

THE MAIN SIZES AND CEPHALO-FACIAL CONFORMATION IN 3-6 YEAR OLD CHILDREN FROM THE URBAN AND RURAL AREAS OF IAȘI AND THEIR POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS IN TIME

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The study analyzes the growth of the main cephalo-facial sizes in 3-6 year old children from the urban and rural areas of the Iași district. The experiments were performed on a total number of 1,498 children, 777 of them (382 boys and 395 girls) from the city of Iași, and 721, respectively (363 boys and 359 girls), from the rural area of the same district. The results obtained were compared with the values recorded on other two groups – with similar age and origin, investigated 20 years ago - , which permitted to evidence the time-induced modifications produced in both sizes and cephalo-facial conformation characteristic to this group of age. Indeed, the observation was made that both the cephalic pan and the facial massif evidence larger sizes in boys than in girls, in both ecological media and in both moments of their investigation. Generally the urban-rural differences observed in both the present and past series are favourizing the children from the urban areas. Thus, in the present series, the brain pan is longer than 20 years ago, while its width is only slightly modified. The facial massif is shorter and narrower at present than in the past. Conformationally, the modifications are less obvious, no matter the sex of the investigated children, their ecological environment or the two historical moments of the analysis.

1. INTRODUCTION

The present paper brings new data to the study of the growth and development of 3-6 year old children from two different ecological environment of the Iași district. On the other side, it represents the final part of the cycle on the conformational growth and development of the cephalo-facial segment in children and teen-agers with ages ranging between 3 and 16 years old, from the urban and rural areas of the Iași district.

2. MATERIALS AND METHOD

The investigations have been developed on 2 batches of 3-6 year old children, one from the city of Iași, the other from its rural areas. The total number of subjects investigated was of 1,498, of which 777 (382 boys and 395 girls) came from the city of Iași, and 721 (363 boys and 359 girls) from some neighbouring rural communities.

For each subject, measurements were made on the length (g-op) and width (eu-eu), for the cephalic pan (by means of the craniometer and of the slide bas) whereas the high (n-gn) and the maximum width (zy-zy) were determined for the facial massif.