

CLAIMS

1. A saliva-collecting method for periodontal disease examination, wherein saliva is collected by letting saliva-collecting materials comprising a non-woven fabric, which can absorb saliva quantitatively, absorb the saliva of humans or animals such as dogs and cats.

2. A method for determining presence or absence of bleeding, wherein saliva is collected by the saliva-collecting method according to claim 1, the saliva-collecting materials containing saliva are attached to a centrifugal filtration filter and centrifuged, and the blood cell component retained in the saliva-collecting materials after centrifugation are observed.

3. A method for determining progress of periodontal disease, wherein both inflammatory lactoferrin polypeptide in the liquid phase obtained by the centrifugation in claim 2 and occult blood measurement are measured.

4. Saliva-collecting materials used in a saliva-collecting method for periodontal disease examination, made of a non-woven fabric capable of quantitatively absorbing saliva.

5. The saliva-collecting method according to claim 1, wherein a size of the non-woven fabric is 80 to 90 mm³, and an amount of the saliva absorbed by the non-woven fabric is 100 $\mu\text{L} \pm 0.5 \mu\text{L}$ per 100 μL of the saliva added.

6. The saliva-collecting method according to claim 1, wherein a standard deviation of the amount of the saliva absorbed per unit volume is $\pm 0.65 \mu\text{L}/168 \text{ mm}^3$ or less.

7. The saliva-collecting method according to claim 5, wherein the non-woven fabric has a basis weight of 30 to 80 g/m² according to JIS P2184:1998, a sheet density of 0.01 to 0.05 g/cm³, a compression work load of 0.85 to 5.0 gf $\cdot$ cm/cm² according to the KES method, and a wet tensile strength of 8 N/100 mm or more.

8. The saliva-collecting materials according to claim 4, wherein a size

of the non-woven fabric is 80 to 90 mm³, and an amount of the saliva absorbed by the non-woven fabric is 100 μ L $\pm$ 0.5 μ L per 100 μ L of the saliva added.

9. The saliva-collecting materials according to claim 4, wherein a standard deviation of the amount of the saliva absorbed per unit volume is $\pm$ 0.65 μ L/168 mm³ or less.

10. The saliva-collecting materials according to claim 8, wherein the non-woven fabric has a basis weight of 30 to 80 g/m² according to JIS P2184:1998, a sheet density of 0.01 to 0.05 g/cm³, a compression work load of 0.85 to 5.0 gf $\cdot$ cm/cm² according to the KES method, and a wet tensile strength of 8 N/100 mm or more.