

Research Article

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Sociodemographic Characteristics and Serum vs Salivary Lipid Patterns

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ABSTRACT

This is a novel study investigating the relationship between the socio-demographic characteristics using the serum and salivary lipids. In the phase of acquisition of a trend of an unhealthy lifestyle potentializing the risk of dyslipidaemia in the new generation. Saliva is secreted by the salivary gland, and as a screening medium, saliva offers more advantages over serum for the determination of lipid levels due to non-invasive nature of collection, reduced infectious risk, and ease with analysis. Its user-friendly nature would be more acceptable especially in children. Prevalence of dyslipidaemia is rising especially in the developing world, where 80% are said to be at risk for dyslipidaemia. Dyslipidaemia can be traced to childhood for any adult suffering complication from dyslipidaemia, this influences this study in looking at the sociodemographic characteristics of serum and salivary lipids among apparently healthy primary school children aged 5-12years in Sokoto, Nigeria. To ascertain the socio-demographic risk and as well as how it affects the salivary lipids.

Introduction

Saliva can be a sample of choice for diagnostic and treatment purposes; therefore, it requires investigation to find the biomolecules present in saliva during a normal healthy state. In the human body, lipids are important for the physiological and pathological processes, and laboratory diagnosis of lipid profile abnormalities is very important, traditionally done using serum, however, the use of saliva in investigating lipid profile abnormalities is gaining momentum in modern medicine [1, 2].

Lipid profile assay is important in children, due to the rising burden of dyslipidaemia drifting towards the developing world as previous studies have shown an increasing trend 14,5 % - 60% of childhood and adolescent dyslipidemia in the developing world [3-5]. This is attributed to continuous modernization and technological advancement bringing about rapid lifestyle changes, with increasing consumption of fast food, sedentary lifestyle and intake of refined food products [6-10]. Other reasons include lack of exercise, low fiber diet, obesity and smoking, etc [3].

Saliva can be a sample of choice for diagnostic and treatment purposes; therefore, it requires investigation to find the biomolecules present in saliva during a normal healthy state. In the human body, lipids are important for the physiological and pathological processes, and laboratory diagnosis of lipid profile is very important, traditionally done using serum. However, the use of saliva in investigating lipid profile abnormalities is gaining momentum in modern medicine [1,2].

The AAP recommends lipid screening of children younger than 9 years only if they have strong family history of lipid [1]. However, the 2011 experts on integrated guidelines for cardiovascular risk reduction on lipid screening in childhood and adolescence endorsed universal screening for all children and adolescents to identify dyslipidemia at an early age of 2 years. For children with obesity, their first cholesterol test should be after 2 years, but not later than 10 years of age [11].

Globally, the prevalence of dyslipidemia worldwide was estimated to be 39% in adults (World Health Organization), 2008 [12]. Overall, it causes 2.6 million deaths (4.5 per cent

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of total) and 29.7 million disabilities in adults worldwide [12]. Global prevalence in children was not stated in the literature consulted, this claim was also revealed by Sultan et al, in their 2014 study, due to low incidence of complications in children such as hypertension and stroke, which are often seen in adult life, these features are not regularly researched for in children [13, 14].

Bibiloni et al in Mexico found that adolescents with high body mass index were more likely to have at least one abnormal lipid level [15]. other studies support this findings [16-19]. However, the results from the above study findings were similar to Furtado et al findings in Portuguese, where they showed that at least one abnormal lipid parameter was found in 65% of normal weight, 73 % of overweight and 81% of obese [20, 21]. These studies only considered the adolescent age groups only which and therefore cannot be representative of all the paediatrics age groups. Moreso, using serum lipid profiling alone for repeated lipid testing may cause a lot of anxiety and can affect compliance to follow-up. The salivary medium approach may offer a user-friendly approach to testing and follow-up.

