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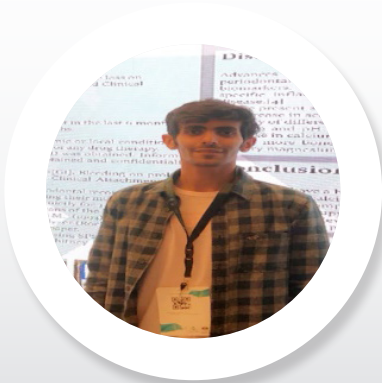
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Comparison of salivary Ca, Mg level and pH in patients with generalized chronic periodontitis and healthy individuals in Saudi population- a clinico - biochemical study

Introduction: Human saliva is a fluid with many biological functions essential for the maintenance of oral health. Salivary flow and composition influences calculus formation and periodontal disease. Salivary calcium, magnesium due to its affinity to be readily taken up by plaque, is an important factor not only with regard to the onset of periodontitis but also significantly with regard to dental health. They are one of the most intensely studied potential markers for periodontal disease in saliva. Cross-sectional and longitudinal studies have provided strong evidence that smoking is a significant risk factor for periodontal disease. All of the surveys have reported increased quantities of calculus in smokers. It has long been known that smoking causes a marked increase in salivary flow rate as a simple reflex effect and this could explain the tendency of smokers to accumulate increased amounts of calculus. There is some evidence that smoking also increases the mineralizing potential of saliva. An elevated level of salivary calcium in smokers is related to a greater degree of bone loss and lower mineral density of bones than in non-smokers. Smokers have comparatively higher oral pH than non-smokers. Therefore, there is a great possibility for this pH to extract calcium from the scales deposited on the teeth (or even from their teeth) of these individuals which might result in the elevated levels of salivary calcium, magnesium level.

Aims & Objectives: To estimate, analyze, compare and to correlate the variation in salivary calcium, magnesium levels and pH in periodontally healthy subjects and that of chronic periodontitis of smoker and non-smoker subjects.

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