

Prevalence of *Entamoeba gingivalis* in dental patients

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Entamoeba gingivalis is protozoan found in the human oral cavity. In the life cycle the amoeba there is known only trophozoite stage. The amoeba infection occurs the usually by kissing or shared eating utensils. The aim of our research was to estimate the prevalence of *E. gingivalis* among in patients treated in the Chair and Department of Dental Surgery, Medical University of Lublin, Poland. The study material was swabs from 130 patients (85 female and 45 male) aged 17–91. The amoeba was subjected to microscopic analysis using an optical microscope (Olympus) and preparations were stained with safranin. Trophozoites were counted in Bürker counting chambers. *E. gingivalis* was detected in the majority of subjects. In women, greater amounts of *E. gingivalis* have been detected than in men.