Saliva Collection in an Infant with Cleft Palate: Description of Technique

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INTRODUCTION

This is the case of a one-year-old infant, male, with cleft palate. Palatoplasty was successfully performed following the protocol of the Hospital for Rehabilitation of Craniofacial Anomalies (University of São Paulo, Bauru, Brazil). The day before surgery, a sample of saliva of the infant was collected for microbiological analysis, using a sterilized plastic pipette (Figure 1). For this purpose, the infant was seated on the mother’s lap (Images A and B). The collected saliva was stored in a proper container (Eppendorf tube) for the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (Image C). It is important also to mention that such sample in Eppendorf tube was previously transported to a laboratory and maintained at -80 degrees Celsius, until the microbiological analysis (through PCR) could be carried out (1). As can be seen, this is a simple, effective and safe technique for collecting saliva in infants. It can be useful for researches, as well as for a clinical routine use.

Note: In the presented case, the saliva was collected from the mouth floor. All these steps followed the protocol previously published by Palone, Vargas and Silva (2016) (1).

REFERENCES


Key Words: Saliva; Infant; Cleft palate

Figure 1 A and B) Saliva collection. C) Collected saliva stored in an Eppendorf tube.