

Palatal Rugae Pattern Based on Lineage

(Pilot study for ethnic bugise – South of Sulawesi Indonesia)

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ABSTRACT

Background: Palatal rugae pattern are stable, and unique oral topographical structures to an individual, like his or her finger prints. Palatoscopy are comparable to dental, fingerprint and DNA identification techniques. **Aim:** to knowledge the palatal rugae pattern based on lineage. **Methods:** This study is a cross sectional study that carried out on 20 families. Each families consists of father, mother and their child (boy or girl). Palatal rugae pattern was recorded using an alginate impression material and appropriate metal tray for all sample. **Result:** The percentage distribution of the pattern of palatal rugae of a child that resembles one of its parents is most often found in the wavy type that is in the father-child relationship (50%). The association of palatal rugae pattern with based on shape, in the father-child relationship (the coefficient coefficient value = 0.731; $p = 0,000$). and based on the unification (coefficient contingency value = 0.522; $p = 0,006$). For the mother-child relationship, the contingency coefficient value of the mother-child relationship, based on the shape (contingency coefficient =, 0.478; $p = 0,639$), this indicates that the weak relationship occurs between mother and child and is not statistically significant **Conclusion:** This result finds a derivative pattern that occurs in the pattern of rugae palatina between of fathers with children or between mothers and children, this can be an important tool in personal identification and determine the relationship of family lineage of a person.

Keyword: Palatal rugae, lineage

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INTRODUCTION

Identification of an individual is a prerequisite for certification of death and for personal, social and legal reasons. DNA, fingerprint and dental record comparisons are the most commonly used scientific methods of forensic identification. Limitations to the use of fingerprints occur in situations where the hands are charred or mutilated and while teeth are more durable, identification using dental records may also prove to be inconclusive, since many ante mortem dental records may be inaccurate or incomplete. Although DNA profiling is accurate, it is expensive and time consuming for use in large populations.^{1,2}

Since dental, fingerprint and DNA identification cannot always be used; sometimes it is necessary to apply different and less known techniques. Palatoscopy are comparable to dental, fingerprint and DNA identification techniques. Palatoscopy or palatal rugoscopy is the name given to the study of palatal rugae in order to establish a person's identity. Palatal rugae are irregular, asymmetric ridges of mucous membrane extending lateral from the incisive papilla and the anterior part of the median palatal raphe, which is just behind the maxillary central incisor teeth.^{1,3}

There is a fact that the palatal rugae patterns are stable, and unique oral topographical structures to an individual, like his or her finger prints. The rugae are located at a more secured position in the oral cavity, well bounded by cheek, lip, tongue, teeth, and alveolar process. Hence, they are well protected from trauma, extreme finger sucking in infancy, and persistent pressure with orthodontic treatment and dentures. The uniqueness, stability and the resistance to damage, facilitate palatal rugae as one of the important anatomical landmarks in forensic investigation.⁴ Some researchers have found a derivative pattern that occurs in the palatal rugae pattern, this can be an important tool in personal identification and determine the relationship of an individual's family lineage.^{2,5} According to Mendel's genetic theory, a child will have the same character as his parents because the child gets the same gene derivatives from his parents and the result is influenced by the dominant and recessive factor of the gene that the parent possesses.⁶

Based on the above explanation, this study was conducted to determine the parent-to-child pattern of derivation thus helping to investigate the potential role of palatal rugae in identifying individuals in the forensic field.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study is an observational study with design study is cross sectional study. Sample collection was conducted at RSGM Universitas Hasanuddin. The sample of this study was selected from the colleger of dental profession of Hasanuddin University that registered at RSGM Universitas Hasanuddin using convenience sampling method. The sample of this research is the colleger of dentistry profession of Hasanuddin University and the parents of dental profession colleger of Hasanuddin University who are willing to be used as research sample, amounting to 20 family pairs, each pair of family consisting of 1 father, 1 mother and 1 child. The sample of the study was chosen according to the study criteria, i.e.:

