirali na Portugalskom katoličkom sveučilištu, a 1000 je odabralo Sveučilišnu stomatološku kliniku gdje su ih liječili studenti posljednje godine kliničkog obrazovanja. Pratila se 21 privatna klinika diljem Portugala – njih 37 posto bilo je na obali, a 63 posto u unutrašnjosti. Sveučilišna stomatološka klinika nalazi se u gradu Viseu.

Na prvom pregledu svaki je pacijent dobio opširne informacije o istraživanju. Ako se složio sa sudjelovanjem, morao je potpisati informirani pristanak Etičkoga povjerenstva Portugalskoga katoličkog sveučilišta te ispuniti portugalsku verziju upitnika European Medical Risk Relateh History – EMRRH-a. Taj upitnik omogućio je prikupljanje preoperativnih informacija o medicinskom statusu pacijenta te podatke o medicinskoj klasifikaciji pacijenta prema ASA-i (Američkoj udruzi anestesiologa – American Society of Anesthesiologists) (tablica 1.). Inače, primjenjuje se u deset europskih zemalja (5, 17). Klase I ASA-e znači da je pacijent zdrav i nije mu potrebna nikakva terapija, klasa II, pak, pokazuje da boluje od umjerene sistemske bolesti koja ga ne opterećuje na dnevnoj osnovi i uglavnom je povezana sa stresom ili se lijekovima može držati pod nadzorom. Klase III ASA-e potvrđuju da pacijent boluje od teških sistemskih komplikacija koje ograničavaju svakodnevne aktivnosti, ali bolest ga

in the first stages of the clinical learning process, and who are therefore supervised by tutors. From the perspective of the patients, the primary advantages of UBCs are related to the treatments being free, or of low cost, and the easier access to dental care (15). Once the type of patient can influence clinical training, very little is known with regard to the differences in the profiles of patients who selected UBCs and those who selected private clinics (PCs) for their oral healthcare (16).

The aim of the present study was to assess the differences between the profile of those patients treated at PCs by junior dentists who had graduated from the Portuguese Catholic University, and those patients treated by students supervised by tutors at the dental clinic at the same university.

## Materials and Methods

The study was descriptive and exploratory, comparing data gathered from 2000 individuals aged over 18 years who had requested dental treatment at one of two different types of clinic: 1000 patients attended PCs, where they received treatment from junior dentists who had graduated from the Portuguese Catholic University; 1000 patients attended the university's dental clinic and were treated by final-year dental students still in clinical training. The PCs were situated in 21 different areas of Portugal, 37% of which were on the coast and 63% of which were inland in the countryside, and the UBC was in the city of Viseu, Portugal.

At the beginning of their consultation, each individual received information giving details of the present study. If agreeing to participate, the patient gave a written declaration of consent, according to the Ethical Commission of the Portuguese Catholic University, and filled in the Portuguese version of the European Medical Risk Related History (EMRRH) questionnaire which was provided and explained by the dental professional. This questionnaire allows obtaining the pre-operative physical status and the medical risk ASA (American Society of Anesthesiologists) classification of the patient, see Table 1. In addition, it was validated in 10 European countries (5, 17). The ASA I class means that the patient is healthy and does not need any therapy modifications. In the ASA II, the patient suffers from mild or moderate systemic diseases not interfering with the daily life. Stress reduction might be possible and the medication could be adjusted accordingly. In the ASA III, the patient suffers from severe systemic complica-

**Tablica 1.** EMRRH upitnik (European medical risk related history), Inpijn et al. (2008)<sup>5</sup>.

**Table 1** EMRRH questionnaire (European medical risk related history), Inpijn et al. (2008)<sup>5</sup>.

Osjećate li bol nakon napora (angina pectoris)? • Do you experience chest pain upon exertion (Angina pectoris)? (II)

Jesu li vaše aktivnosti ograničene? • Are your activities restricted? (III)

Jesu li se vaše poteškoće nedavno pogorsale? • Have the complaints increased recently? (IV)

Imate li bolove u prsima dok mirujete? • Do you have chest pain at rest? (IV)

2. Jeste li imali srčani udar? • Have you ever had a heart attack? (II)

Jesu li vaše aktivnosti ograničene? • Are your activities restricted? (III)

Jeste li imali srčani udar u posljednjih 6 mjeseci? • Have you had a heart attack in the last 6 months? (IV)

3. Imate li šum na srcu, bolest srčanih zalistaka, ili umjetni zalistak? • Do you have a heart murmur, heart valve disease, or an artificial heart valve? (II)

Jeste li operirali srce ili krvožilni sustav u zadnjih 6 mjeseci? • Have you had heart or vascular surgery within the last 6 months? (II)

Jeste li imali reumatsku bolest srca? • Have you ever had rheumatic heart disease? (III)

Jesu li vaše aktivnosti ograničene? • Are your activities restricted? (III)

4. Imate li lutanje srca bez naprezanja? • Do you have heart palpitations without exertion? (II)

Morate li sjesti, leći ili odmoriti se tijekom lutanja? • Do you have to rest, sit down or lie down during palpitations (III)

Are you short of breath, pale or dizzy at these times? (IV)

5. Radi li vam srce nenormalno? • Do you suffer from heart failure? (II)

Nemate li zraka kad mirno ležite? • Are you short of breath lying flat? (III)