Latery et al, in Ghana, found that the levels of dyslipidemia (HDL, LDL, and TC/HDL-C ratio) were higher among overweight/obese compared to normal-weight children [22]. The prevalence in the above Ghana study is much lower compared to other African studies [5, 23, 24]. In a related cross-sectional school-based study in Lagos, Nigeria, Disu et al, also showed prevalence to be rising in their study among which cut across socio-economic class and more among the overweight and obese [18]. They also found dyslipidaemia to be preponderant among females, however, this study also contradicts the findings in the above Mexico study which suggested equal gender prevalence [15]. All the studies presented were carried using the traditional serum lipids, some studies in the developed words have already adopted the use of salivary lipids for analyzing lipids profile, but again most of this studies was carried out in adult population [7, 9]. This why we explored the relationship between sociodemographic characteristics with serum and salivary lipids among apparently healthy primary school children aged 5-12 years in Sokoto, Nigeria [25-30].

Methods

The study design was descriptive cross-sectional among 200 apparenly healthy primary school children from Arkilla ward, Wamakko LGA, Sokoto The participating schools were selected through a multistage random sampling technique. Samples were selected from three public and two private primary schools within the study area by a simple random sampling technique. There are 142 public primary schools within the 3 LGAs and 83 private primary schools (1.7:1), all are co-education schools.

Inclusion Criteria

- 1. Healthy primary school children between the ages of 5-12 years.
- 2. Signed informed written consent by the parent and assent from the subject beyond 7 years.
- 3. Children not on any prolonged medications, such as steroids, insulin, and anticonvulsants, to mention but a few, to avoid interference of these drugs with lipid level in saliva, as it was known to affect lipid content in saliva [15].

Exclusion Criteria

- Children with prolonged illnesses lasting beyond 2 weeks or chronic diseases such as diabetes mellitus, sickle cell diseases, bronchial asthma, cardiovascular diseases, to mention a few.
- 2. Use of any medication during the time of the study, indicates the child is sick.

Procedure

Socio-demographic features, as well as serum and salivary samples results were recorded in a proforma. The lipid profile analyzed included; total cholesterol (TC), Triglyceride (TG), low-density lipoproteins (LDL), and high-density lipoproteins (HDL).

Overnight fasting was ensured, while subjects were seated calmly after anthropometry measurements The very young were considered first for the procedure to enable them break their fast soon enough. Salivary sample collection always preceded saliva collection to avoid prior anxiety, and alteration of the salivary lipid content. Bottles are coded immediately to avoid a mix-up. Samples collection in separate rooms to avoid anxiety and hence falsely elevated measurements by on-lookers waiting for their turn.

Lipid Testing

Lipid analysis was carried out using a fully automated analyzer based on a spectrophotometric principle using kits obtained from ERBA diagnostics (Centronic GmbH, Germany, Batch no.85456/Kit LOT CF03201H). The serum and salivary lipid profile were analyzed on the same day of collection of the sample of blood and saliva to avoid damage to the samples. Quality assurance was ensured

Data Analysis

Data entry and analysis were done using the IBM SPSS version 25.0. Data were cleaned, checked for outliers and wrong entries or duplications of entries. A frequency distribution table was used to analyze the socio-demographic features, and an X2 test was used to determine the relationship among variables. ANOVA was used to determine the mean values. Regression analysis was used to ascertain the significant relationship between serum and salivary lipids.

Results

The younger aged categories were more represented 42.5%, with slightly. more females 57.5%. the middle class represent 81.5%, while the majority had normal BMI 85.5%

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristics

1	Variables	Frequency(n)	Percentages (%)
Age (i	n years)		
1.	5-7	85	42.5
2.	8-10	65	32.5
3.	> 10	50	25.0
Gende	er		
1.	Males	85	42.5
2.	Females	115	57.5

Religi	Religion				
1.	Islam	161	80.5		
2.	Christianity	39	19.5		
Tribe					
1.	Hausa	128	64.0		
2.	Yoruba	36	18.0		
3.	Igbo	9	4.5		
4.	Others	27	13.5		
Socio-	economic status				
Upper	class	11	5.5		
Middl	e class	163	81.5		
Lower	class	26	13.0		
BMI p	ercentile				
<4.9 th		9	4.5		
5 th -84.	9 th	171	85.5		
85-94.	9 th	20	10		
>95 th		0	0.00		

