

CYTOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF NASAL MUCOSA EXFOLIATION SMEARS IN TOBACCO-ADDICTED PATIENTS

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Introduction: Eyermann and Hansel were the first to describe cytological nasal mucosa exfoliation smears examination in 1927. This non-invasive diagnostic method allows for quantitative measurement of nasal mucosa cells types variability - including the presence of columnar, cuboidal, basal, squamous and transitional cells.

Objective: The study involved cytological examination of nasal mucosa exfoliation samples collected from cigarette smokers.

Material and Methods: 153 cigarette-addicted males were tested - using carbon monoxide elimination meter, Fagerstrom questionnaire and cytological nasal mucosa examination. 35 male non-smokers not exposed to passive smoking served as the control group. The data obtained was analyzed using the statistical software Statistica 10.

Results: The examination results in the smokers group were characterized by big percentage of basal flat cells, lowered percentage of cuboidal cells, loss of cilia in columnar cells and variability in neutrophil granulocytes, rarely eozynophil granulocytes. It allows defining the result of cytological examination of nasal mucosa in cigarette smokers as injury-related.

Key words: tobacco, exfoliation cytological examination, nasal mucosa