Trebate li više od dva jastuka tijekom noći, zbog manjka zraka? • Do you need two or more pillows at night, due to shortness of breath? (IV)

6. Jeste li ikad imali visoki tlak? • Have you now or in the past had high blood pressure? (II)

Koji vam je posljednji izmjereni tlak? • Write down your last known blood pressure

7. Jeste li skloni krvarenju? • Do you have a tendency to bleed? (II)

Krvarite li dulje nakon kirurškog zahvata? • Do you bleed for more than one hour following injury or surgery? (III)

Jeste li skloni spontanom ozljedivanju? • Do you suffer from spontaneous bruising? (IV)

8. Imate li epilepsiju? Ako (II) • Do you have epilepsy? If (II)

Pogoršava li se stanje? • Is your condition getting worse? (III)

Imate li napade usprkos lijekovima? • Do you continue to have attacks despite medication? (IV)

9. Imate li astmu? • Do you suffer from asthma? (II)

Koristite li lijekove/inhalatore? • Do you use any medication and/or inhalers? (III)

Dišete li danas teško? • Is your breathing difficult today? (IV)

10. Imate li problema s plućima ili kašljem? • Do you have other lung problems or a persistent cough? (II)

Nedostaje li vam zraka nakon dvadeset stuba? • Are you short of breath after climbing 20 steps? (III)

Nedostaje li vam zraka kad se odijevate? • Are you short of breath getting dressed? (IV)

11. Jeste li ikad imali alergijsku reakciju na penicilin, aspirin, lateks ili bilo što drugo? • Have you ever had an allergic reaction to penicillin, aspirin, latex, or anything else? (II)

Jeste li zbog toga liječeni? • Did this require medical or hospital treatment? (III)

Je li to bilo tijekom posjeta ordinaciji dentalne medicine? • Was it during a dental visit? (IV)

Na što ste alergični? • What are you allergic to?

12. Imate li šećernu bolest? • Do you have diabetes? (II)

Jeste li na inzulinu? • Are you on insulin? (II)

Je li vaša šećerna bolest sada loše kontrolirana? • Is your diabetes poorly controlled at present? (III)

13. Bolujete li od bolesti štitnjače? • Do you suffer from a thyroid disease? (II)

Je li ona slabo aktivna? • Do you have an underactive thyroid? (III)

Je li ona previše aktivna? • Do you have an overactive thyroid? (IV)

14. Imate li/jeste li imali bolest jetre? • Have you now or in the past had liver disease? (II)

15. Imate li bolest bubrega? • Do you have a kidney disease? (II)

Idete li na dijalizu? • Are you undergoing dialysis? (III)

Imate li transplantirani bubreg? • Have you had a kidney transplant? (III)

16. Jeste li ikad imali rak ili leukemiju? • Have you ever had cancer or leukemia? (II)

Koja bolest je u pitanju? • What is the disease?

Jeste li na lijekovima ili vam je transplantirana moždina? • Are you receiving drug therapy or have you had a bone marrow transplant for this? (III)

Koji lijekovi? • Which medication?

Jeste li ikad zračeni zbog tumora u području glave i vrata? • Have you ever had X-ray treatment for a tumor or growth in the head or neck? (IV)

17. Jeste li ikad hiperventilirali? • Do you suffer from hyperventilation? (II)

18. Jeste li ikad izgubili svijest tijekom liječenja? • Have you ever fainted during dental or medical treatment? (II)

19. Uzimate li lijekove? • Are you on any medication at present? (II)

Zbog srca? • For a heart complain?

Antikoagulanse? • Anticoagulants?

Za visoki tlak? • For high blood pressure?

Uzimate li aspirin ili neki drugi lijek protiv bolova? • Do you take aspirin or other painkillers?

Za alergije? • For allergies?

Za dijabetes? • For diabetes?

Prednison, kortikosteroide (lokalno ili sistemski)? • Prednisone, corticosteroids (topical or systemic) ?

Lijekove protiv odbacivanja transplantata? • Drugs against transplant rejection?

Za reumu, bolesti kože ili crijeva? • For rheumatism, skin or bowel diseases?

Za rak ili bolesti krvii? • For cancer or blood diseases?

Penicilin, antibiotike ili antimikrobne lijekove? • Penicillin, antibiotics or antimicrobials?

Zbog poremećaja sna, depresivnog stanja ili anksioznosti? • For sleeping disorder, depressive condition or anxiety state?

Uzimate li koje druge lijekove? Koje? • Do you take other medications? Indicate which.

20. Morate li uzeti antibiotik prije zahvata u ustima? • Do you have to take antibiotics before dental treatment? (II)

21. Samo za žene, jeste li trudni? • Women only, please, are you pregnant? (II)

još nije onesposobila. Pacijentova bolest nije pod kontrolom. Vrlo je važno smanjiti stres i odlaziti liječniku. Moguća je i prilagodba terapije. Klasa IV ASA-e znači da pacijent boluje od teških sistemskih bolesti koje ograničavaju njegove aktivnosti i onesposobljavaju ga. Bolest se mora kontrolirati i potrebne su konzultacije s medicinskim osobljem. Stomatološki tretmani trebaju se svesti na minimalne hitne zahvate.

Svaki od 49 stomatologa i studenata koji su sudjelovali u istraživanju dobili su detaljne upute o metodologiji rada. Svi podaci skupljeni su od studenoga 2010. do ožujka 2011. godine.

