

## Correspondence

### Incidence of cleft lip and palate in Iran. A meta-analysis

To the Editor

I would like to comment on the study by Khazaei et al<sup>1</sup> on incidence of cleft lip and palate in Iran. As part of a collaborative project on the epidemiology of craniofacial anomalies, funded by the National Institutes for Dental and Craniofacial Research and channeled through the Human Genetics Programmed of the World Health Organization, the International Perinatal Database of Typical Orofacial Clefts (IPDTC) was established in 2003.<sup>2</sup> This database is collecting a case-by-case information on cleft lip with or without cleft palate and on cleft palate alone from birth defects registries contributing to at least one of 3 collaborative organizations: European Surveillance Systems of Congenital Anomalies (EUROCAT) in Europe, National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) in the United States, and International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research (ICBDSR) worldwide. International Perinatal Database of Typical Orofacial Clefts has recently reported that the overall prevalence of cleft lip with or without cleft palate was 9.92/10000. The prevalence of cleft lip was 3.28/10000, and that of cleft lip and palate was 6.64/10000. Also, 76.8% of reported cases were isolated, 15.9% had malformations in other systems, and 7.3% occurred as part of recognized syndromes.<sup>2</sup> It is interesting to notice that the magnitude of the health problem of cleft lip and palate in Iran (1.0/1000)<sup>1</sup> is more or

less comparable to that reported by IPDTC<sup>2</sup> while considering the following 2 facts: 1) The epidemiologic aspects of oral clefts in Iran were found to be very similar to other Caucasian populations.<sup>3</sup> 2) Various congenital anomalies, including orofacial defects, have been increasingly reported in Iran over the past years. For instance, the total prevalence of congenital anomalies has increased from 104.6/10000 births in 2000 to 170.1/10000 births in 2004.<sup>4</sup>

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#### Reply from the Author

No reply was received from the Author.

#### References

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#### Related topics

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