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EPIDEMIOLOGY OF VASCULAR MALFORMATIONS AND FORMATIONS AND THEIR PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT

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Relevance. This study is of great medical, social, scientific, and practical significance. Vascular hyperplasias and malformations of the maxillofacial region can lead to impairment of vital functions—such as breathing, swallowing, and speech/voice production – as well as an increased risk of non-infectious and infectious complications. They may also cause substantial aesthetic concerns and psychological distress. Hemangiomas, particularly infantile hemangiomas, are among the most common vascular lesions of early childhood. One of the developmental anomalies of lymphatic vessels found in the head and neck region is a lymphangiomas. Lymphatic vessel malformations account for approximately 6-8% of benign lesions of the maxillofacial region.

Aim: to investigate the epidemiology of lymphangiomas and hemangiomas and to emphasize their psychological consequences for effected patients.

Materials and methods. 17 English-language literature sources.

Results and their discussion. Lingual lymphatic malformations (lymphangiomas), are characterized by their rarity and predilection for presenting as papillary lesions on the tongue, often detected since birth and 80% are developed before the age of 2 years, while the risk is similar in both genders. In contrast, Infantile Hemangiomas, most common benign vascular tumor of infancy, show variable incidence across populations from 2-10 % and are more frequent in females than males (2.3–2.9 times higher). Meanwhile there is no clear consistent incidence differences across continents for either conditions. Patients with these conditions often experience emotional and psychosocial burdens related to visible deformity or scarring, speech and feeding difficulties, social stigma, mealtime embarrassment, healthcare-related anxieties, and limitations in daily activities. Overall, integrating epidemiological awareness with attention to psychological impact supports the need for early diagnosis and comprehensive patient-centered care.

Conclusions. Overall, lymphangiomas and hemangiomas show distinct epidemiological profiles, with hemangiomas more common in females and lymphangiomas occurring similarly in both sexes, and no clear incidence differences across continents. Regardless of these differences, both conditions can cause serious psychological consequences, reinforcing the need for early diagnosis and psychological support.