Eksperimentalna studija provedena je na 241 pacijentu od listopada 2009. do travnja 2010. Bila je korisna zato što je ispitano razumijevanje portugalskog testa te veličina uzorka. G\*Power (18, 19) izračunat je na osnovi najniže vrijednosti karakteristike populacije. Vrijednosti su bile sljedeće: H<sub>0</sub>=0,028 (postotak ljudi koji su 2001. u Portugalu umirovljeni zbog invaliditeta); H<sub>1</sub>=0,012 (postotak ljudi koji su umirovljeni zbog invaliditeta u eksperimentalnoj studiji); a vjerojatnost pogreške 0,05; i (1 - β) od 0,80. Prema tim podacima izračunato je da bi u istraživanju trebalo biti najmanje 1915 sudionika (20).

Proučavane varijable u ovom su istraživanju pružatelji stomatoloških usluga (privatne klinike ili Sveučilišna klinika), dob, spol, zanimanje, stupanj obrazovanja, vrijednosti ASA-e, medicinski rizik i anamneza te vrste lijekova. Nulta hipoteza glasila je da ne postoji razlika ( $p<0,05$ ) između pacijenata koji su odabrali privatne ordinacije i onih koji su se odlučili za Sveučilišnu kliniku.

Svi podaci pohranjeni su u Microsoftovu programu Excel 2010., nakon čega su analizirani u SPSS-u.

Univariantna analiza sastojala se od frekvencija i postotaka varijabli svake kategorije, srednje vrijednosti, raspona standardne devijacije te maksimalnih i minimalnih godina. Bivariatna raščlamba uključivala je Mann-Whitney test kako bi se odredila razlika u dobi pacijenata koji su se koristili dvjema različitim vrstama klinika te Pearsonov chi-square ili Cramerov V-test kojima se provjeravala povezanost između mesta liječenja i demografskih varijabli. Multivariantna analiza sastojala se od logističke regresije kako bi se povjerili prediktori privatnih i Sveučilišne klinike. Kod nedihotomnih varijabli kao što su, primjerice, obrazovanje i zanimanje, stvorene su lažne varijable. Kod medicinske anamneze i lijekova, dob je korištena kao sučimbenik kad god je to bilo moguće (21).

## Rezultati

Cjelokupni uzorak sastojao se od dvije tisuće pacijenata podijeljenih u dvije jednake skupine – na one koji su tražili pomoć u privatnim klinikama i one koji su odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku. U uzorku je bilo 38,20 posto muškaraca (n=764) i 61,80 posto žena (n=1236). Kad je riječ o zanimanjima, 16,35 posto sudionika (n=327) bili su studenti, 59,20 posto (n=1184) zaposleni, 8,60 posto (n=172) kućanice, 6,40 posto (n=128) nezaposleni, 8,30 posto (n=166) umirovljenici i 1,15 posto (n=23) umirovljenici u invalidskoj mirovini. Ukupno 38,65 posto (n=773) ispitanika školovalo se devet ili manje godina, 32,45 posto (n=649) imalo je vi-

tions which limit their activity but are not incapacitating. The patient's diseases are uncontrolled. Stress reduction and medical consultation are priorities. There is, also, the possibility of strict therapy modifications. And in ASA IV, the patient suffers from severe systemic diseases that limit their activity and are incapacitating. Maximum priority of medical consultation to control the diseases is mandatory. Oral treatments should be reduced to minimal emergency care, and hospitalization is needed for stressful elective treatment.

Each of the 49 dentists and dental students who participated in the study received instructions providing details on the methodology. The data were collected between November 2010 and March 2011.

A pilot study had been conducted on 241 patients between October 2009 and April 2010. This was useful for testing the comprehension of the Portuguese (Portugal) test and checking the sample size. The G\*Power (18, 19) was calculated on the basis of the lowest value of population characteristics found; retirement due to disability. The values used were as follows: H<sub>0</sub>=0.028 (percentage of people who had retired due to disability in Portugal, 2001); H<sub>1</sub>=0.012 (percentage of people who had retired due to disability in the pilot study); α error probability of 0.05; and (1-β) power of 0.80. The sample should contain at least 1915 participants (20).

The variables studied were the place of dental service provision, PC or UBC, age, gender, occupation, level of education, American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) medical risk, medical history, and type of medication. The null hypothesis stated that there were no differences ( $p<0.05$ ) between patients who had selected PCs and patients who had selected the UBC.

The data were initially collected in Microsoft Excel 2010, after which they were analyzed with SPSS. Univariate analysis comprised frequencies and percentages of variables of each category, and mean, standard deviation range, maximum and minimum age. Bivariate analysis included a Mann-Whitney test to check the significant age differences observed between the two places of treatment, PC and UBC; and a Pearson's chi-square or Cramer V to check significant associations between place of treatment and the demographic variables. Multivariate analysis consisted of logistic regression to check the predictors of PC and UBC. In the non-dichotomous variables, such as level of education and occupation, dummy variables were created. For medical history and medications, age was the co-factor used, when possible (21).