- a. Inclusion criteria :
 1. Sample with healthy palatal rugae
 2. Sample who are willing to be used as research sample
- b. Exclusion criteria :
 1. Sample with palate and lip defect
 2. Sample who had previous orthodontic treatment or on going treatment
 3. Sample with torus palatine
 4. Loss of one tooth or all teeth, between the central incisors, the lateral incisors, the canines, the first premolars, the second premolar and the maxillary first molars

Palatal rugae pattern of the parents and colleger of each family was obtained by using alginate impression

Palatal Rugae Pattern		Female	
		n (%)	n(%)
Shape	Curved	7(26,9)	17(50)
	Wavy	14(53,9)	14(41,2)
	Straight	5(19,2)	3(8,8)
	Circular	0	0
Unification	Diverging	16(61,5)	25(73,5)
	Converging	10(38,5)	9(26,5)

material according to manufacturer's instruction and appropriate perforated metal tray for all subjects. Negative impression that was obtain using alginate were then casted using dental stone type III.

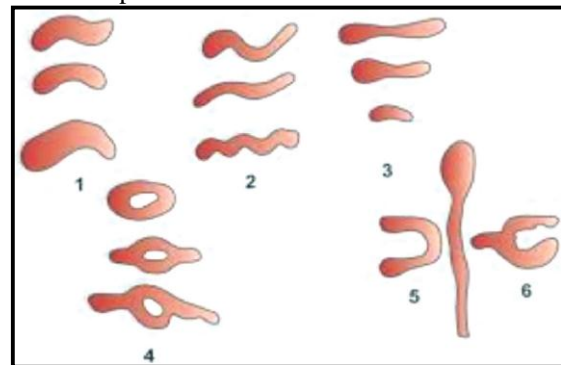
Assessment criteria were performed by observing the dominant palatal rugae pattern found on both sides of the palatal positive model of the sample jaw. The pattern of rugae palatina is assessed by the classification of Thomas and Kotze.

Classification of Thomas and Kotze that citation by Rajan VP *et al*⁷, divided into several types as follows.⁷

- a. Based on their shape, i.e.⁷:

1. Curved : they had a crecent shape and curved gently
2. Wavy : if there was a slight curve at the origin of termination of a curved rugae
3. Straight : they run directly from their origin to termination
4. Circle : rugae that form a definite continuous ring.
- b. Based on unification, i.e.⁴:
 - i. Diverging : unification in which two rugae begin from the same origin, but bifurcate transversely
 - ii. Converging : unification in which two rugae whereas rugae with different origins which are joined on their lateral positions.

The collected data ware processed using SPSS version 20.0. The result were described in format table, grafik and description.



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Figure 1. Classification of Thomas and Kotze

RESULT

Table 1 shows the distribution of palatal rugae patterns by sex. Based on shape, men have the most wavy type (53.9%) and in women have the most curved type (50.0%). Based on the unification, men and women have the most diverging type than converging type, which is 16 person (61.5%) in males and 25 person (73.5%) in females.

Table 1. Percentage of palatal rugae patterns (Type Shape and Unification) by sex (n=60)

Table 2 shows the percentage distribution of palatal rugae pattern, based on shape, fathers having the most wavy type (55%), mother having the most curved type (55%) while in children having more wavy type (50%). Palatal rugae pattern based on the unification, diverging

type is the most type that happened in father (60%) and mother (65%) and children (80%).

Palatal Rugae Pattern	Family member relationship	Contingency Coefficient	Sig
Shape	Father and child	0.731	0.000*
	Mother and child	0.478	0.206
Unification	Father and child	0.522	0.006*
	Mother and child	0.104	0.639

Table 3 shows the percentage distribution of palatal rugae pattern that resembles its parent. It can be seen that the pattern of palatal rugae of a child that resembles one of its parents is most often found in the wavy type that is in the father-child relationship (25%), while in the mother-child relationship found most curved type (15%).

Then when looking at the relationship pattern of child palatal rugae that resembles both parent, on pattern of wavy type and curved type there are equal amount of that is as much as 3 pairs (15%).

