



Comment on “Comparison of Nasal Anthropometric Measurements of Turks Living in Different Geographical Regions”

“Farklı Coğrafi Bölgelerde Yaşayan Türklerin Nazal Antropometrik Ölçümlerinin Karşılaştırılması”
Başlıklı Yazı Üzerine

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Dear Editor,

We read with great interest the article “Comparison of Nasal Anthropometric Measurements of Turks Living in Different Geographical Regions” by Kanter et al. (1) published on pages 139-145 of the 26(2) issue of the Düzce Medical Journal in 2024. We are writing to offer additional comments and discussion on the article. While the study presents valuable insights into the nasal morphology of two distinct populations of Turkish populations that have inhabited different geographical regions for 1000 years, we would like to express a few thoughts about the study.

Firstly, the article attributes differences in nasal measurements primarily to ethnicity, which is a valid consideration. However, it is important to acknowledge that factors such as climate and environmental conditions may play a significant role in shaping of external nasal structures. For instance, variations in nasal morphology across populations could be influenced by adaptive mechanisms to different climates, particularly temperature and humidity (2). We think that the difference in nasal measurements observed between the Türkiye Turks and the Kazakh Turks populations may be modest evidence of the influence of climatic factors. It is also known that nasal anthropometry shows significant differences in geographical regions of Türkiye with different climate characteristics (3).

Secondly, given the paucity of large-scale studies in the extant literature that can confirm racial differences and the existence of multifaceted interactions between societies, it may be more appropriate to use terms such as “a sample of the Turkish population”, “from the Turkish subpopulation”, “among Turkish individuals” articles, thus emphasizing that these observations do not generalize to the entire race. The use of these sample expressions has the potential to increase the quality of scientific studies by eliminating problems related to sample representation.

Thirdly, as a consequence of the natural process of ageing, a number of changes may be observed in the nasal region. These include the loss of fibrous tissue between the lateral and major alar cartilages, the weakening of the supporting ligament of the medial crus of the major alar cartilage, and the thickening of the subcutaneous tissue of the nasal tip. These changes can result in the drooping of the tip of the nose and the convexity of the dorsum. Consequently, the

dorsum of the nose length and nasolabial angle are subject to change with age (4). In the discussion of the present article, a comparison is made between the findings of the study and the findings reported by Garandawa et al. (5) and Mehta et al (6). However, the sample age ranges in these studies were 18-70 and 20-60, respectively. We believe that this comparison will not be optimal due to the possibility that these parameters may change with age, and the inclusion of this detail in the article would be more accurate and appropriate.

We hope that our comments and discussions will be taken into account in the ongoing discourse on this fascinating topic. We would be grateful for any additional input or suggestions from your side. Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Ethics Committee Approval: Since our study was not an experimental study including human or animal subject, ethics committee approval was not required.

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