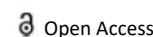




COMMENTARY



Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and Diseases of the Salivary Glands

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Description

One of the nine dental specialties recognised by the American Dental Association is oral and maxillofacial pathology, which is occasionally seen as a speciality in both dentistry and pathology. A recognised three-year post-doctoral programme is required for oral pathologists before they may become diplomates of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. The focus of the speciality is on the diagnosis, clinical therapy, and research of diseases that affect the maxillofacial structures surrounding the mouth, such as odontogenic, infectious, epithelial, salivary gland, bone, and soft tissue disorders, but not restricted to those. It also has a lot of overlap with the discipline of dental pathology. Although they deal with a wide range of oral ailments, speech pathologists, which help diagnose numerous neurological or neuromuscular issues related to speech phonology or swallowing, and otorhinolaryngologists, the “ear, nose, and throat” specialists, have different functions. Many disorders in the study of oral illness can be diagnosed, or at least suspected, by gross inspection because the oral cavity is accessible to non-invasive examination; nonetheless, biopsies, cell smears, and other tissue analysis remain crucial diagnostic tools in oral pathology. A surgical speciality known as oral and maxillofacial surgery focuses on facial reconstruction, facial trauma surgery, oral surgery, head and neck surgery, jaw surgery, facial aesthetic surgery, including cleft lip and cleft palate repair, and facial plastic surgery. A local specialist surgeon known as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon cares for the complete craniomaxillofacial complex, which includes the head, neck, face, jaws, and associated tissues. Oral and maxillofacial surgery may call for a degree in either medical, dentistry, or both, depending on the country’s legal system.

Salivary gland

Mammal salivary glands are exocrine glands, which discharge chemicals onto an epithelial surface through a duct. Sweat, salivary, mammary, ceruminous, lacrimal, sebaceous, prostate, and mucous glands are a few examples of exocrine glands. The human body has two different types of glands: exocrine and endocrine, the latter of which secretes its products into the bloodstream. Both the liver and the pancreas are exocrine glands that produce bile and pancreatic juice into the digestive system through a network of ducts, and they are endocrine glands that secrete other substances directly into the blood stream. The integumentary system includes exocrine sweat glands, which have eccrine and apocrine kinds and generate saliva through a network of channels. Along with hundreds of minor salivary glands, humans have three pairs of main salivary glands: parotid, submandibular, and sublingual. There are three types of salivary glands: serous, mucous, and seromucous (mixed). Alpha-amylase, an enzyme that converts starch into maltose and glucose, is the primary protein produced in serous secretions, whereas mucin, a lubricant, is the predominant protein secreted in mucous secretions. 1200 to 1500 cc of saliva are produced daily in people. Acetylcholine is the active neurotransmitter and attaches to muscarinic receptors in the glands, increasing salivation. Acetylcholine stimulates the parasympathetic nervous system, which is what causes salivation. The tubarial glands, which were identified as the fourth pair of salivary glands in 2020, got their name from where they were found over and in front of the torus tuberosus. This finding from one study hasn’t been verified, though.