
SOP: Saliva Sample Collection

Table of contents:

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Equipment and reagents
4. Responsibilities
5. Procedures
6. References

1. Purpose

This SOP is used to describe the saliva collection procedure for storage in the SickleInAfrica biorepository.

2. Background

Saliva sample collection is a non-invasive and reliable method for measuring biological markers or to extract DNA for genetic testing.

3. Scope

To present the procedure for collecting and handling saliva samples in study participants.

4. Equipment and reagents

- 4.1. Disposable gloves
- 4.2. Specimen container or saliva collection kit (e.g Ogagene DNA Emergo)
- 4.3. Sterile container with warm water
- 4.4. Kendall WEBCOL Alcohol wipes
- 4.5. Specimen transport box with ice packs
- 4.6. Specimen barcode label and forms
- 4.7. Stainless steel scissors

5. Responsibilities

The researcher is responsible for collecting specimens and that the vials are labelled accordingly. All inventory should be maintained by the researcher.

6. Procedures

1. Participant rinses mouth out with warm water. Avoid the use of mouthwashes or fluoride rinses. In addition, the research participant should not drink, smoke, or chew gum for 30 min before giving a saliva sample.
2. The research participant will be asked to fill the specimen container to a certain marked level with saliva.
3. The inside of the specimen container will not be touched and the outer surfaces of the container will not be contaminated with saliva.
4. Specimen container should be labeled.
5. Record the time of saliva collection in the study-specific documentation or data management system.

6. Transport to the processing laboratory as soon as is practicable or within a maximum of 48 hours for immediate processing of DNA or for direct storage at - 80°C.
7. Saliva collection tubes should be transported at 4°C in a polystyrene container on ice.

Note:

a) When using commercial collection kits such as Oragene DNA the sample may be stored at room temperature for up to 18 months in the cell lysis buffer in the container prior to DNA processing. The saliva collection kit should be transported to the processing laboratory at room temperature. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use in the information for use/package insert in all cases. Record date/time processing was initiated and date/time of storage in the study-specific documentation or data management system.

b) As a general rule samples should be processed and reach the appropriate storage conditions as soon as practicable. The maximum time limits proposed are guidelines and should be read in association with a study-specific protocol.

7. References

Adapted from H3Africa (<https://www.ibru.mak.ac.ug/download/23/processing-sops/1513/008-saliva-collection.pdf>)

Version No.	Date	Internal Reviewer(s)	Author	Details of changes
			Chandré Oosterwyk	