The TC dyslipidaemia is more evident in the age category 5-7,

Table 2: Serum lipids and Age Pattern

LIPIDS	TC n(%)	TG n(%)	HDL n(%)	LDL n(%)
VARIABLES	 89(Age)		11(70)	11(70)
SERUM LIP				
5-7				
Desirable	78(91.8)	57(67.1)	50(58.8)	67(78.8)
Borderline	4(4.70)	21(24.7)	-	10(11.8)
Undesirable	3(3.50	7(8.20)	35(41.2)	8(9.40)
Total	85(42.5%)	85(42.5)	85(42.5)	85(42.5)
X2	2.444	4.476		
P	0.655	0.345		
8-10				
Desirable	58(89.2)	35(53.8)	32(49.2)	53(81.5)
Borderline	6(9.20)	20(30.8)		8(12.3)
Undesirable	1(1.5)	10(15.4)	33(50.8)	4(6.20)
Total	65(32.5%)	65(32.5)		65(32.5)
>10				
Desirable	46(92.0)	26(52.0)	28(56.0)	38(76.0)
Borderline	2(4.0)	17(34.0)		6(12.0)
Undesirable	2(4.0)	7(14.0)	22(44.0)	6(12.3)
Total	50(25.0)	50(25.0)		50(25.0)
X2	2.444	4.476	1.396	1.220
P	0.655	0.345	0.497	0.875

Salivary lipids and age

Table 3: Salivary lipids and age pattern

	SALIVARY LIPIDS					
VARIABLES	VARIABLES(Age)					
5-7	5-7					
Desirable	56(65.9)	68(80.0)	18 (21.2)	64(75.3)		
Borderline	10(11.8)	8(9.40)	-	2(2.40)		
Undesirable	19(22.4)	9(10.6)	65(76.5)	19(22.4)		
Total	85(42.5)	85(42.5)	85(42.5)	85(42.5)		
8-10						
Desirable	49(75.4)	46 (70.8)	45(69.2)	50(76.9)		
Borderline	7(10.8)	11(16.9)		1(1.50)		
Undesirable	9(13.8)	8(12.3)	20(30.8)	14(21.5)		
Total	65(32.5)	65(32.5)	65(32.5)	65(32.5)		
>10						
Desirable	32(64.0)	28(56.0)	40(80.0)	32(64.0)		
Borderline	5(10.0)	4(8.0)	-	1(2.0)		
Undesirable	13(26.0)	18(36.0)	10(20.0)	17(34.0)		
Total	50(25.0)	50(25.0)	50(25.0)	50(25.0)		
X2	3.060	18.172	2.443	3.045		
P	0.548	0.001	0.295	0.550		

The serum and salivary pattern showed similar trend with statistical significance for TG

Table 4: Mean age lipid values and lipids

	TC	TG	HDL	LDL
SERUM LIPIDS				
Age (years)				
5-7	132.11	79.34	47.59	71.74
8-10	132.55	90.06	45.05	65.51
<10	130.26	93.16	49.30	79.56
F- test	0.067	3.760	1.094	1.818
p value	0.935	0.025	0.337	0.153
SALIVA LIPIDS				
5-7	40.31	28.39	12.34	16.45
8-10	38.97	31.37	11.86	18.74
<10	42.18	30.11	13.48	20.42
F- test	1.410	6.979	1.218	1.455
p value	0.545	0.001	0.295	0.550

TC- Total cholesterol, TG- Triglyceride, HDL- High density lipoprotein, F-test -, LDL- low density lipoproteins, p value

Table 5: Serum Lipids and Gender Pattern

LIPIDS	TC n(%)	TG n(%)	HDL n(%)	LDL n(%)
VARIABLES (sex)	TC	TG	HDL	LDL
SERUM LIPIDS				
Male				

Desirable	77(90.6)	53(62.4)	52(61.2)	65(76.5)
Borderline	5(5.90)	25(29.4)		12(14.1)
Undesirable	3(3.50)	7(8.2)	33(38.8)	8(9.4)
Total	85(42.5)			
Female				
Desirable	105(91.3)	65(56.5)	58(50.4)	93(80.9)
Borderline	7(6.1)	33(28.7)		12(10.4)
Undesirable	3(2.6)	17(14.8)	57(49.6)	10(8.7)
Total	115(57.5)			
X2	0.144	2.036	2.279	0.700
P	0.930	0.361	0.705	0.705
SALIVARY LIP	IDS			
VARIABLES (C	Gender)			
Male				
Desirable	57(67.1)	70(82.4)	20(23.5)	66(77.6)
Borderline	9(10.6)	5(5.9)		2(2.35)
Undesirable	19(22.4)	10(11.8)	65(76.5)	17(20.0)
Total	85(100)			

