A new mucoadhesive tablet effective for xerostomia

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Abstract

Xerostomia is not a disease but can be a symptom of certain diseases. It can produce serious negative impact on the patient’s quality of life, affecting dietary habits, nutritional status, speech, taste, and tolerance to dental prosthesis. It also increases susceptibility to dental caries. OraMoist—a new mucoadhesive tablet was developed for patients with reduced salivary secretion. This mucoadhesive tablet contains the natural lubricant tricaprin, xylitol, oral enzymes, buffering compounds and saliva secretion inducers. Twenty-two xerostomic patients took part in a randomized crossover clinical study using Biotene® mouth wash as a control. Each patient used a single tablet or mouthwash as often as needed during the six hours of monitoring. After a washout period of one week each patient received the other treatment. Clinical assessment of xerostomia included evaluation of the saliva flow rate and the Total Xerostomic Score (TXS). Subjective assessment of each treatment was evaluated using a questionnaire. Patients treated with OraMoist showed an increase in saliva production of more than 50% (p<0.05) compared to 10% among the group using Biotene®. Both groups reported a statistically significant reduction in xerostomic sensation, but the moisturizing effect of OraMoist lasted longer than that of the mouthwash.

Conclusions

OraMoist™ was superior to Biotene® in improving xerostomia symptoms and in overall patient satisfaction. In addition, 70% of patients stated they would continue to use OraMoist, compared to 30% who stated they would continue to use Biotene®.