



## PARKINSON'S DISEASE NEWS

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news.htm>

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### SALIVA GLAND TEST FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE

New research has suggested that testing a portion of a person's saliva gland may be a means of diagnosing Parkinson's Disease. It was previously shown in autopsies of people with Parkinson's Disease patients that the abnormal proteins associated with Parkinson's are consistently found in the submandibular saliva glands, which are found under the lower jaw.

The study involved 15 people with an average age of 68 who had Parkinson's disease for an average of 12 years, who responded to Parkinson's medication and who did not have known saliva gland disorders. Biopsies were taken of two different saliva glands. The abnormal Parkinson's protein was detected in nine of the 11 patients who had enough tissue to study. This is the first study demonstrating the value of testing a portion of the saliva gland to diagnose a living person with Parkinson's Disease.

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news/130111.pdf>

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