Table 6: Mean lipids values and Gender

The serum and salivary lipid values characteristically show similar trend

Lipids	TC	TG	HDL	LDL				
Gender	Gender							
Male	133.42	83.65	47.33	70.95				
Female	130.58	88.23	47.09	72.20				
t- test	0.679	-1.007	0.08	-0.226				
p value	0.411	0.315	0.914	0.822				
SALIVA LI	PIDS							
SEX								
Male	40.31	28.39	12.34	16.45				
Female	38.97	31.37	11.86	18.74				
t- test	0.601	-1.481	0.563	-1.296				

The table below showed dyslipidaemia to be more prevalent with the HDL fraction, with the upper class having the most undesired fraction (54%), closely followed by the lower class (53.8%)

Table 7 : Serum Lipids and Socio-economic statuses pattern

Social class	TC mg/	TG mg/	HDL mg/	LDL mg/	
	dl(%)	dl (%)	dl (%)	dl (%)	
Upper					
Desirable	7(63.6)	5(45.5)	5(45.5)	9(81.8)	
Borderline	0(00.0	4(36.4)		2(18.2)	
Undesirable	4(36.4)	2(18.2)	6(54.0)	0(0.00)	
Total	11(100)				
Middle					
Desirable	149(91.4)	103(63.2)	93(57.1)	129(79.1)	
Borderline	8(4.9)	42(25.4)		18(11.0)	

Undesirable	6(3.7)	18(11.0)	70(42.9)	16(9.8)
Total	163(100)			
Lower				
Desirable	26(100)	12(46.2)	12(46.2)	20(76.9)
Borderline	0(0.00)	14(53.8)		4(15.4)
Undesirable	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	14(53.8)	2(7.7)
Total	26(100)			
X2	21.288	6.840	1.505	1.909
P	0.00	0.100	0.471	

Similarly, using the saliva HDL had the highest dyslipidaemia fraction cutting across all the social classes

Table 8: Salivary Lipids and SES patten

TT 1				
Upper class				
Desirable	6(54.5)	9(81.8)	3(27.3)	10(90.9)
Borderline	0(0.00)	1(9.1)	-	0(0.00)
Undesirable	5(45.5)	1(9.1)	8(72.7)	1(9.1)
Total	11(100)			
Middle class				
Desirable	107(65.5)	117(71.8)	40(24.5)	117(71.8)
Borderline	22(13.5)	20(12.3)	-	4(2.5)
Undesirable	34(20.9)	26(16.0)	123(75.5)	42(25.7)
Total	163(100)			
Lower class				
Desirable	24(92.3)	16(61.5)	5(19.2)	19(73.1)
Borderline	0(0.00)	2(7.7)	-	0(0.00)
Undesirable	2(7.7)	8(30.8)	21(80.8)	7(26.9)
Total	26(100)			
P value	0.011	0.370	0.813	0.624
X2	13.084	4.274	0.415	2.615

Mean Values of serum and salivary lipids with the socioeconomic status shows similar trend

Table 9: Mean values of lipids and SES

	TC	TG	HDL	LDL			
SERUM LI	SERUM LIPIDS						
Social class							
Upper Class	159.01	100.36	52.27	66.73			
Middle Class	132.36	97.69	47.05	70.70			
Lower Class	116.69	86.28	45.92	79.85			
F- test	6.163	3.460	0.670	0.726			
p value	0.003	0.033	0.513	0.485			
SALIVA LI	SALIVA LIPIDS						
Social class							
Upper	40.64	30.64	13.18	12.00			
Middle	40.26	29.41	11.83	17.85			

Lower	34.54	34.19	13.08	19.69
F- test	1.551	1.303	0.696	1.518
p value	0.215	0.274	0.500	0.222

