

Collecting Salivary CRP

Sample Collection Method Overview

- ✓ **Passive Drool**
- ✓ **SalivaBio Swabs**

+ Special Considerations

Concentrations of CRP may vary depending on the location in the mouth; consistency in collection location is therefore important.

Levels of CRP are expected to be low and stable across time unless the donor has a systemic infection. In the latter case, levels of CRP in saliva may be extremely high.

Levels of CRP in saliva have the potential to be influenced by the degree of inflammation in the oral mucosal immune compartment, carefully documenting oral health status may be necessary

+ Sample Collection (General Procedure)

Before Sample Collection

- Avoid foods with high sugar or acidity, immediately before sample collection, since they may compromise the assay by lowering saliva pH and increasing bacterial growth.
- Document consumption of alcohol, caffeine, nicotine, and prescription/over-the-counter medications within the prior 12 hours.
- Document the presence of oral diseases or injury.
- Consider documenting parameters to estimate saliva flow rate.
- Rinse mouth with water to remove food residue and **wait at least 10 minutes** after rinsing to avoid sample dilution before collecting saliva.

During Sample Collection

- **Recommended Collection Volume: 125 µl***
- Follow desired sample collection device protocol

*Add 300 µl to the total volume of all tests for liquid handling loss

After Sample Collection

- Record the time and date of specimen collection.
- Refrigerate samples immediately (if possible) and freeze at or below -20°C (household freezer) as soon as possible (within hours of sample collection)
- Samples visibly contaminated with blood should be recollected.
- Do not add sodium azide to saliva samples as a preservative.
- It is always recommended to minimize freeze-thaw cycles.