The fluctuation of harmful behaviors towards oral cancer on the population of the state of Paraná, Brazil over 29 years

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Abstract:
Objective: The aim of the study is to report the experience of 27 years of voluntary actions regarding the prevention of oral cancer in Paraná, Brazil.

Methods: From 1989 to 2015, voluntary health actions were carried out aimed at the prevention of oral cancer. Volunteers over 30 years old answered a questionnaire with personal data and harmful habits, such as smoking and alcoholism, as well as a physical examination.

Results: A total of 28,794 patients, all around from 176 cities of the 398 cities of the state of Paraná, were examined throughout oral evaluation, of which 21.5% had oral lesions, such as traumatic and inflammatory lesions and leukoplakia, with characteristics of malignancy, papilloma, and erythroplasia. Regarding the harmful habits, from 1989 to 1998, 25% of the participants were smokers and 14.4% drinkers of alcohol. In the subsequent 10 years, there was a drop in habits to 18.4% and 14.3%, respectively. However, frequencies increased between 2009 and 2017, reaching to 28.3% of smokers and 21.9% of alcohol drinkers.

Conclusions: The data show that the harmful habits of the population studied varied over the years, while the percentage of smokers and users of alcohol in Paraná is still high, and that more preventive campaigns should be made to raise awareness of the population regarding its carcinogenic effects.

Biography:
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