## Results

The total sample consisted of 2000 patients, equally divided between those who sought treatment at the UBC and those who attended PCs. A total of 38.20% (n=764) of the study participants were male, and 61.80% (n=1236) were female. With regard to occupation, 16.35% (n=327) were students, 59.20% (n=1184) had jobs, 8.60% (n=172) were housewives, 6.40% (n=128) were unemployed, 8.30% (n=166) had retired and 1.15% (n=23) had retired due to disability. A total of 38.65% (n=773) participants had received 9 years of education or fewer, 32.45% (n=649) had received over 9 years of education, but had not obtained a

**Tablica 2.** Profil pacijenata, demografski podaci, odds ratio u pacijenata koji su odabrali privatne ustanove u odnosu na Sveučilišnu kliniku, p<0.05; \* Mann-Whitney, p<0.05; \*\* p>0.05.

**Table 2** Study of the profile of patients – demographic variables. \*Odds of a patient selecting private clinics (PC) rather than university-based clinic (UBC), p<0.05; \* Mann-Whitney, p<0.05; \*\* p>0.05.

Varijabla • Variable		Parametar • Parameter	PC	UBC	Pearson X <sup>2</sup> (r)	Cramer V(r)	Exp (B) <sup>a</sup>	95% interval pouzdanosti • 95% C.I. for Exp (B)
Dob • Age			39.9±15.4*	43.6±16.7*				
Dobna skupina • Age group	18-44	n	647	531	0.125		1.580	1.294-1929
	45-64	n	285	353			0.737	0.360-0.603
	≥ 65	n	68	116			0.660	0.476-0.915
Spol • Gender	Muški • Male	n	365	399	**			
	Ženski • Female	n	635	601				
Razina edukacije • Level of education	Niska • Lower	n	294	479	0.231		0.480	0.393-0.586
	Srednja • Medium	n	322	327			0.805	0.661-0.980
	Visoka • High	n	384	194			2.325	1.878-2.880
Zaposlenje • Occupation	Student	n	129	192	0.214		0.355	0.268-0.471
	Radnik • Worker	n	683	494			2.103	1.746-2.534
	Domaćica • Housewife	n	40	127			0.480	0.332-0.695
	Nezaposlen • Unemployed	n	58	74			**	
	Umirovljen • Retired	n	81	99			**	
	Umirovljen zbog invalidnosti • Retired by disability	n	9	14			NA	

**Tablica 3.** Vrsta dijagnoze, odds ratio različitih dijagnoza u pacijenata koji su odabrali privatne ustanove u odnosu na Sveučilišnu kliniku, p<0,05 \* p>0,05

**Table 3** Study of medical antecedents found in the two places of treatment. <sup>1</sup> Odds of a patient with the respective antecedent selecting private clinics (PC) rather than the university-based clinic (UBC), p<0.05. \* p>0.05.

Varijabla • Variable	PC (1000)	UBC (1000)	Exp (B) <sup>1</sup>	95% interval pouzdanosti • 95% C. I.
ASA I	475	449	*	
ASA II	308	409	0.709	0.587-0.857
ASA III	106	84	1.429	1.052-1.940
ASA IV	111	58	2.299	1.641-3.219
Antecedents	525	551	*	
Angina pectoris	80	58	1.622	1.134 – 2.320
Infarkt miokarda • Myocardial infarction	20	14	NA	
Valvulopatije • Valvulopathies	34	36	*	
Aritmije • Arrhythmias	106	64	1.891	1.359 – 2.632
Srčana insuficijencija • Cardiac insufficiency	11	14	NA	
Hipertenzija • Hypertension	162	195	*	
Koagulopatije • Coagulopathies	34	22	NA	
Epilepsija • Epilepsy	13	6	NA	
Astma • Asthma	43	32	*	
KOBP • COPD	48	43	*	
Alergije • Allergies	75	65	*	
Dijabetes • Diabetes	41	51	*	
Bolest štitnjake • Thyroid disease	54	53	*	
Bolest jetre • Hepatic disease	45	28	NA	
BOlesti bubrega • Nephropathies	26	23	NA	
Tumori • Oncologic disease	18	23	NA	
Hiperventilacija • Hyperventilation	15	6	NA	
Nesvjestica • Fainting	35	294	0.092	0.063 – 0.133
Lijekovi • Medicated	342	418	*	
Antibotska profilaksa • Antibiotic prophylaxis	15	24	NA	
Trudnoža • Pregnancy	14	3	NA	

**Tablica 4.** Rasprostranjenost medikamentoznog liječenja, odds ratio u pacijenata koji su medikamentozno liječeni u privatnim ustanovama u odnosu na Sveučilišnu kliniku, p<0,05 \* p>0,05

**Table 4** Distribution of type of medications found in the two places of treatment<sup>1</sup>. Odds of a patient with the respective medication selecting private clinics (PC) rather than the university-based clinic (UBC), p<0.05 \* p>0.05

