Methods. We took a sample of 100 patients over 65 years old from the Polyclinic of the European University of Madrid. The oral symptoms were reported, in most of cases consisting of xerostomia associated to drugs, denture ulcers, gingival bleeding associated with anticoagulant therapy and tooth mobility among others. We also studied risk factors, systemic diseases and prescribed medication as well as oral hygiene and used or worn prosthetic elements. As far as oral pathology, we performed an extra and intraoral exploration. We searched for ulcerative lesions, lingual, viral, bacterial, fungal and autoimmune pathology among others, associated to poor hygiene, caries, gingival recession and periodontal disease.

Results. Traumatic ulcer associated to prosthesis in poor condition was the most common oral lesions in the study group. The most common symptom was xerostomia associated with the consumption of drugs.

Conclusion. Increased life expectancy and declining birth rates are responsible for the aging of population in Spain and in other developed countries. The dentist and other health professionals must recognize this social change and focus actions to the prevention and detection of oral lesions and symptoms caused by systemic disorders.

- Oral Presentation 70

TITLE: Short implants for atrophic maxillary restoration. A systematic review

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Objective: To assess studies concerning short implants (<10 mm) as an alternative to standard implants (≥10 mm) in the treatment of atrophic jaws. These cases always present longitudinal bone resorption.

Material and Methods: A Pubmed-Medline research of 20 articles published in the last 10 years was undertaken. We have used the following key words: "short implant", "partial edentulism", "survival implant", "implant length", "surface topography".

Results: Short implant's success/failure rate and marginal bone have been evaluated in comparison of standard implants and both reach similar outcomes. Authors agree with the fact that treatment's prognosis improves when short implants are installed on the mandible instead of the maxilla.

tead of the maxilla. Implant's surface treatment also has influence considering that roughed surface implants get better results than mechanized surface ones.

Conclusion: Short implants (<10 mm) are a reliable and predictable treatment alternative in the prosthetic rehabilitation of atrophic jaws. In posterior areas of the maxilla and mandible, height alveolar bone availability is usually reduced. This mean in a reduction of treatment time, costs and patient's morbidity in comparison with bone augmentation surgical techniques.

- Oral Presentation 71

TITLE: Oral candidiasis diagnosis. Smear vs. culture

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Objectives: To compare culture and smear for the oral candidiasis diagnosis.

Material and Methods: 80 patients from the Master in Oral Medicine, Oral Surgery and Implantology from the University of Santiago de Compostela, who had signs, symptoms and /or predisposing factors commonly related to oral candidiasis, were selected. Clinical and pharmacological data, systemic diseases, denture use and Whole Saliva Test (WST) were evaluated. Additionally, culture and smear were taken from all patients. The culture was carried out using a cotton swab and a Sabourau Agar Petri dish. The smear was obtained using a cement spatula and a microscope slide. Finally, both tests were sent to the Pathology Department at the University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela to be analyzed.

Results: Within the 80 patients studied, 50% of them obtained positive culture and 20% positive smears. 100% of the patients who obtained positive smears also had positive cultures. 30% of the cases showed positive cultures and negative smears, which means colonization but not infection.

Conclusions: According to our data, culture cannot be taken as a reliable diagnostic test due to its high percentage of false positives. We consider smear as the technique of choice for oral candidiasis diagnosis.