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VARIANT ANATOMY AND TOPOGRAPHIC ANATOMICAL FEATURES OF PAROTID GLAND, PAROTID DUCT HUMAN AND SUCKING PAD IN FETUSES

Objective. The scientific sources report different data concerning the features of parotid gland morphogenesis and formation of topography components of the parotid-masticatory area in human embryogenesis. Furthermore, the data concerning normal and variant anatomy of the organs and structures of the parotid-masticatory area as well as formation of their correlations during human perinatal growth remains insufficiently studied. The data about the parotid gland syntopy and the histogenesis of the parotid-masticatory area components are disputable and controversial. Actually, it is the complexity of topographical and anatomical relations as well as that of histogenesis of the parotid-masticatory area components in human perinatal period which stipulates the need in their further anatomical and histological study.

Material and methods of research. The study of variant anatomy and topographical and anatomical features of the human parotid gland, and of the buccal adipose body was carried out on 28 fetuses with 130,0-375,0 mm of crown to rump length by means of fine preparation under the control of a binocular magnifier: macro- and microscopy, morphometry and 3D reconstruction.

Results. The structure of the parotid gland in human fetuses is characterized by considerable anatomical variation, which shows itself in a variety of shapes (oval, leaf-like, horseshoe-shaped, triangular, irregular quadrangle), of location and syntopy. The parotid gland duct is formed by merging two outside organ lobular branches which (in turn) are formed by merging several superior and inferior lobular ducts emerging from the glandular tissue itself and piercing through its capsule. A number of anatomical variations were found in human fetuses both in the ratio of the buccal adipose body and the parotid duct and in its shape variety. The parotid duct may pierce the buccal adipose body or avoid it. The structure of the buccal adipose body of fetuses aged 7-10 months is characterized by a significant anatomical variation which can be seen in a variety of shapes (oval, triangular, two lobular, three lobular or as serried pyramids bases) as well as in its location. Human fetuses aged 5-10 months acquire a clear topographical location and direction of outside gland course of the parotid duct within the buccal area. Practically all the time the parotid duct is adjacent to the external surface of the masticatory muscle proper, bending its anterior edge and, in most cases, lies on

the upper medial surface of the buccal adipose body (Bishat's fat pad).

Conclusions. Active application of perinatal prevention of congenital defects requires up-to-date approaches and methods of embryonic growth study.

Embryotopographic research, which takes into account specific and critical for some organs periods of their growth and some peculiarities of their interrelations with adjacent organs and structures, becomes especially important.