Lijekovi • Medication	PC (1000)	UBC (1000)	Exp (B) <sup>1</sup>	
Antihipertenzivi • Antihypertensives	115	135	*	
Antidepresivi, anksiolitici i hipnotici • Antidepressants, anxiolytics and hypnotics	100	148	0.743	0.563-0.981
Za snižavanje kolesterola i triglicerida • Cholesterol-lowering and triglycerides-lowering	30	56	0.569	0.354-0.915
Antiaritmici, simpatomimetici, inotropici i kardiotonici • Antiarrhythmics, sympathomimetics, Inotropics and cardiotonics	47	44	*	
Mišićno-skeletalni sustav, gastrointestinalni motilitet, dermatologija • Musculoskeletal system, gastrointestinal motility, dermatology	34	44	*	
Antidiabetici • Antidiabetics	27	48	*	
Kontraceptivi • Contraceptives	31	42	*	
Hemostatsko liječenje • Hemostatic treatment	37	32	*	
Acetilsalicilna kiselina • Acetylsalicylic acid	43	26	NA	
Antialergenici • Anti-allergenics	25	14	NA	
Tiroidni hormoni i antitiroidni lijekovi • Thyroid hormones and antithyroid drugs	18	17	NA	
Antibiotici • Antibiotics	19	11	NA	
Kortikosteroidi • Corticosteroids	16	11	NA	
Antacidi i lijekovi protiv ulkusa • Antacids and anti-ulcers	9	15	NA	
Liječenje osteoporoze • Osteoporosis treatment	8	13	NA	
Antiasmatische • Antiasthmatics	14	4	NA	
Vitamini i minerali • Vitamins and minerals	4	8	NA	
Antineoplastici • Antineoplastics	6	8	NA	
Antiepileptici • Antiepileptics	4	4	NA	
Prevencija i liječenje karcinoma prostate • Prevention and treatment of prostate cancer	5	9	NA	
Snižavanje urične kiseline • Uric acid-lowering	3	1	NA	
Antiemetici • Antiemetics	2	1	NA	
Liječenje migrene • Migraine treatment	1	0	NA	
Imunomodulatori • Immunomodulators	1	4	NA	
Antiparkinsonici • Antiparkinsonians	1	0	NA	
Antipsihotici • Antipsychotics	1	0	NA	
Cjepiva • Vaccines	0	2	NA	
Regeneratori jetre • Hepatoregenerators	1	0	NA	
Stimulatori mozga • Brain stimulants	3	0	NA	
Antituberkulotici • Anti-TB	0	1	NA	
Hondroprotectivni lijekovi • Chondroprotectives	0	1	NA	
Genitourinarna disfunkcija • Genitourinary dysfunction	0	2	NA	

še od devet godina škole ali ne sveučilišnu diplomu, a 28,90 posto (n=578) imalo je sveučilišnu diplomu ili neki ekvivalent. Srednja dob uzorka bila je  $41,58 \pm 16,10$  godina, a srednja vrijednost godina iznosila je 39 godina, uz raspon od 76 godina. Najmlađi sudionik imao je 18 godina, a najstariji 94. Skupina pacijenata u dobi od 18 do 44 godine predstavljala je 58,90 posto (n=1178) uzorka; skupina pacijenata između 45. i 64. godine predstavljala je 31,90 posto (n=638) uzorka; skupina pacijenata od 65 godina naviše predstavljala je 9,20 posto (n=184) uzorka. Demografski podaci, medicinska anamneza, lijekovi koje pacijenti uzimaju te mjesto odabira liječenja predstavljeni su u tablicama 2, 3 i 4.

## Rasprrava

Ovo istraživanje pridonosi razumijevanju tipičnog pacijenta koji traži stomatološko liječenje. Ako se zna kakav je profil pacijenta kojem je potrebna stomatološka pomoć, to pomaže stomatološkom timu da se pripremi, prepozna, pre-

university degree, and 28.90% (n=578) had a university degree or equivalent. The mean age of the sample was  $41.58 \pm 16.10$  years, while the median was 39 years, and the range was 76 years. The youngest participant was 18 years old, and the oldest was aged 94 years. The group of individuals aged 18 to 44 years corresponded to 58.9% (n=1178), the group of participants aged between 45 and 64 years amounted to 31.90% (n=638), and those aged 65 years or more constituted 9.20% (n=184) of the study sample, respectively. The demographics, medical history, and medications of the participants, according to place of treatment selected, are shown in Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4.

## Discussion

The present study provides a contribution towards the understanding of the typical profile of an individual who needs dental care. The knowledge of the profile of dental patients helps dental team in preventing, preparing, recognizing, and

venira i upravlja svim hitnim situacijama u ambulanti (21 – 24). Sigurnije radno ozračje omogućuje stomatologu da se usmjeri isključivo na plan terapije. Liječnički pregled trebao bi početi ispunjavanjem upitnika o medicinskoj anamnezi i razgovorom s pacijentom, procjenom rizika ASA-e, protokolima za smanjenje stresa te na kraju s postoperativnom kontrolom boli (25, 26).

Iako uzorak ne predstavlja u cijelosti portugalsku populaciju, to je uzorak populacije starije od 14 godina koja je posjetila stomatologa posljednjih dvanaest mjeseci prije prihvaćanja dokumenta o Nacionalnom zdravstvenom stanju u Portugalu – 2005./2006. (27).

