

[Download PDF](#)[Content](#) ▾ [About](#) ▾ [Publish](#) ▾[Sign up for alerts](#) [RSS feed](#)

Published: 25 April 1992

# Saliva: its secretion, composition and functions

[W M Edgar](#)*British Dental Journal* **172**, 305–312 (1992)**12k** Accesses | **346** Citations | **6** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

## Abstract

The secretions of the major and minor salivary glands, together with the gingival crevicular fluid, constitute the oral fluid or whole saliva which provides the chemical milieu of the teeth and oral soft tissues. The crucial role of saliva in the maintenance of dental health is demonstrated by the morbidity associated with loss of salivary gland function. In this article, the physiology of the secretory process, the reflex control of whole saliva flow rate, the composition of the fluid, the factors affecting its composition, and the functions of the organic and inorganic components are described. Finally, the clinical aspects of salivary gland dysfunction are briefly discussed

## Rights and permissions

[Reprints and Permissions](#)

## About this article

[Download PDF](#)<https://doi.org/10.1038/sj.bdj.4807861>**Published**

25 April 1992

**Issue Date**

25 April 1992

**DOI**<https://doi.org/10.1038/sj.bdj.4807861>**This article is cited by****In vivo kinetic release of five metal ions (iron, titanium, nickel, copper, and chromium) from fixed orthodontic alloys in Erbil city-Kurdistan region/Iraq**

Shireen Ibrahim Hamadamin

*Environmental Science and Pollution Research* (2022)**Investigation of the effects of thrombocyte-rich plasma, systemic ozone and hyperbaric oxygen treatment on intraoral wound healing in rats: experimental study**

Kemal Uslu , Hasan Deniz Tansuker ... Mehmet Faruk Oktay

*European Archives of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology* (2020)**Photobiomodulation and salivary glands: a systematic review**

A. S. Sousa , J. F. Silva ... A. M. Deana

*Lasers in Medical Science* (2020)**Association of salivary levels of immunoglobulin-a and amylase with oral-dental manifestations in patients with controlled and non-controlled type 2 diabetes**

Marjan Kheirmand Parizi , Hamed Akbari ... Shahla Kakoei

*BMC Oral Health* (2019)