

# SALIVA

## Testing Instructions

### 1 Choose Your Collection Day

Read all instructions thoroughly and decide the ideal day for you to test. Mark it on your calendar.

#### Men, Children & Non-Menstruating Women

- ▶ Collect any day of the month.

#### Menstruating Women

- ▶ If testing Estradiol (E2), Progesterone (Pg) or Testosterone (T):
  - Regular Cycles: Collect on day 19, 20 or 21 of the menstrual cycle. (Day 1 = first day of your period.)
  - Irregular Cycles: If you know when your period will start, choose 5 days before.
- ▶ For all other tests, you can collect on any day of the month.
- ▶ Failure to follow instructions may compromise your lab results.



View the collection video at [www.zrtlab.com](http://www.zrtlab.com)

### 2 Hormone Users *skip this step if not using hormones*

- ▶ **Topical & Oral:** The day before testing, continue use of hormones as prescribed. Make sure any night dosage is applied at least 12 hours before planned morning collection. For example, dose before 8pm for an 8am collection. If using oral progesterone, your dosage can be right before bed.

Do NOT use bare hands for topical hormone application for at least two days prior to collection (apply hormones using latex gloves or preferably hormone-loaded syringe or applicator). Avoid using hormones on the face, lips and neck. Change sheets, pillow cases and hand towels the night before collecting. Avoid touching bathroom surfaces which may be contaminated with traces of hormones.

- ▶ **Patches, Vaginal Rings, Pellets or Injectables:** Test half-way between doses. For example, collect 3 days after a once-a-week patch or 2 weeks after a once-a-month injection.
- ▶ **Troches or Sublingual Therapies:** Not recommended for saliva hormones; talk to your health care provider about blood spot testing.
- ▶ **7-Keto DHEA:** Avoid for 3 days prior to collecting (unless testing LCMS Saliva Steroid Profile). Does not apply to regular DHEA.
- ▶ **Steroids (e.g. glucocorticoids, hydrocortisone, prednisone):** Talk to your health care provider about appropriate timing.

### 3 Prepare for Collection

- ▶ Avoid anti-aging/anti-wrinkle facial creams for 3 days prior to testing as they may contain undisclosed hormones.
- ▶ Do not eat, drink (except water) or brush your teeth prior to your first collection of the day and for the 2 hours prior to collecting throughout the day.

## 4 Collect Samples

Collection Timetable	# of Tubes	UPON WAKING Large Tube	BEFORE LUNCH Small Tube	BEFORE DINNER Small Tube	BEFORE BED Small Tube
Saliva Profile I, Hormone Trio or LCMS Saliva Steroid Profile	1	●			
AM/PM Cortisol or Saliva Profile II	2	●			●
Adrenal Stress Profile, Diurnal Cortisol or Saliva Profile III	4	●	●	●	●

### STEP 1

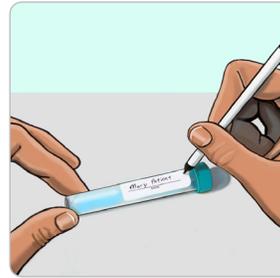
Begin collecting your first saliva sample into the large tube within 30 minutes of waking for the day. Wash hands with soap and water. Use a clean towel to dry hands. Rinse your mouth with water. Wait 5 minutes before beginning collection.



### STEP 2

Allow saliva to pool in mouth, then transfer to tube. Fill tube at least half full, not including bubbles. Collection usually takes 15-30 minutes depending on saliva flow. When done, cap the tube.

**Tip:** Smelling food, yawning or pressing the tip of your tongue against your teeth can all help with saliva flow.



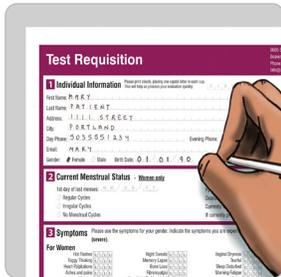
### STEP 3

Write your name, the date and time of collection on the tube. Place the tube back into the bag.

### STEP 4

Repeat this process for any other collection times using the smaller tubes provided. Do not eat, drink (except water) or brush teeth at least 2 hours prior to collections.

## 5 Finish & Send



### STEP 1

Complete all paperwork. Make sure all sections are filled in and your form is signed.



### STEP 3

Place the entire test kit box inside the return packaging. Affix the prepaid label or postage if applicable. Return using the appropriate carrier.

Samples will remain stable under average shipping conditions, including over weekends and holidays.



### STEP 2

Place the sample(s), the Test Requisition form and any additional paperwork back into the plastic test kit box.

Make sure to include payment (if applicable). Snap test kit lid shut.

## Important

- ▶ Each saliva sample must fill the tube at least half way, not including bubbles.
- ▶ Mistake collecting saliva? Rinse your tubes out with hot water (no soap), shake out remaining water, and air dry. Restart your collection at the appropriate time.
- ▶ Freeze any samples not being shipped within 24 hours. Samples will be stable during shipping.