Ljudi koji su odabrali liječenje u Sveučilišnoj klinici prema demografskim varijablama uglavnom su bili studenti, kućanice u dobi od 45 ili više godina te ljudi s nižim ili srednjim stupnjem obrazovanja ( $p<0,05$ ). U privatne stomatološke klinike odlazili su uglavnom zaposleni od 18. do 44. godine, svi s višim obrazovanjem ( $p<0,05$ ). Uočene razlike između pacijenata mogu se pripisati dostupnosti gospodarskih resursa i vremenu provedenom u medicinskim konzultacijama (29, 30). Studenti stomatologije moraju biti svjesni i dobro pripremljeni kako bi potaknuli pacijente da aktivno sudjeluju u odlukama o svojem stomatološkom liječenju. Prema mišljenju Rosena i suradnika (1996.), pacijenti s visokim obrazovanjem osjećali su da im manjkaju informacije kad je riječ o njihovu medicinskom stanju, za razliku od onih na nižem obrazovnom stupnju. U ovom istraživanju pacijenti koji su se liječili na Sveučilišnoj klinici bili su znatno stariji od onih koji su odabrali privatnu praksu ( $p<0,05$ ). Dokazano je da mlađi pacijenti više vole sudjelovati u odlukama o njihovu stomatološkom liječenju (31, 32). Postoje i dokazi koji upućuju na činjenicu da oni i više očekuju od tretmana. Ta očekivanja temelje se na traženju konzervativnijih stomatoloških zahvata te nadomeštanju izgubljenih zuba fiksno-protetskim radovima (33). U jednom istraživanju obavljenom u Kanadi na uzorku od 1005 odraslih istaknuto je da mlađi ljudi i oni s manjim prihodima češće biraju javne stomatološke klinike negoli privatne (34). U slučaju umirovljenika to se može promašiti većim mirovinama u Kanadi negoli u Portugalu.

Općenito povezanost između tih demografskih varijabli i mesta odabira liječenja utječe na veličinu koja je bila između male i srednje ( $0,1 < r < 0,3$ ), (35). Odnos između broja pacijenata i pacijentica koji su posjetili obje klinike bio je podjednak ( $p<0,05$ ) i u skladu s rezultatima Fernández-Feijooa i njegovih kolega. (2011.), (36).

Što se medicinskih anamneza tiče, nije bilo značajne razlike između pacijenata koji su posjetili dvije vrste stomatoloških klinika ( $p<0,05$ ). Iako su ozbiljne medicinske anamneze zabilježene u objema vrstama klinika (privatne klinike 52,5 %; Sveučilišna klinika 55,1 %) i bilo ih je više nego u prijašnjim studijama (36 – 38), sličile su onima zabilježenima za Portugal u Nacionalnom izvještaju o zdravlju za 2005./2006. (56,6 %) (27). U Portugalu je stomatološka skrb, kao i oftalmologija, uglavnom privatizirana, a gotovo 100 posto opće medicine pokriva državno zdravstveno osiguranje. Za takvo stanje odgovorna je raspodjela pristupa osnovnoj medicinskoj skrbi koja je dostupna svim Portugalcima (39 – 41). Vrijednosti ASA-e II povezane su s većom srednjom vrijednošću

managing emergencies in dental office (21-24). A safer environment permits the dentist to focus on the planned dental treatment itself. Physical evaluation should start with medical history questionnaire followed by dialogue history, assessment of risk (ASA), stress reduction protocols, and finally by the postoperative control of pain (25, 26).

Although the sample is not representative of the Portuguese population in its entirety, it is representative of a Portuguese population older than 14 years that had visited the dentist in the last 12 months, prior to the National Health Interview in Portugal - 2005/2006, by age and gender (27).

In terms of the profiles of those study participants who selected the UBC, as expressed in demographic variables, there was a higher probability of their being students, housewives aged 45 years or over, or people with a low or medium level of education ( $p<0,05$ ). Conversely, those individuals who selected a PC, showed a higher probability of being in employment, belonging to the 18 to 44 age group, and had obtained a higher level of education ( $p<0,05$ ). The observed differences could be related to the availability of both economic resources and time spent in consultations (29, 30). Dental students should be aware and well prepared to involve their patients in making an active decision with regard to their treatment. According to Rosén et al. (2006), individuals presenting with a higher level of education felt less informed with regard to their medical condition, compared to those with a lower level of education<sup>31</sup>. In the present study, those participants who selected the UBC were significantly older than those who selected a PC ( $p<0,05$ ). It has been shown that younger patients prefer a more active role in decisions regarding their medical treatment (31, 32). There is some evidence to suggest that younger patients also have higher treatment expectations. These expectations are related to requiring a dental service that is based on more conservative treatments, and the replacement of missing teeth with fixed prostheses (33). In a study with 1005 adults in Canada, the low income and younger patients preferred the public dental services rather than PCs (34). This could be related to higher pensions of retired patients in Canada compared with those from the present study.

In general, the association between these demographic variables and the place of treatment chosen by patients had an effect size that was between small and medium ( $0,1 < r < 0,3$ ), (35). The proportion of males and females attending the UBC and the PCs did not differ significantly ( $p<0,05$ ), in accordance with the observations made by Fernández-Feijoo et al. (2011), (36).

With regard to the presence of medical history in general, no significant differences were encountered between participants attending the two places of treatment ( $p<0,05$ ). Although the percentages of severe medical conditions found in both PC attendees (52.5%) and UBC attendees (55.1%) were higher than the values found in several previous studies (36-38); they were similar to those observed in the National Health Interview in Portugal in 2005/2006 (56.6%), (27). In Portugal, dental care, like ophthalmology, is primarily provided by the private sector, while the general medical practices are almost 100% covered by the National Health Service. The equity in the access of basic health care, pro-

dobi pacijenata koji su posjećivali Sveučilišnu kliniku u odnosu na one koji su odlazili u privatne ordinacije ( $p<0,05$ ). Pacijenti koji su se liječili u privatnim klinikama imali su teže ( $p<0,05$ ) medicinske anamneze te su bili uvršteni u klasu III i IV ASA-e u usporedbi s onima koji su odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku. Moguće objašnjenje za to je da su pacijenti koji su odabrali privatne klinike već bili u obradi kod specijalista, ali nisu nastavili s terapijom zbog nedostatka novca (39). Ta važna spoznaja treba se podrobniјe ispitati u budućim istraživanjima.

