

Saliva-Check Salivary Testing Kit (Project 04-35) (7/05)

Saliva-Check is a new salivary testing kit by GC America that reportedly identifies, measures, and assesses the patients caries risk based on saliva condition. The kit tests for hydration, salivary consistency, resting saliva pH, stimulated saliva flow and pH, and saliva buffering capacity. Saliva-Check comes with 10 unit-dose patient kits which includes one saliva buffering test strip, three saliva pH test strips, one pack of unflavored chewing wax (stimulant), one eyedropper pipette, one gauze towel, and one 20-mL saliva collection cup.



Manufacturer:

GC America
3737 W. 127th Street
Alsip, IL 60803
(800) 323-7063
(708) 597-0900
(708) 371-5103 FAX
www.gcamerica.com

Suggested Retail Price:

\$108.35 Saliva-Check (item no. 900100) contains:
- 10 unit-dose patient kits

Government Price:

\$65.00 Saliva-Check (item number and contents as listed above)

ADVANTAGES:

- + Easy-to-use, direct, chairside salivary testing
- + Provides adjunctive caries-risk assessment
- + Provides patient education
- + Unit-dose packaging
- + Tests may be performed by trained auxiliaries
- + Color-coded test-tracking form for patient record
- + Lot number and expiration date provided on individual, sealed, test-strip packages

DISADVANTAGES:

- Clinical studies necessary to determine caries-risk predictability of kit
- Does not include bacterial testing

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Saliva-Check is a salivary testing kit that assesses the patients caries risk based on saliva. The kit tests for hydration, salivary consistency, resting saliva pH, stimulated saliva flow and pH, and saliva buffering capacity. Evaluators found the kit easy to use and interpret and the individual unit-dose packaging convenient. The simple, color-coded Test Result Sheet with red, yellow, and green symbols to represent testing status provides a convenient method for tracking results. More clinical studies are necessary to determine the predictability of the testing and results should only be used in conjunction with other caries-risk assessments. The kit does not include bacterial testing (e.g., *Streptococcus mutans*) or suggestions for preventive care once a higher-risk patient is identified. All of the evaluators rated Saliva-Check as Excellent or Good overall and most would consider purchasing it for use in their clinic. **Saliva-Check** is rated **Acceptable** for use in US Air Force dental facilities.