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5S **Saliva: The Precious Body Fluid**

D.P. DePaola

The guest editor describes how adequate salivary flow and saliva's unique composition of proteins are essential to the maintenance of oral tissues and introduces the articles in the supplement. This commentary includes two sidebars: one by F.A. Curro addressing gum chewing as an adjunct to the use of medication and another by D.T. Zero describing the cariogenic potential of various sugar substitutes.



11S **The Effect of Saliva on Dental Caries**

G.K. Stookey

Dr. Stookey reviews the results of seven clinical caries trials that evaluated chewing gum's impact on caries incidence.



18S **Salivary Flow Patterns and the Health of Hard and Soft Oral Tissues**

C. Dawes

Dr. Dawes summarizes the effects of saliva on some diseases that affect the hard and soft oral tissues.



25S **Maintaining the Integrity of the Enamel Surface: The Role of Dental Biofilm, Saliva and Preventive Agents in Enamel Demineralization and Remineralization**

F. García-Godoy, M.J. Hicks

Drs. García-Godoy and Hicks discuss the roles dental biofilm and saliva play in enamel surface demineralization and remineralization.



35S **Measuring Salivary Flow: Challenges and Opportunities**

M. Navazesh, S.K.S. Kumar

Drs. Navazesh and Kumar provide a brief overview of different methods of saliva collection, the advantages and disadvantages associated with each method, and how to assess the salivary flow rate.

41S **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

JADA's continuing education program highlights chewing gum's impact on caries incidence, salivary flow patterns and the health of hard and soft oral tissues, saliva's role in maintaining the integrity of the enamel tooth surface, and methods used to measure salivary flow.