Table 2. Percentage distribution of palatal rugae pattern based on group of father, mother and child

Table 3. Percentage Palatal rugae pattern based on Family relationship

Palatal Rugae Pattern		Family member relationship n=20 (%)		
		Father-Child	Mother-Child	Father-Child-Mother
Shape	Curved	1(5)	3(15)	3(15)
	Wavy	5(25)	2(10)	3(15)
	Straight	3(15)	0	0
	Circular	0	0	0
Unification	Diverging	6(30)	4(20)	6(30)
	Converging	3(15)	0	1(5)

Table 4 shows the association of palatal rugae pattern with based on shape, in the father-child relationship (the coefficient value = 0.731; p = 0,000). and based on the unification (coefficient contingency value = 0.522; p = 0,006). For the mother-child relationship, the

contingency coefficient value of the mother-child relationship, based on the shape (contingency coefficient =, 0.478; p = 0,639), this indicates that the weak relationship occurs between mother and child and is not statistically significant .

Table 4. Contingency coefficient shows association of palatal rugae pattern among the samples

*p ≤ 0.05 significant

Table 5. Contingency coefficient based on shape type details and unification type detail among Family member relationship

Palatal Rugae Pattern		Group	Value X ²	Sig
Shape	Curved	Father and child	0.399	0.052

Palatal Rugae Pattern		Father n=20 (%)	Mother n=20 (%)	Child n=20 (%)
Shape	Curved	6(30)	11(55)	7(35)
	Wavy	11(55)	7(35)	10(50)
	Straight	3(15)	2(10)	3(15)
	Circular	0	0	0
Unification	Diverging	12(60)	13(65)	16(80)
	Converging	8(40)	7(35)	4(20)

Shape	Curved	Mother and child	0.413	0.043*
		Father and child	0.449	0.025*
	Wavy	Mother and child	0.300	0.160
		Father and child	0.707	0.000*
	Straight	Mother and child	0.139	0.531
		Father and child	-	-
Circle	Mother and child	-	-	
	Father and child	-	-	
Unification	Diverging	Father and child	0.522	0.006*
		Mother and child	0.104	0.639
	Converging	Father and child	0.522	0.006*
		Mother and child	0.104	0.639

*p ≤ 0.05 significant

relationships in both diverging and converging patterns.

Based on the origin of the sample tribe (Figure 1 - Figure 5), it can be seen that there is a prominent relationship shown between father-mother-child in each pattern. In the Buginese curved pattern (Figure 3), the number of child who have this pattern is almost equal to the number of mothers, therefore it can be said that in this pattern more the pattern of child who resemble the mother. In contrast to the Buginese wavy pattern (Figure 4), the number of child is more of the resemble fathers than mothers. In the pattern of straight on Buginese (Figure 5) also so, the number of children who have this pattern equal to the number of fathers. Then,

Table 5 shows the details of the contingency coefficient and the relationship of each shape and unification. It was found that on the pattern of palatal rugae based on shape, the wavy type on the father-daughter has a positive contingency coefficient value and this relationship was statistically significant (p value = 0.025). While in mother-child positive contingency coefficient value was strongly found in curved type and this relationship was statistically significant (p value = 0.043). In the palatal rugae pattern based on its unification, a strong positive contingency coefficient value (0.522; 0.5222) and

DISCUSSION

The uniqueness and stability of palatal rugae in addition to human identification has been known and implemented in forensic and orthodontic fields. Regardless of the controversy about the stability of the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of rugae and the degree of difference between ethnic groups and sexes, the uniqueness of individuals has been recognized in forensic science as a source of potential identification and determining the relationship of one's family lineage.^{5,8}

significant (p value = 0.006; 0.006) were found in father-son

when observed based on the division of the pattern according to their unification, in diverging and converging patterns (Figure 6 and Figure 7), it appears that most children follow the pattern of their father rather than their mother.

