Clinical Relevance for Periodontal (Gum) Health Measurements

- Gingivitis and periodontitis are inflammatory oral diseases triggered by an immune/inflammatory response to periodontal pathogens that stimulate leukocyte and protein changes.i,ii,iii
- This inflammatory response can lead to the destruction of the oral epithelial barrier resulting in blood (Hgb) contamination of saliva.iv The presence of blood (Hgb) is more common in patients with periodontal destruction.
- Numerous studies have demonstrated that increased levels of leukocytes, blood (Hgb), and protein in saliva is correlated with an increased risk of periodontal disease. This information can be used as a tool for risk assessment of periodontal health.
- Studies on elevated leukocyte levels in saliva have demonstrated a correlation with inflammatory conditions, gingivitisvi,vii and chronic periodontitis.viii
- Also, multiple studies have shown that the presence of blood (Hgb) in saliva is associated with gingival inflammationix,x and periodontal disease.iv,xi,xii
- Furthermore, numerous studies have shown that increased salivary protein levels are correlated with gingivitis and periodontitis.xiii,xiv,xv,xvi
References


