



### Defects of the Dentition in Women in Early Menopause

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**Relevance.** However, to date, no studies have been conducted to determine the nature and severity of changes in the functional parameters of the salivary glands and the parameters of dental status in the early period of surgical menopause, when the female body finds itself in conditions of a sharp absolute estrogen deficiency without an adaptation phase to a new condition.

**The purpose of the study** – features of quantitative and qualitative indicators of mixed saliva, the main clinical and laboratory indicators of dental status in women with surgical menopause.

**Material and methods.** The main objectives of the study included 18 patients, of whom the observation group included 9 women with surgical menopause without hormone replacement therapy aged 45-56 years; the comparison group included 9 relatively healthy women of premenopausal age (45-53 years).

**Research results.** Significant changes in quantitative and qualitative indicators of mixed saliva were observed against the background of a sharp estrogen deficiency. Thus, a significant decrease in the rate of saliva secretion was noted against the background of an increase in its viscosity. Fluctuations in the pH of mixed saliva in women of both compared groups at stages up to six months were insignificant and were within the normal range; however, by the twelfth month of observation, an increase in the acidity of the oral fluid was noted in patients with surgical menopause.

In patients with HRT, the concentrations of the studied components at all stages of the study remained at the initial level. Changes in the values of the buffer capacity for acid and alkali in the examined patients did not have significant differences over the entire observation period. A decrease in the rate of salivation, an increase in its viscosity and a change in composition contributed to the appearance of complaints of dry mouth in the examined patients with surgical menopause without hormonal correction.

It is known that epithelial cells play one of the central roles in the induction of a specific immune response at the level of the mucous barrier of the oral cavity, for this reason, the results of cytological research are interesting. Already at the early stage of observations in women without HRT, there was a significant decrease in the values of the epithelial cell differentiation index, which continues at subsequent stages. In particular, if the initial values of the studied index in the area of transverse palatine folds were  $427 \pm 3.7$  points, then after 3 months after surgery they decreased to  $397 \pm 3.4$ , after 6 — to  $391 \pm 3.6$ , and after 12 — to  $382 \pm 3.6$ .

**Conclusion.** It is logical that the revealed decrease in the amount of saliva, changes in its properties and composition, along with a weakening of the ability of epithelial cells to neutralize bacteria, could have a negative impact on the microbial landscape of the oral cavity in patients with severe hypoestrogenia.



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