Pojedinci koji su patili od angine pektoris i aritmije češće su odabrali privatne klinike ( $p<0,05$ ). Te komplikacije povezane su s kardiovaskularnim bolestima, tako da studenti moraju biti educirani i uvježbani za hitne slučajeve (42 – 44). Oni koji su odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku imali su veću mogućnost pasti u nesvijest (0,092) negoli oni koji su odlazili u privatne klinike ( $p<0,05$ ).

Gubitak svijesti stupanj je hitnosti koji zahtijeva hospitalizaciju i nalazi se na istoj razini kao i kardiovaskularni napadaji (44, 46). U ovom istraživanju postotak ljudi koji su posjetili privatne klinike i izgubili svijest bio je 3,9 posto. Ti su podaci u skladu s rezultatima prijašnjih istraživanja (5, 37). S druge strane, 29,4 posto pacijenata koji su odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku izgubilo je svijest te bi se ti rezultati trebali analizirati u posebnom istraživanju. Smatra se da su ponovno doživjeli nekadašnje bolno iskustvo – injekcije ili stomatološke tretmane nakon kojih su se počeli bojati igala. Humphris i King (2011.) istaknuli su da je postotak iznimno anksioznih pacijenata od 10 do 21 posto. Strah od injekcije istražio je i Nir sa suradnicima (2003.) te je došao do postotka od 21,7 posto na 400 pacijenata (48). Locker i njegovi kolege (1996.) zaključili su da je 23 posto pacijenata imalo vrlo loše stomatološko iskustvo tijekom adolescencije te 40 posto poslije toga razdoblja (49). Taj strah bio je evidentan kod mladih ljudi i adolescenata, što se podudara s većim brojem studenata koji su radije odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku negoli privatnu.

Pacijenti koji su odabrali Sveučilišnu kliniku bili su pod djelma vrstama medikamentnih terapija: antidepresivima, anksioliticima i hipnoticima te lijekovima za snižavanje kolesterol-a i triglicerida ( $p<0,05$ ). Prva skupina lijekova bila je zastupljenija kod pacijenata između 45 i 64 godine i starijih od 65 godina te kod kućanica, što je pridonijelo konačnim rezultatima ( $p<0,05$ ) (tablica 5.). Petogodišnje istraživanje u Australiji pokazalo je da je uzimanje anksiolitika najčešće kod starijih ljudi nakon 60. godine (50). Jedno istraživanje pokazalo je da je 2003. godine u portugalskoj pokrajini u kojoj se nalazi grad Viseu bilo povećano uzimanje anksiolitika (99,1 – 115,4 – definirano kao dnevna doza, DHD na 1000 ljudi) u usporedbi s ostalim dijelovima zemlje (60,4 – 99,1 – DHD/1000 ljudi) (51). Ti rezultati potvrdili su opći porast uzimanja anksiolitika u Portugalu između 2003. i 2007. (52), no ne prate rezultate ovog istraživanja u kojem uzimanje anksiolitika iznosi 100/1000 za pacijente koji su bili u privatnoj klinici, te 148/1000 za one koji su se liječili na Sveučilišnoj klinici. Kad je riječ o lijekovima za snižavanje kolesterol-a i triglicerida, njih su najviše uzimali pacijenti između 45. i 64. godine (tablica 5.). U istraživanju na sjeveru Portugala 4,5 posto od propisanih 22 milijuna 658 tisuća

videli to the majority of Portuguese population could be responsible for such results (39-41). The ASA II values are related to a higher mean age of individuals attending the UBC vs. those who attended the PCs ( $p<0.05$ ). Individuals attending PCs were significantly more likely ( $p<0.05$ ) to have had severe medical conditions ASA III and ASA IV vs. those who selected the UBC. A possible explanation for this is that the individuals who opted for the PCs could also have been attending private specialist consultations, and did not have sufficient financial resources to maintain the treatment, thereby becoming uncontrolled (39). This important observation should be assessed further in future studies.

Individuals who suffered from angina pectoris and arrhythmias had a higher probability of selecting the PCs ( $p<0.05$ ). These complications are associated with cardiovascular disease; therefore, students must be educated and trained in dealing with related emergencies, as initial procedures are essential to saving lives (42-44). Individuals who selected the UBC had a higher probability of suffering fainting (0.092) than did those who chose a PC ( $p<0.05$ ).

Fainting is a highly prevalent medical emergency requiring hospital treatment, and is second only to cardiovascular events in this respect (44, 46). In the present study, the percentage of those who chose a PC and who fainted was 3.9%, which complied with the findings of previous studies (5, 37). However, the corresponding value for those who attended the UBC, 29.4%, should be further studied in the future. These patients may have had previous painful experiences of injections or dental treatments after which they developed injection phobia. Humphris and King (2011) reported that the percentage of extremely anxious outpatients ranged from 10% to 21%<sup>47</sup>. Fear of injections has been reported by Nir et al. (2003) in 21.7% of 400 outpatients (48). Locker et al. (1996) stated that about 23% of dental outpatients had had frightening dental experiences during adolescence and 40% of them in adulthood (49). This fear was also more evident in young adults or adolescents, which corresponds to the higher population of students choosing the UBC compared to a PC in the present study.

