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CHEWER'S MUCOSA/ ANGULAR CHEILITIS

SENGPHOUVANH NGONEPHADY: PREVALENCE OF ORAL
DISEASES IN SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC. THESIS ADVISORS: THAMPIPIT JIRAWAN M.S., KASETUWAN
REDA M.P.H., KASETSUWAN JULALAX DIP. THAI BOARD OF
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The purposes of the study were to evaluate the prevalence of oral diseases, oral status and related risk habits of the population in Savannakhet province, Lao People's Democratic Republic. The sample group included all individuals age twelve and over in thirty selected villages. Subjects were interviewed to collect data on general information, oral hygiene practices, oral habits. Subjects also received oral examination for dental caries, periodontal diseases and soft tissue pathology.

Concerning cleaning of the mouth, 41.20% of the 2453 subjects did so regularly, 54.30% did so occasionally and 4.50% did not do so at all. Tooth brushing and rinsing were practiced by 55.57% of subjects, 31.61% used their fingers and rinsed, 5.15% used tooth brush, 5.30% solely rinsed with water, 2.04% used their fingers only. Concerning the use of cleaning agents, 65.68% of subjects used nothing. Study of oral habits showed that 63.62% of subjects smoked cigars made of crude cured tobacco, hand wrapped with paper or dried banana leaf, and that 23.61% smoked filtered cigarettes. For drinking habits, 62.20% of subjects (49.10% in male samples and 13.10% among females) drank alcohol. Of the alcohol drinkers, 98.34% consumed custom distilled liquor made from fermented rice spirits. Chewing habits were found in 28.94% of female and 2.48% of male subjects. Miang was chewed by 53.16% of those with chewing habits and betel nut was chewed by 20.15%.

Concerning prevalence of dental caries at ages 12-18, the DMFT was 0.69, ages 19-27 and 28-34 were 0.78, ages 35-44 was 0.93, ages 45-54 was 0.76, ages 55-64 was 0.84, ages 65-74 was 0.80 and ages 75-99 was 0.73. For CPITN score for periodontal disease, 75.79% of subjects had calculus deposited, and calculus deposited with signs of gingivitis was found in 13.09%. Pocket depth 4-5 mm was found in 4.81% of subjects and the pocket depth more than 6 mm was 2.57%. Six hundred seventy-five subjects or 27.52% had the soft tissue alteration. Leukoplakia related to betel nut chewing was found in 8.64% of subjects and the idiopathic leukoplakia found in 1.01%. Angular cheilitis was found in 209 cases or 8.52%. Lichen planus was found in 0.58%. Other soft tissue alterations were found in less than 2% of subjects. One squamous cell carcinoma was observed in one 55 year old male.