Recent reanalysis of the human remains unearthed from the artificial cave of Baitas (Lisbon, Portugal), included the analysis of the dental remains to assess information about tooth wear patterns and non-masticatory behaviour of these Late Neolithic individuals. Presently, the human bones recovered from this hypogaeum are curated in the National Museum of Archaeology (Lisbon) and consists of a commingled bone assemblage. The reassessment of the osteological collection revealed a provisional minimal number of 38 individuals based on long bones, value that will be exceeded with the analysis of dental remains.

The aim of this work is to present the preliminary results from the analysis of diverse dental lesions, such as chipping, notches and interproximal grooving of the permanent lower teeth from this collection. The obtained results will be discussed in terms of dietary habits and possible non-dietary tooth use behaviours in daily activities of these prehistoric individuals.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The dental remains from these individuals were recovered mainly as loose ones. In total, around 620 teeth were analysed. These were examined macroscopically and with hand lens. Wear patterns were recorded according to Smith (1984) adapted by Silva (1996), unusual wear were noted following the recommendations of Molnar (1972), chipping and notching were scored according to Bonfiglioli et al. (2004). The number of chips per tooth was recorded as suggested by Belcastro et al. 2007. Interproximal grooves were registered following Molnar (2011) and Ungar et al. (2001).

**RESULTS**

Table 1 summarised the occurrence of dental chipping, notching and interproximal grooving by tooth class of the present sample.

**DISCUSSION**

Chipping affected 12.4% of the teeth (77/622). Anterior upper (Fig. 2) and anterior lower teeth present similar frequency of chipping (17.4% and 17.0%), as well as the posterior ones (upper – 7.1%; lower – 8.6%). Statistically significance was found between the frequency of chipping in upper anterior teeth versus lower anterior teeth (χ²=5.5407; p=0.01858) and posterior upper teeth and posterior lower teeth (χ²=4.1041; p=0.04779).

With exception of three teeth, all chips were of small size (Fig 3 and Fig 4).

Notching was scored in 5.8% (9/155) of the anterior upper teeth and 2.1% (3/140) in the anterior lower teeth. The comparison of the frequency between these two groups, didn’t reveal statistically significance (χ²= 2.3372; p = 0.126339). No notches were observed in posterior teeth.

Interproximal grooving was only observed in posterior teeth of both maxilla, respectively, 8.3% (10/121) and 2.7% (5/184) in upper (Fig. 5 and 6) and lower teeth, but without statistically significance (χ²= 2.5337; p=0.11577).