

*ZhiHua Zhu***COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF CHINESE AND
BELARUSIAN STUDENTS IN BELARUS : A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY*****Tutor: senior lecturer Apanasovich M.V. assistant Horhul M.O.****Department of Periodontology**Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk*

Introduction. Increasing numbers of Chinese students are attending Belarusian universities, which makes it necessary to understand their Periodontal tissue health status. Prior studies focusing on the health of periodontal tissues in international students have been scarce.

Aim: Analyzing the periodontal health tissues of Chinese and Belarusian students can uncover cultural differences and their impact on dental health.

Materials and methods. This cross-sectional study involved Chinese international students and local Belarusian students enrolled in Belarusian universities. The selection of participants was conducted through a random sampling process. A questionnaire was used to collect demographic information, oral health status, oral health knowledge, and lifestyle habits. The questionnaire was initially developed in Chinese and translated into Russian. A senior Belarusian student administered the questionnaire. After completing the questionnaire, participants received a dental examination from an experienced dentist. The examination assessed plaque and calculus deposits, gingival health, and periodontal status using standardized dental instruments. Oral health parameters were quantified using indices such as OHI-S, GI, CPI and PMA.

Results and their discussion. The results of the study show that there are significant differences in the oral health status of Chinese and Belarusian students. The study revealed that the dental hygiene habits of Chinese students led to higher plaque and calculus deposits than those of Belarusian students. Chinese international students experience a higher incidence of moderate to severe gingivitis compared to those from Belarus. In contrast, Belarusian students have a higher incidence of dental caries, which may be related to their dietary habits. Documented cases of oral lichen planus and Candida infections among Chinese student populations underscore the need for further research and health care services. Based on observed differences in oral health indicators, it is important to target treatment and educational initiatives at specific cultural groups. The conversation focused on the implications of these findings for promoting oral health and implementing preventive strategies among the international student population. The study investigated potential reasons for the observed differences, such as cultural influences, dietary patterns, and the availability of dental care facilities.

Conclusion: the study provides insight into the unique oral health characteristics of Belarusian and Chinese students studying in Belarus. Belarusian students had a higher incidence of dental caries. Chinese students exhibited higher levels of plaque and tartar accumulation, along with a higher incidence of moderate to severe gingivitis. The results highlight the diverse periodontal health conditions that result from oral health education in different cultural contexts and stress the importance of this study in improving oral health outcomes for diverse student populations. Further research is required to identify the underlying factors contributing to these discrepancies and develop effective strategies to improve oral hygiene.