

# DERMATOGLYPHICS IN ENURESIS

ANA ȚARCĂ<sup>1</sup> and ELENA TULUC<sup>2</sup>

*Presented at the "Academic Days of Iași", September 23–24, 2008*

The present paper analyzes palmar dermatoglyphics from a pathological perspective. The study was developed on a batch of 89 children and teenagers (48 boys and 41 girls) affected by enuresis, with ages between 6 and 18 years, all coming from Moldova, from whom 178 digito-palmar prints had been taken over.

The conclusion attained is that, regardless of the form (nocturnal, diurnal or both) of enuresis manifested, the palmar picture of the affected children – be them boys or girls – evidence on both hands – and mainly on the left one – an ample pathological charge, suggestively expressed by the ten anomalies or distortions ( $A^R$ ,  $L^U$ ,  $tt'$ ,  $t_0$ ,  $T_{11}+T_{12}$ , the dense network of the ridges from  $Th/I$ , the reduced a-b distance,  $Cx$ ,  $Co$  and the transverse palmar sulcus), coupled – among 3 and 7 – in the picture of each patient, so that, at the level of the whole sample, they attain percent values sensibly different from those of the reference group from which they come. To these, one should also add some important overthrowings from the classical line of the sexual dimorphism, as to the inclination degree of the palmar ridges, assuming their more intense transversality in boys, instead of girls, and an intermediate – towards oblique – bending more frequently observed in girls, and not in boys, both of them representing malformative sketches as such, at the level of the batch. Such observations support the hypothesis that the causal factors involved in the development of the malady should be traced out in the first 3–5 months of intrauterine life, when the papillary ridges had been also finalized, even if the manifestation of the malady as such was noticed only after the age of 5 years. Even if such investigations, developed from a dermatoglyphic perspective, are the first one performed at national level, the results obtained might be employed as reference data in the screening of the malady at populational level, at least in Moldova, the region from which the affected children come.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Accepted as a malady only after the age of 5 years, when maturation of the nervous system – controlling the urinary bladder [5, 7] – is considered as accomplished, enuresis is defined as a complete mictional action occurring at least once a month, in a socially unacceptable moment and place, in the absence of some pathological conditions that might determine it [1, 6]. Urinary incontinence may appear during the night – being defined as nocturnal enuresis – or during the day – diurnal enuresis –, in some cases both forms being manifested. In its turn, nocturnal enuresis may be primary (when the affected child had been never completely dry during the night) and secondary (when the urinary incontinence present during the night appears again, after more than 6 months). Any other forms of underwear