

ASPECTE PRIVIND CREȘTEREA ȘI DEZVOLTAREA COPILOR DE 7–10 ANI DIN MEDIUL RURAL

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SOME ASPECTS ON THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF 7–10 YEARS OLD CHILDREN IN RURAL MEDIUM. The authors analyze the level of physical development of 7–10 years old children from the rural medium of the Iassy county, as based on the study performed on a group of 800 children (393 boys and 410 girls), versus another group – quite similar as to age and origin – investigated by Maria Cristescu *et al.* 25 years ago.

Analysis of the main corporal dimensions evidenced that – from one class of age to the other – the growing rates are comparable in the two batches, the generally negligible differences varying in favour of one or another. Nevertheless, the level of physical development of the actual batch is higher than of those studied in 1977, which indicates that the process of growing suffered a significant acceleration along the 25 years passed. Considering this situation, it is quite surprising the belated moment (10 years) of the first crossing of the statures' curves with the two sexes, in the actual group, comparatively with the 1977 one. As a matter of fact, the acceleration ratios for the dimensions taken into study are, with only a few exceptions, higher with boys than with girls, the former ones evidencing – for almost all sizes – average values which are slightly or even distinctly higher, than those recorded with the latter one. Such a situation is indicative of the fact that growth's acceleration is more intense with boys than with girls, which might explain the belated moment of stature curves' crossing. However, from a conformational point of view, the children – both boys and girls – of the actual group are taller, more macroskelic, their trunk and chest narrower, their stature-weight ratio being slightly lower; this pleads for a more elongated type of the children taken into study nowadays, comparatively with those investigated 25 years ago.