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INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF THE ORAL CAVITY

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The relevance of the problem of inflammatory diseases of the oral cavity is determined by the high incidence, because according to World Health Organization, inflammatory diseases of the oral cavity affect almost 3.5 billion people.

In the modern world unhealthy lifestyle can cause various diseases. Some of these problems are inflammatory diseases of the oral cavity. An inflammation is a non-specific immune response in reaction to any type of injury: pathogenic organisms, foreign bodies or ionising radiation. Inflammation starts with an acute reaction, which evolves into a chronic phase if allowed to persist unresolved. Inflammation finishes when the invader is eliminated, and the secreted mediators are removed.

Inflammations of the oral mucosa are called depending on their localization as follows: glossitis - inflammation of the tongue, stomatitis - inflammation of larger parts of the oral mucosa, gingivitis - inflammation of the gum, cheilitis - inflammation of the lips. If deeper structures are involved it might be a phlegmon or abscess.

Glossitis refers to inflammation of the tongue and has numerous potential etiologies. While the most causes are benign or idiopathic, glossitis can be the general symptom of more serious systemic conditions. Glossitis is often caused by nutritional deficiencies and may be painless or causes discomfort.

Stomatitis, a general term for an inflamed and sore mouth, can disrupt a person's ability to eat, talk and sleep. Common causes include infections, nutritional deficiencies, allergic reactions, radiotherapy, and many others. Stomatitis can occur anywhere in the mouth, including the inside of the cheeks, gums, tongue, lips, and palate.

Gingivitis is a common and mild form of gum disease that causes irritation, redness and swelling of gingiva, the part of the gum around the base of the teeth. The most common cause of gingivitis is poor oral hygiene. Good oral health habits, such as brushing at least twice a day, flossing daily and getting regular dental checkups, can help to prevent and to reverse gingivitis.

Cheilitis is a medical condition characterized by inflammation of the lips. Many factors can cause cheilitis, such as an infection, chronic lip licking, or exposure to an allergen or irritant. The inflammation may include the perioral skin or the labial mucosa. Healthcare providers diagnose cheilitis by reviewing a person's medical history and performing an examination of the mouth, lips, and skin. Sometimes other tests, such as patch testing or biopsy, are performed to determine the cause of inflammation.

Oral diseases can be prevented in most cases, but in many countries they put a heavy burden on health, affecting people of any age, causing pain and discomfort, leading to disfigurement and even death.

Prevention of diseases of the oral mucosa is to eliminate the causes of their occurrence. So, in order to prevent infectious diseases that manifest themselves on the oral mucosa, measures are needed to exclude infection from entering the body. Prevention of diseases of the oral mucosa consists in carrying out measures aimed at eliminating or reducing the impact of risk factors, increasing the resistance of the body. For the non-specific prevention of diseases of the oral mucosa, the following measures are important, including systematic hygiene and sanitation of the oral cavity.