Table 10: Serum Lipids and BMI

BMI Serum	TC mg/ dl(%)	TG mg/ dl(%)	HDL mg/ dl(%)	LDL mg/ dl(%)
<4.9th				
Desirable	8(88.9)	4(44.4)	5(55.6)	7(77.8)
Borderline	1(11.1)	3(33.3)		1(11.1)
Undesirable	0(0.00)	2(22.2)	4(44.4)	1(11.1)
Total	9(100)			
5th -84,9th				
Desirable	156(91.2)	103(60.2)	92(53.8)	134(78.4)
Borderline	9(5.30)	49(28.7)		20(11.7)
Undesirable	6(3.50)	19(11.1)	79(46.2)	17(9.9)
Total	171(85.5)			
85th -94,9th				
Desirable	18(90)	11(55.0)	13(65.0)	17(85)
Borderline	2(10.0)	6(30.0)		3(15)
Undesirable	0(0.00)	3(15)	7(35.0)	0(0.00)
Total	20			
>95th	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
X2	2.105	1.540	0.909	2.284
P	0.716	0.820	0.635	0.684

Table 11: Salivary lipids and BMI

BMI	TC	TG	HDL	LDL
<4.9th	6(66.7)	5(55.6)	3(33.3)	6(66.7)
Desirable	1(11.1)	2(22.2)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
Borderline	2(22.2)	2(22.2)	6(66.7)	3(33.3)
Undesirable				
Total	9(100)			

5-84.9th	5-84.9th			
Desirable	121(70.8)	119(69.6)	42(24.6)	122(70.8)
Borderline	14(8.19)	21(12.3)	0(0.00)	4(2.3)
Undesirable	36(21.1)	31(18.1)	129(75.4)	45(26.3)
Total	171(100)			
85-94.9th				
Desirable	10(50.0)	18(90.0)	3(15.0)	18(90.0)
Borderline	7(35.0)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
Undesirable	3(15.0)	2(10.0)	17(85.0)	2(10.0)
Total	20			
>95th	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
P value	13.168	5.454	1.348	3.752
X2	0.010	0.244	0.510	0.441

Mean values showed similar trend, though no statistical significance

Table 12: Mean values of lipids and BMI

	TC	TG	HDL	LDL		
SERUM LI						
BMI percen	BMI percentile					
<4.9th	130.56	96.22	46.67	64.56		
5-84.9th	131.80	85.12	46.51	73.62		
85-94.9th	132.30	91.75	53.25	58.20		
F- test	0.008	0.850	1.680	1.605		
p value	0.992	0.429	0.189	0.203		
SALIVA LIPIDS						
BMI percen	BMI percentile					
<4.9th	38.11	30.00	14.44	15.67		
5-84.9th	39.53	30.25	11.77	18.39		
85-94.9th	40.20	27.55	13.50	13.40		
F- test	0.055	0.524	1.515	1.596		
p value	0.946	0.593	0.222	0.205		

Table 13 shows moderate an fair correlations for the serum and salivary lipids which is statistically significant.

Table 13: Regression analysis of serum and salivary lipids

Lipid test (Serum Vs salivary)	Constant (a)	Unstandardized coefficient (b)	Standardized coefficient (beta)	P	95% CI Upper/lower boundary
TC	11.049	0.216	0.483	< 0.001	3.564/5.534
TG	5.198	0.289	0.651	< 0.001	0.860/4.536
HDL	2.446	0.204	0.536	< 0001	0.207/4.684
LDL	6.838	0.152	0.434	< 0.001	3.611/5.064

Discussion

This study highlights the relationship between serum and salivary lipids, in an intent to using a user-friendly approach in clinical practice by adopting the use of salivary lipid checks as against the traditional serum lipids in screening for dyslipidaemia and especially for follow-ups where there is no apparent disease conditions. The sociodemographic characteristics of subjects considered the relationship between age, sex and SES with serum and salivary lipids. Using the serum, age categories 1 (5-7years) had the highest count for those without disease for all the lipid parameters, except for HDL which has preponderance for age category 3 (>10).

years) though not statistically significant. However, using the saliva, similar pattern was observed in this age category (1), only for TG fraction of the panel, other lipid panel shows variable age categories with higher normal values without statistical significance. Age category 2 (8-10 years) had the highest normal values for TC and HDL and age category 3 had the higher normal values for LDL. age category 1 years had the largest study population (42.5%) for the age groups; this could account for the drift in their favor, furthermore, age category 2, had the higher figure for diseased fraction for TG, and HDL. These findings are not statistically significant (p> 0.005 [18]. Other studies are in stated similarly, however, Chandar et al showed a statistically significant findings across all the socio-demographic features tested, though statistical tools were similar, fasting was stated for only 2 hours and these gave a different overall finding, unlike in current study where fasting was prescribed for 10-12 hours [31].

