

***What is Oralube Saliva Substitute?***

Oralube Saliva Substitute is an artificial saliva solution containing electrolytes in concentration and viscosity modified to simulate natural saliva. The electrolytes include potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, chloride and phosphate together with fluoride. It is preserved using Methyl Hydroxybenzoate 0.2% and sweetened with Sorbitol (approximately 4%). It is pink in colour and has a pleasant lemon flavour.

***Why use a Saliva Substitute?***

A saliva substitute is one way of relieving the difficulties and damage that can occur if saliva production is decreased or not present. The condition of a dry mouth is called xerostomia.

Saliva is responsible for a number of important functions in maintaining overall health and a healthy oral environment. If saliva production is not present or reduced then the following can occur:

- Reduced moistening and lubrication of food, and swallowing becomes more difficult.
- Decreased protection of tooth enamel from acid damage (demineralisation) and this leads to increased dental caries and loss of teeth.
- Reduced ability of the body to maintain water balance because of a diminished stimulation of thirst.
- Lessens the protection of mucous membranes in the mouth, throat, and oesophagus from physical damage.
- Increased risk of oral thrush.

For more information on this topic refer to [Xerostomia: Dry Mouth, the Internet and You](#). Dr Shann Wilson, Current Therapeutics, May 2000.

***When should Oralube Saliva Substitute be used?***

Oralube is used for the relief of the symptoms of dry mouth. It is one of the ways to help relieve the serious oral consequences of having no or decreased saliva. The symptoms of dry mouth are:

- Less saliva.
- Frothy, foamy saliva that comes from the corner of the mouth.
- Difficulty swallowing.
- Smacking noise when speaking.
- Sticking of the tongue and/or cheek to the palate.
- Increased teeth discolouration and dental caries or even loss of teeth.

Oralube is useful when natural saliva flow is hindered by any of the following:

- Certain diseases, such as some cancers,
- Radiotherapy,
- Old age,
- Smoking
- Some prescribed or over the counter medications.

***Does Oralube increase/decrease natural saliva Production?***

Oralube is only a saliva substitute and does not effect saliva production. Oralube relieves the symptoms of dry mouth (xerostomia) but the treatment of this condition requires investigation of underlying cause/s.

*What effect does Oralube have on tooth enamel and decay (demineralization)?*

Oralube is very efficient at helping decrease tooth decay and erosion of tooth enamel. This may occur when natural saliva production is not sufficient, to protect teeth from mouth acids.

For further information on this, refer to Kielbassa A.M., Shohadai S.P., Schutte-Monting J. "[Effect of saliva substitutes on mineral content of demineralized and sound dental enamel](#)". Supportive Care in Cancer, 7 June 2000. Should you require a copy of the article, please contact [Customer Services](#).

*In what sizes is Oralube available?*

Currently, only 125mL.

*Where can we purchase?*

Oralube can be purchased from any of our wholesaler suppliers or from any retail pharmacy.

*How is Oralube administered?*

One to two depressions of the pump into the mouth as required.

*Usage?*

Use when required or as directed by your health professional.

*Are there any contraindications/side effects?*

Known hypersensitivity to any of the ingredients.

*How long will the bottle last?*

Expiry is 2 years from date of manufacture. Dependant on frequency of use, 175 applications, approximately.

*Where can we get further information on Oralube?*

Please refer to our [User Guide](#) for composition, actions, indications and directions. Other information available: [Material Safety Data Sheet \(MSDS\)](#)

References are available on request. *Please contact [Customer Services](#).*

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