When viewed based on the similarity of palatal patterns shared between father-son and mother-child according to the tribe (Figure 2 - Figure 6), a significant relationship exists only in the father-children relationship in the Buginese wavy pattern (p = 0.024), on diverging pattern of Buginese (p = 0.026). Whereas in other patterns there is no significant relationship, either in Buginese family or non-Buginese.

In Figures 2, the percentage of curved rugae palatal pattern between father, mother and child based on Pedigree for Bugise ethnic, for mother equal to 72,7% compared to father 33,3%. Ethnic non-bugise for Father 66,7% and mother 27,3%. For Figures 3, where the most percentage of palatal rugae pattern wavy type based on lineage (Ethnic Buginese) is the father of 72,7%, for ethnic non-bugise is mother 57,1%.

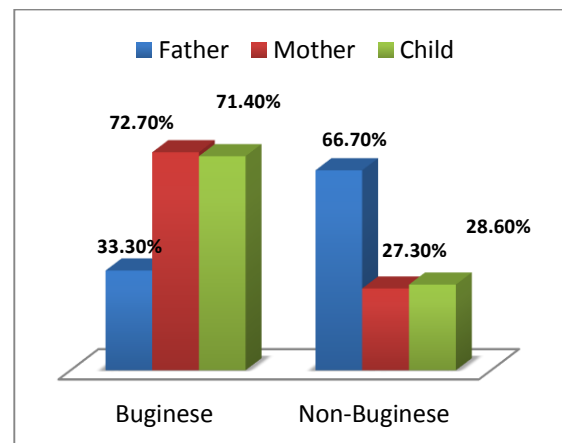


Fig 2. Percentage of palatal rugae pattern curved type between father, mother and child based on Lineage (Ethnic Buginese and Non-Buginese).

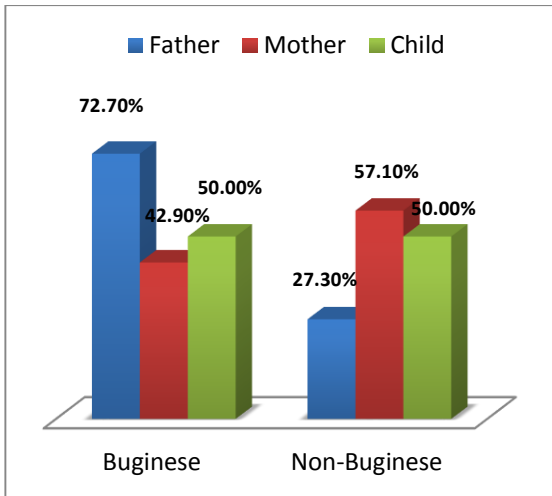


Fig 3. Percentage of palatal rugae pattern wavy type based on Lineage (Ethnic Buginese and Non-Buginese (Family n=20)).

This research was conducted with the aim is to know palatal rugae pattern based on lineage from colleger of dental profession of Hasanuddin University. The observed patterns are classified according to the classification of Thomas and Kotze according to their shape (shape) and unification (unification).^{4,9}

This study shows a significant association between palatal rugae pattern between child and parent (Table 4). Based on the shape, the wavy pattern of the father-daughter and the mother-daughter curved pattern is seen as most dominant between the child and parent relationship, and in each pattern has a significant value. Based on its unification, in both diverging and converging patterns, a significant relationship is seen only in the father-son relationship (Table 4). However, the dominant relationship in the diverging pattern is more common than the converging pattern (Table 2). The large number of rugae palatina patterns for the wavy patterns occurring between the child and his parents has also been reported by Patel et al⁵ in his research, and a strong and significant relationship is also shown in the relationship between father and his/her child/offspring.⁵

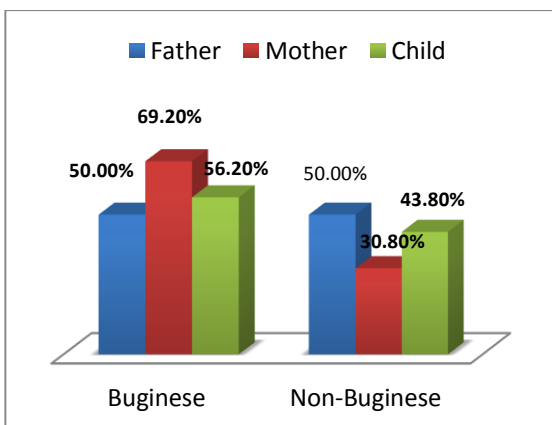


Fig 4. Chart of palatal rugae pattern curved type that resemble between father-son and mother-daughter based on Buginese and Non-Buginese (n=20).

