

STEP 3 Testing pH - Resting Saliva

Ask the patient to avoid swallowing for the next 30 seconds and allow saliva to collect in the bottom of their mouth. They should then expectorate (spit) this saliva into the cup provided.

TEST PROCEDURE: Dip the tip of a single sheet of pH test paper into the saliva. When it is fully wet, remove immediately.

pH paper

RESULTS: Compare the colour of the test strip while the paper is still moist. Note the pH reading and record the result.



STEP 4 Testing Quantity - Stimulated Saliva

Ask the patient to chew the supplied piece of wax. After 30 seconds, ask the patient to expectorate (spit) into the spittoon to discard their first generated saliva. They should then continue chewing the wax for a further 5 minutes, expectorating every 15-20 seconds into the cup provided.

Note: It is preferable that you leave the patient alone in the room whilst they collect the saliva.

Measure the volume of liquid in the cup excluding froth and record the result.

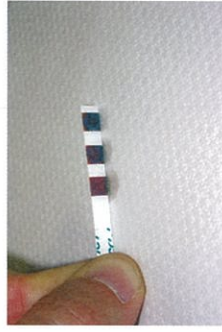
Note: Keep the Saliva for Step 5.



Volume of Saliva	Value
< 3.5mL	very low
3.5 - 5.0mL	low
>5.0mL	normal

STEP 5 Testing Buffering - Stimulated Saliva

Open the Buffer test foil pack.
Use the pipette to draw up some saliva from the cup.
Dispense 1 drop from the cup onto each of the 3 test pads.
Turn the test strip on its side to drain excess saliva onto a tissue. After 5 minutes, compare the colour of each pad with the table below and total up the 3 scores. Record the result.



Green	= 4 points
Green/Blue	= 3 points
Blue	= 2 points
Blue/Red	= 1 points
Red	= 0 points

Total the 3 scores and record the result.

Combined Total	Buffering Ability
0 - 5	very low
6 - 9	low
10 - 12	normal

Pipette

