INTRODUCTION
The measurement of salivary biomarkers has several advantages:
• Collection of saliva is non-invasive, convenient, and generally easily accepted by patients, including young children and the elderly.
• It avoids painful blood taking and multiple sampling can be achieved.
• Collection of saliva samples does not require a trained phlebotomist.
• Even self-collection is possible.

The Salivary Biomarkers Research Group (SBRG) was formed in March 2001 to conduct research on saliva as an alternative diagnostic fluid for clinical management and bio-behavioral research.

OBJECTIVES
• To assess the use of salivary biomarkers in risk assessment for various diseases.
• To translate the use of saliva as an alternative diagnostic fluid.
• To establish the use of salivary biomarkers in clinical settings.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Salivary biomarkers of stress
Cortisol profile, Immunoglobulin A & lysozyme as markers of immunity, Chromogranin A and α-amylase as markers of acute stress.

Bio-behavioral studies
Salivary cortisol in children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Anxiety Disorder (AD).

Salivary biomarkers in occupational and environmental health
Biomarkers of stress and immunity among nurses.
Correlation between salivary and blood lead.
Salivary lead and mucosal immune function.
Acetylcholinesterase in organophosphate pesticide exposed workers.

Salivary biomarkers in clinical disorders
Eosinophilic Cationic Protein as an indicator of asthma management.
Salivary biomarkers in psoriasis.
Use of salivary biomarkers in dentistry.

Indoor air environment and salivary biomarkers
Salivary biomarkers as objective health measures in indoor environmental assessments and productivity.

Laboratory studies
Effect of storage time on stability of salivary biomarkers.
Yield and quality of DNA extracted from saliva.

SALIVA COLLECTION TECHNIQUES

(1) Passive Drool
(2) Salivette Collection Kit
(3) Sorbett "Some Collection Devices"

Members of Salivary Biomarkers Group

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