

## Collecting Salivary $\alpha$ -Amylase

### Sample Collection Method Overview

- ✓ **Passive Drool**
- ✓ **SalivaBio Swab**

### + Special Considerations

Consider documenting parameters to estimate saliva flow-rate (ie; time taken to collect and sample volume). Consistency in collection method is recommended to avoid introducing unsystematic error into your study data.

If collecting with swab devices, it is important to know that concentrations of this analyte may vary depending on the location in the mouth; consistency in swab placement is important.

### + Sample Collection (General Procedure)

#### Before Sample Collection

- Avoid foods with high sugar, acidity, or caffeine immediately before sample collection.
- Document consumption of alcohol, caffeine, nicotine, and prescription/over-the-counter medications within the prior 12 hours.
- Document vigorous physical activity and the presence of oral disease, injury or inflammation.
- Do not brush teeth or eat a major meal within 60 minutes of sample collection.
- Rinse mouth with water to remove food residue and then **wait at least 10 minutes** before collecting saliva.

#### During Sample Collection

- **Recommended Collection Volume: 25  $\mu$ l\***
- Use a collection device that has been validated for the measurement of this analyte.
- Follow your selected sample collection device/method protocol.

\*Add 300  $\mu$ l to the total volume of all tests for liquid handling

#### After Sample Collection

- Record the time and date of specimen collection.
- Refrigerate samples immediately (if possible) and freeze at or below  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  (household freezer) as soon as possible (within 6 hours of sample collection)
- Samples visibly contaminated with blood should be recollected.
- Do not add preservatives to saliva samples unless it has been previously validated with the assay.