

MORPHOLOGY OF SELLA TURCICA IN TURKISH ADULTS FROM PAST TO PRESENT

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Morphological aberrations of the sella turcica were assessed in Turkish adults, modern and those of past centuries. Lateral cephalographs taken from 32 adult (23 male, 9 female, Group 1), dry skull base specimens (Late Ottoman Period), and pretreatment cephalographs of 35 adult patients (21 male, 14 female, Group 2) scheduled for orthodontic treatment at Gazi University Orthodontic Clinic were studied. Both samples had Angle Class I relationships. Prevalence of six different morphological types was determined. These include oblique anterior wall, sella turcica bridging, double contour of the floor, irregularity (notching) in the posterior part of dorsum sellae, and pyramidal shape of dorsum sellae. Normal morphology of sella turcica was found in 40.6%, 54.3%, and 47.8% in Group 1, 2, and total, respectively. Sella turcica bridging (15.6%) and irregularities of the posterior part of dorsum sellae (18.8%) were more common in dry skulls, while the double contour of the floor (14.3%) and irregularities of the posterior part of dorsum sellae (14.3%) were more common in Group 2. Sella turcica bridging (15.6%) occurred more often in Group 1. There is a noticeable variation in the morphology of sella turcica in this population of normal adults. In approximately one half of the cases, sella turcica was rated as normal and a variety of dysmorphological types was detected. The results can be important when compared with data concerning patients with craniofacial aberrations and syndromes. As bridging of the sella has suggestive associations with disease entities, deviations from the normal anatomy should be evaluated.

Key words: *Sella Turcica, cranium, radiography, morphology, lateral cephalometrics, Turkish adults*

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THE ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE GENE POOL OF RUSSIA AND THE CONTIGUOUS COUNTRIES

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Wide opportunities of the geographic method in physical anthropology have been demonstrated by many Soviet anthropologists such as V.V. Bunak, A.I. Yarkho, G.F. Debetz, M.G. Abdushelishvili, V.P. Alexeyev, T.I. Alexeyeva, Yu.G. Rychkov, O.I. Ismagulov, I.M. Zolotareva, etc. Owing to Russia's vast territory, its population is quite diverse in terms of race (two of the 3-5 geographic races – European and Asiatic) and language (six linguistic families). A three-digit number of ethnic groups and scores of anthropological types and linguistic subgroups contribute to a huge genetic diversity. Different attributes of the gene pool and all the variation accumulated over the previous phases of development will be discussed in the multivariate space and in the geographic context of northern Eurasia. The principal component analysis was based on the correlation matrix of independent traits (morphological and genetic) co-varying with economic and cultural attributes. Data were subdivided according to two chronological stages spanning the time from the Paleolithic to the present, and integrated patterns of genetic variation were assessed based on the covariation of independent traits ("historical correlation"). A correlation between the age of the trait and its