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Oral conditions in Japanese infants: A retrospective study

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Abstract The present study was carried out to investigate the oral status of 234 Japanese infants, who had registered at the Pediatric Dentistry Clinic of Niigata University Medical and Dental Hospital over a period of 26 years, from 1979 to 2005. The 234 infants consisted of 125 males and 109 females and the youngest patient was 2 days old. We divided them into 11 groups based on the diagnosis. The groups consisted of 46 oral mucosal lesions (8 patients were counted again with natal teeth), 45 cleft lip and/or palate infants, 28 with normal oral condition, 26 high maxillary frenum, 21 natal or neonatal teeth, 11 traumatic injuries, 15 teeth anomalies, 14 ankyloglossia, 11 eruption problems, 8 occlusal problems, and 7 with other conditions. Among the 234 cases, some very rare conditions were noted, including a prematurely exfoliated supernumerary deciduous tooth in a 2-month-old infant, 3 cases of palatal polyps, and 2 cases of epulides. It was shown that infants exhibit many kinds of oral conditions that require professional attention from pediatric dentists.

Key words Clinical observation, Infant, Oral findings

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