

ABSTRACT

There were used human skeletal remains from eight Older and Late Eneolithic burial sites from Bohemia to set their health status. I used remains of 307 individuals. Paleodemography analysis of cemeteries and cultures was made. There were shown possible modifications of life table values based on experiment with modern population values. During paleoepidemiological analysis I described the most important categories of pathological findings. The results of analysis were used to make comparisons between themselves and with individuals from the Moravian cemetery of Bell Beaker Culture from Hoštice I za Hanou. An unexpected result was the statistically significant difference in the height of Bohemian and Moravian population of Bell Beaker Culture. Male individuals of Funnel Beaker Culture had the lowest height of all. There were found only two congenital anomalies, plagiocephalia and Klippel-Feil syndrome (fused cervical vertebrae). X-ray images were made of the most important findings for better diagnosis. Except the classic categories of pathologies I detected two cases of *hyperostosis frontalis interna*, both females from a burial site of Corded Ware Culture in Vikletice. In five cases were found osteoplastic growth on the visceral surface of the ribs of individuals of Bell Beaker Culture from Kněžves and Radovesice. Researches from the University of Birmingham have confirmed the presence of mycolic acid indicating mycobacterial infection using *high-performance liquid chromatography analysis*. There was possible to use values of trace elements selenium, strontium and zinc for comparison of the diet. Values of strontium were significantly higher in Moravian burial site, on the other hand zinc was higher in Vikletice, Bohemia region. The most fundamental way of assessing the state of health was introduced, the first time on the material from the Bohemia, as „*Health Index*“. Its application is based on body height and six major pathological categories. Using this evaluation, there was found better health status of Bell Beaker Culture, but after age-related adjustments, the value of *health index* turned in favor of Corded Ware Culture. Surprisingly there was found higher percentage of trauma in Corded Ware Culture population. However, overall the injuries were rather impact of work and domestic accidents than due to war conflicts. It was therefore concluded that individuals of Bell Beaker Culture in Bohemia and Moravia had a different lifestyle and diet. Moravia was probably more suitable environment for people of this culture, more similar to southwestern Europe, where their migration is expected from.