

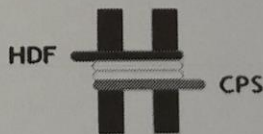
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# PREVALENCE OF PERIAPICAL PERIODONTITIS IN URBAN POPULATION FROM ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDING IN POŽEGA CITY

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The objective of this study was to evaluate the prevalence of periapical diseases on human archeological remains found in the cathedral of the town of Požega, the region of Slavonia, Croatia. Panoramic radiographic images of forty (40) well preserved skulls were taken. Remains were excavated from the church crypt, after incidental pavement breakage. According to the church records, those individuals were buried from 1760 to 1868. Lovejoy method was used to determine the age and gender of skeletal remains by their craniofacial osseal characteristics. A total of 960 teeth still present in their skulls were analyzed, with an additional quantity of 116 teeth which were lost after death and 204 teeth lost before death. Dental caries was assessed, visually, by using a dental explorer and radiographically. Periapical health was assessed by the presence of apical periodontitis, root resorption and condensing osteitis on panoramic radiographs. Periapical index (PAI) was used in order to evaluate apical periodontitis. Any score equal or greater than three was categorized as a periapical disease. Root resorption was established by the visual appearance of the root ends which apparently differed in shape and length than those in adjacent teeth. A radiopaque lesion in the periapical area was clearly identified as condensing osteitis. Periapical pathological changes were found in twenty (50%) skulls. Periapical pathosis was found in 49 (5%) teeth, of which 44 (4.5%) had periapical periodontitis and five (0.5%) had root resorption. Dental caries was found in 112 teeth (12%). Condensing osteitis was found in the periapical region of 5 teeth. The majority of periapical changes (74%) were associated with caries. Periapical periodontitis was a common disease in the urban Slavonian population of that time and, for the most part, it was associated with caries.