Author's response to reviews

Title: Salivary pellicles on titanium and their effect on metabolic activity in Streptococcus oralis.

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MALMÖ UNIVERSITY 3rd April 2013
Faculty of Odontology

Dear Ms Nolasco,

In response to your query regarding collection of saliva samples in our study (MS7500766629541239), I wish to clarify that the saliva was collected from ourselves (the authors) and our research colleagues rather than from patients. All colleagues contributed voluntarily and the samples were pooled immediately after collection. No record of which colleagues contributed was kept. Since the collection is completely non-invasive and no details can be traced back to any individual contributor, the advice obtained from The Regional Ethical Committee in Lund/Malmö is that no ethical approval was necessary in this case. This is also stated in a document from the Faculty of Odontology with the registration number OD 2013-/111. These are the ‘regulations of the human subject review committee at The Faculty of Odontology, Malmö University’ referred to in the text. However, since no ethical approval was required, I have removed this sentence from the text which now reads: ‘Whole saliva collected on ice over 1 hour from ten healthy individuals was pooled and prepared as described previously’. I hope that the manuscript will now be suitable for peer review.

Best Wishes

Dr Julia R. Davies, Professor