

Profile of the orthodontist practicing in the state of São Paulo - Part 1

Fabio Brandalise Rampon¹, Celestino Nóbrega², José Luiz Gonçalves Bretos³, Franco Arsati⁴, Sérgio Jakob⁵, Maria Cristina Jimenez-Pellegrin⁶

Editor's summary

The purpose of the authors with the present article was to understand the profile of the professional orthodontist that works in São Paulo. According to the authors the choice of the State of São Paulo was due to the fact that it is the state of greater relevance in the country, responsible for 59.4% of the national dental research. For this it was requested, with the Regional Council of Odontology of São Paulo, a list of the addresses of all specialists in Orthodontics and Facial Orthopedics registered until May 2007, constituting a total of 2,414 professionals. The survey was elaborated in the form of reply letter with 20 objective questions, given that eight of them had the possibility to mark more than one alternative. Also, in ten questions the professional had the possibility to add a written answer. The informatics resources used was based on the elaboration of spreadsheets, for data entry, with the help of the Microsoft® Excel program and its graphic assistant, present/contained in the Microsoft Windows® XP software. The answers to the survey were analyzed through graphics and tables according to absolute frequencies (n) and relative frequencies (%). To evaluate the association between the qualitative variants it was used the Chi-square test. Every time that the Chi-square test was significant, the analysis of adjusted residuals was used

as complement. The elaboration of the statistical analyses was through the SPSS® software version 13.0. The results showed that from a total of 2,414 reply letters sent to the target population, 593 (24.56%) returned to the research with the survey properly completed; 64 (2.64%) returned to the addresser by post mail devolution due to insufficient or unknown address or change of address e 1,757 (72.78%) did not return. The profile of the sample was: Male gender (54.3%), age group between 41 and 50 years old (40.5%) and period of enrollment at CRO-SP from 6 to 10 years (29.3%). The three cephalometric analyses most mentioned were the standard USP (71.5%), McNamara (59.2%) and Ricketts (52.8%). Among the most used orthodontic techniques, it can be noticed that the utilization of the straight wire technique is associated to period of professional formation of the specialist below 10 years, while the non use is associated to the group of over 15 years; the edgewise technique is associated to period of professional formation of over 15 years and its non use to the group from 6 to 10 years; the Ricketts' bioprogressive technique is associated to the group of over 15 years. Based on the results the authors conclude that the straight wire technique was the most used and it is associated to orthodontists enrolled at CRO-SP for under 10 years. The functional orthopedics resources are used routinely by most of the professionals inquired.

*Access www.dentalpress.com.br/revistas to read the entire article.

¹ MSc in Dentistry, São Leopoldo Mandic School of Dentistry.

² Specialist in Orthodontics, ABO. MSc in Oral Radiology UNICASTELO.

³ MSc in Orthodontics, UNICASTELO. PhD in Sciences, UNIFESP.

⁴ MSc and PhD in Dentistry, Unicamp.

⁵ MSc in Orthodontics, UNICASTELO. PhD in Dentistry, São Leopoldo Mandic School of Dentistry.

⁶ Professor, São Leopoldo Mandic School of Dentistry. MSc in Orthodontics, São Leopoldo Mandic School of Dentistry. Specialist in Orthodontics, UNICASTELO. PhD in Sciences, USP.

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Contact address: Cristina Jimenez-Pellegrin
Rua José Rocha Junqueira, 13 - Ponte Preta - Campinas/SP - Brazil
CEP: 13045-610 - E-mail: crisjp@globo.com