With regard to medications, individuals who selected the UBC had a higher probability of taking the following two groups of medications: antidepressants, anxiolytics, and hypnotics; and cholesterol-lowering and triglyceride-lowering agents ( $p<0.05$ ). For the first of these groups, the higher frequency was found in those aged 45 to 64, and  $\geq 65$  years, and in the housewives, which could be responsible for the results ( $p<0.05$ ) see Table 5. A 5-year, Australian study showed that anxiolytics consumption was higher in elderly people; those aged 60 years or over (50). Another study showed that the region of Viseu, Portugal, had a higher level of consumption of this type of medication (99.1-115.4 - defined daily dose by day, DHD, per 1000 people) in 2003, compared with other regions of the country (60.4-99.1 - DHD/1000 people), (51), and indeed there was a general increase of anxiolytics consumption in Portugal between 2003 and 2007 (52). These values are not too dissimilar to those found in the present study; 100/1000 for individuals attending PCs and 148/1000 for those who received treatment at the UBC. With regard to the cholesterol-lowering and trig-

**Tablica 5.** Analiza učestalosti demografskih faktora i dobi. \* $p>0,05$ ; NA - nije primjenjivo.

**Table 5** Analysis of influence of demographic factors in Medication 1 (antidepressants, anxiolytics, hypnotics) and Medication 2 (cholesterol-lowering and triglycerides-lowering). \* $p>0,05$ ; NA - not applicable.

Varijabla • Variable	Lijek 1 • Medication 1	Exp (B)	Lijek 2 • Medication 2	Exp (B)
Dobna skupina • Age group	18-44	86	0.348	8
	45-64	113	1.773	59
	≥ 65	49	2.842	19
Razina edukacije • Level of education	Niska • Lower	126	*	48
	Srednja • Medium	66	*	24
	Visoka • High	56	*	14
Zanimanje • Occupation	Student	14	NA	NA
	Radnik • Worker	123	*	43
	Domaćica • Housewife	43	1.921	16

i 724 lijeka bilo je za snižavanje razine lipida u krvi. Ta ista vrijednost za pacijente koji su posjetili privatnu kliniku iznosi 3,0 posto, odnosno 5,6 posto za pacijente koji su se liječili na Sveučilišnoj klinici. Alves i suradnici (2012.) izvjestili su o sve više recepata za tu vrstu lijekova kod ljudi od 40. do 44. godine, odnosno najviše kod onih od 70. do 74. godine (53).

Na kraju treba istaknuti koliko je važno uzeti anamnezu, osobito ako je riječ o studentima dodiplomskom studiju. Rezultati istraživanja otkrili su neke razlike između pacijenta koji su odabrali liječenje u privatnoj ordinaciji i onih koji su odabrali liječenje na Sveučilišnoj klinici. Rezultati ovog istraživanja olakšavaju procjenu, vođenje te poboljšanje dodiplomskog stomatološkog nastavnog plana te potiču trajnu edukaciju stomatoloških profesionalaca.

lyceride-lowering agents, these were taken in the highest frequency by those aged 45 to 64 ( $p<0,05$ ), see Table 5. In a study of northern Portugal, 4.5% of 22,658,724 drugs prescribed were lipid-lowering agents. This value is between the 3.0% prescribed to individuals attending PCs and the 5.6% prescribed to those attending the UBC in the present study. As we observed, (see Table 5) Alves et al. (2012) reported an increase of prescription of these kinds of medications in age group of 40-44 to reach the top in the group 70-74 (53).

In conclusion, this study emphasizes the importance of, often overlooked, medical history in undergraduate clinical dental training. The findings have revealed some differences in profiles between individuals who selected PCs and those who opted for a UBC for their oral healthcare. This facilitates evaluation and guidance in the updating of the undergraduate dental curriculum and the continuous education of dental professionals.

## Abstract

**Objective:** To determine the profile of individuals who requested dental treatment in university-based and private clinics. **Material and methods:** A descriptive and exploratory study conducted between November of 2010 and March of 2011, using the European Medical Risk Related History Questionnaire. A total of 2000 individuals, 1000 who attended private clinics (PCs) and 1000 who attended the university-based clinic (UBC) were profiled. PCs were situated in 21 different areas of Portugal (37% on the coast side and 63% in the inner countryside), at which dental graduates of Portuguese Catholic University worked, and UBC was located in the city of Viseu, Portugal. The variables studied were: age, gender, level of education, American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) medical risk, occupation, medical history and medications. **Results:** Individuals who were aged over 45, had attained a low or middle level of education, were students or housewives, had an ASA risk II, suffered from fainting, or were taking antidepressants, anxiolytics, and hypnotics or cholesterol-lowering and triglyceride-lowering agents, had a greater probability of selecting the UBC,  $p<0,05$ . Individuals aged between 18 and 44, who had achieved a higher level of education, were employed, had an ASA risk of III or IV, or who suffered from angina pectoris or arrhythmias had a higher probability of selecting a PC,  $p<0,05$ . **Conclusions:** This study emphasizes the importance of, often overlooked, medical history in the clinical dental practice. The findings facilitate the evaluation and guidance in the updating of the undergraduate dental curriculum and the continuous education of dental professionals.

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## Key words

Dental Health Surveys; Risk Factors; Patients; Health Status Indicators; Dental Care

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