The various forms of rugae are duly indicated by various dominant levels. The most dominant palatal rugae pattern in this study, regardless of family relationship status, but only in terms of sex, based on shape, the dominant pattern is the wavy type found followed by the curved type, whereas based on its unification, the dominant is the diverging type compared to the converging type. The high incidence of wavy and curved patterns has been reported also by Ibeachu et al⁸, Thabitha et al⁷, Saxena et al¹⁰, Bajracharya et al¹¹, and Kumar et al¹², and the effect of this pattern can be regarded as the dominant pattern in most populations.

The results of this research that conducted by researchers there are differences with research conducted by Dwivedi N and Nagarajappa AK¹³ and by Pillai J et al⁴ which shows the straight pattern as the most dominant occur among the population studied. This difference is expected to occur due to differences in ethnicity, race, gender and habitual patterns in the environment. In forensic anthropology, there are only three main groups of a group of races found (at least outside the continent of Australia and the Pacific region) ie Caucasian (composed of Europeans, Asians of Indian subcontinent, Mediterranean people and Americans of similar breeds) Mongoloid (Asian and Native American), and Negroid (African and African-American mix).¹⁴ According to two layer theory, there are two racial migrations to Indonesia through the Asian continent, the Austromelanesoid race and the Mongoloid race. The first mixing between the Austromelanesoid race and the Mongoloid race is called the Proto Melayu (Old-Malay) group. The descendants of this group are Toraja (South Sulawesi), Sasak (West Nusa Tenggara), Dayak (Central Kalimantan), Nias (North Sumatera), Mentawai, Baduy, Batak (North Sumatra) and Kubu (South Sumatra). The second mixing between Proto Malays and the Mongoloid race is called the Deutro Melayu group (Malay Youth). The descendants of this group are the tribe of Aceh, the Minangkabau (West Sumatera), the Sundanese, the Javanese, the Balinese, and the Buginese and Makasar.¹⁵ These differences in races are determined by the characteristics of an individual's face. Researchers assume that differences in the pattern of facial shape owned by someone based on his race will affect the pattern of rugae palatina form owned by an individual.

In this study, when observed based on the origin of the tribe (Figure 2 - Figure 4), the dominant pattern that occurs in the Buginese father is the wavy pattern, whereas in the Buginese mother is the curved pattern. In the straight pattern, the dominant pattern has occurred with the Buginese father, but the sample comparison is too small to be categorized. The dominant pattern derived from the Buginese parents to their son is the

wavy pattern followed by the curved pattern. The existence of the same pattern that is passed on by the parents to the child is thought to be influenced by genetic factors. According to Mendel's theory, each of the genes of the parents will be passed on to the child. The child will exhibit one of the dominant parental traits because it may be due to one of the genes of the predominant parent compared to the other who has been derived.⁶ In addition, the Bugis tribe is known as a *kasiratangan* marriage term. According to some who still adhere to the Buginese tradition, this marriage is an ideal marriage that considers the search for a mate in a relative's environment, particularly in a relative's environment that is in a horizontal line, eg a marriage between a cousin.¹⁶ The existence of such a tradition, researchers assume that similarity the pattern of rugae palatina among most Buginese acquired is due to the existence of such marriage tradition.

CONCLUSION

It concludes that there was statistically significant resemblance of child's palatal rugae pattern with their parent's palatal rugae patterns. This patterns seemingly influenced by their tribe origin and their races origin. In this study, Buginese is the most tribe that was observed and the most pattern type that was found in this tribe is wavy type.

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