Special Issue

Systemic and Local Salivary Glands Involvement – from Diagnosis to Treatment

Message from the Guest Editors

Salivary glands and changes observed within them not only result from local pathologies including benign and malignant tumors, inflammatory lesions and congenital anatomical defects, and bacterial and viral infections, but they are also a frequent manifestation of systemic diseases of a diverse nature. Some of these pathologies are reflected in altered salivary gland architectonics, inducing specific changes on histopathological examination. Others can be detected by genetic testing or quantitative or qualitative saliva testing.

In recent years, there has been a rapid development of diagnostic methods for salivary glands including radiological, ultrasound, endoscopic, genetic, salivary gland biopsy, and saliva studies focusing on the search for specific salivary markers. Unfortunately, some diagnostic methods have high sensitivity with low specificity for selected salivary gland pathologies. Hence, proper differential diagnosis of these pathological changes and the selection of sensitive and specific diagnostic methods and treatments become particularly important.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal Applied Sciences has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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