ORAL DISEASES

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The influence of mobile phones on parotid gland secretion

Dear Editor,

We thank Professor Farzaneh and Professor Somayeh for their interest in our article (Goldwein and Aframian, 2010).

Several issues were raised in the letter and here is reply to each one in a point to point manner:

1. None of the volunteers suffered from anemia

2. Trauma in the context of the exclusion criteria referred to the head and neck region and not to other parts of the body.

3. Thanks you for the remark regarding the dominant use of the mobile phone (MPH). For clarification, of the 50 volunteers in this study, 40 were right-handed and 10 were left-handed as presented in Table 1. Hand orientation is developed in fetuses, and can be determined by observing the head position and hand-mouth contacting (Hopkins *et al*, 1987). Moreover, specific alleles of the LRRTM1 gene were found to be linked to left-handedness (Francks *et al*, 2007). Consequently, the question of hand orientation as criteria for exploring clinical question is intriguing in general and in the context of Oral Medicine.

4. No difference in time use was found between the right- and left-handed MPH users, therefore, it is not likely the reason behind differences found in saliva secretion between the right and left parotid glands.

5. Lower total protein concentration in the dominant compared with the non-dominant MPH side among the

right dominant MPH users is an interesting observation and as stated, should be further explored in a large-scale longitudinal study. Furthermore, investigating protein profile using proteomic approach may shed more light on this phenomenon (Fleissig *et al*, 2009)

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