

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND PNEUMATISATION OF FRONTAL SINUSES IN MEDIEVAL POPULATION FROM POLAND**

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Paranasal sinuses are pneumatic spaces which play many roles in the skull. In animals they can vary greatly in size and shape, depending on the species and living conditions.. Some research has described tribal differences in the pneumatisation of paranasal sinuses.

The aim of this study was to assess the relationship between socioeconomic conditions and pneumatisation and morphology of the frontal sinuses.

We analyzed skulls from three Polish medieval populations. The first represents a rural population, the second an urban population, and the last a borough series. In order to assess pneumatisation and morphology of frontal sinuses radiographs were performed in the P-A projection. Measurements were taken from the radiographs using MicroStation 95 Academic Edition software. All data were analysed with statistical methods.

Two types of sinuses - plane and dentate - were observed in all groups. Only a few cases of aplasia of frontal sinuses were found in the analysed series. No significant differences in the pneumatisation of the frontal sinuses between the analysed groups were found.

Socioeconomic conditions had no influence on the pneumatisation of the frontal sinuses in the analysed material from medieval populations from Poland