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## ANALYSIS OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE SPECIALITY "MAXILLOFACICAL SURGERY" AMONG STUDENTS OF THE DENTAL AND GENERAL MEDICINE FACULTIES

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**Relevance.** The preferences of the future professional are usually formed before using his own practical skills. The future career of the student depends on his curiosity in the specific sphere of activity, as well as other factors that reflect the potential of the physician from the student's years. The task of the educational process is giving an impact in the right direction for deep involvement into the speciality. Students get acquainted with various specialties studying clinical disciplines on a cycle-by-cycle basis. It should be mentioned that sometimes the number of classes and the volume of study material in some disciplines is not sufficient for full familiarization with the specialty. From this point of view, students are not entirely aware of all possibilities of the medical discipline.

**Purpose:** To analyze students' interest in surgical specialties, methods and possibilities of maxillofacial surgery, in particular, among the students of the dental and general medicine faculties and deepen the knowledge of the students of the faculty of general medicine in this field of activity.

**Materials and methods:** Questionnaires providing the possibility for a respondent to have time to think over the answers thoroughly having a visible questionnaire sheet in hands. The questionnaires also contain the so-called "closed tests", i.e. tasks in which it is necessary to write a detailed hand-written answer. These questions aim to obtain a complete picture with personal information as well as representative results.

**Results:** 36 students (39.56% of the respondents) of the faculty of general medicine showed interest in acquiring the specialty (10 students are interested, 26 students are considering the possibility to specialize in this medical field). 47 students (52,22% of the respondents) of the dental faculty showed interest in the specialty "Maxillofacial Surgery" (31 of them are interested, 16 students consider this specialty as one of the options). From the "closed" questions it was revealed that the most relevant topics for acquaintance with the modern state of the discipline were the methods of face reconstructing surgery, methods of treating diseases used in other countries, information on the technological achievements in the field of cosmetology, oncological diseases of face and neck, achievements in this field in the Republic of Belarus: theory and practice.

**Conclusions.** The students of the faculty of general medicine and the faculty of dentistry show considerable interest in the discipline of Maxillofacial Surgery. An important factor determining students' interest is the availability of studying advanced medical technologies. New scientific approaches, methods of treatment and development of operative techniques are introduced, which demonstrates the productivity of both research and educational process. Thus, various reconstructive operations, aesthetic replacement of defects, implantology, oncology are the main issues of interest of the students of dental and general medical faculties.