

Abstract

Objective: To delineate the socio-demographic profile of children with cleft lip and palate treated at a reference service of Paraiba, in the five-year period. **Material and Methods:** Retrospective, exploratory and descriptive study. The university was 876, and the sample of 482 readable records after signing the term of consentment, by the statutory responsible of the children with aged 3 to 12, treated at Palate Cleft Service of the Lauro Wanderley University Hospital, in January 2005 period to December 2010. The instrument was a semi-structured form, the data were submitted to SPSS, which were applied the chi-square association test and the Fisher exact test, with significance level of $p < 0.05$. **Results:** Regarding the number of diagnoses per year, 2010 had the lowest incidence of cleft lip and palate, with 12.6% of the sample. It was found a higher prevalence of the post foramen fissure, 55.4%, with a slight predominance in males, 57.4% of the sample. Regarding macro-regions, there was a predominance of Mata Paraibana zone, 40.6%, and the metropolitan area 30.5% of them. Two hundred and ninety-seven 61.6% lived in urban areas, 66.1% had basic sanitation and 61.2% had family income between 1 and 2 minimum wages. **Conclusion:** The post foramen clefts were more prevalent in male children, in Caucasians; the majority of the sample coming from the middle region of Mata Paraibana and low income families.

DESCRIPTORS

Epidemiology. Cleft Palate. Pediatric Dentistry