However, the mean values showed similar trends and pattern for both serum and salivary lipids across the ages. This finding was similar to Singh et al, who also show similar means for the lipid panels tested.

Relationship between gender and serum lipids revealed the females having higher mean values for TG and LDL, male had higher mean values for TC, however, findings are not statistically significant (p> 0.005) and hence as female outweigh the male in population (57.5%), This could account for the drift in their favor. Similarly, other studies also revealed similar findings, and concluded that the higher findings in female may be due to higher numerical figure as compared to the male counterparts, but not necessarily due to an intrinsic factor, male to female ratio in current study was 1:1.4 [4, 5, 32, 33]. using the saliva, similarity exist with only the TG and HDL also showing male preponderance for normal values, as against the serum version, male also top the remaining lipid fractions fir normal ranges. Findings here are also not statistically significant.

Like the age pattern, the gender means values also showed similar trend, this finding highlights the probability of identifying the salivary lipid medium as a substitute for serum medium. The finding from the socio-economic status and lipid profile revealed the that for both serum and salivary lipids the TC undesirable preponderance is found in the higher class and is statistically significant. This finding is TC preponderance with higher SES class was also highlighted by Disu et al and Jaja et al in their studies. This finding may be related to having access to highly cholesterol diet due to affluence. The HDL dyslipidaemia also showed a higher preponderance among the upper SES also accentuating the above statements. Slightly similar with salivary findings in this case findings are not statistically significant. Although the high preponderance of HDL dyslipidaemia for the salivary fraction cut across all the SES class, this may suggest lack of high nutritional diet containing o mega-3- fatty acids across all board. The low HDL was also reported by AL-Rawi et al in their study. lifestyle and diet plays a significant role in the patterning of lipid profile as showed in the current study.

The mean salivary lipid profile reflects serum lipid values. An increase in the mean serum lipid values will lead to a corresponding increase in salivary mean values. The body mass

index (BMI) did not show any regular pattern for both the serum and the salivary lipids. Although the majority had normal BMI (85.5%), this may favour the statistical judgment in their favour. Ighosotu et al, in their study, reveal a contrary view, where they found higher values in the overweight and obese. The current study used apparently healthy subjects and therefore may explain the lower prevalence in the overweight subjects. In the current study, slightly higher values were seen more in the category with underweight. Sample size may not be in favour here, due to higher categories in the normal class. Mean values equally showed similar trend for both the serum and the salivary lipids.

Serum and salivary lipids correlation showed a statistically significant positive moderate correlations with TC, HDL, and LDL, and a significantly strong correlation between serum and salivary TG. In essence, as the serum lipids rises there was a commensurate rise in salivary lipids. This strength of rise is higher with TG fraction of lipid panel, followed by HDL, TC and LDL had similarly moderate strength of association. These finding was similar to Singh et al, where they found moderate correlations between serum and salivary TC, TG, HDL. Though they found a low, but still positive correlation between serum and salivary LDL. Similarly, their findings were statistically significant. The strong correlation with TG also conforms with Al-Rawi et al and Rageswari et al studies and suggested that lipid fractions especially the TG can be assessed in saliva and may be used alone or in combination with other lipid parameters for monitoring disease activity and severity in such studies. This Although, the correlation and lipid levels may be affected by factors such as ill health, especially from protracted illnesses, chronic diseases such as diabetes mellitus, asthma, surgery, oral diseases, malignancy least are in exhaustive. In a healthy state, the correlation is also affected by eating, brushing, medications. Levels of LDL, and TG assay needs at least fast for 12 hours, for accurate detection either as an isolation study or in combination with the other lipid profile test. Though other lipid parameters (TC, HDL) can be assessed alone without fasting, but if as a combination test that combines all other parameters, 12 hours fasting is requires.

The commensurate mean rise between serum and salivary lipids as revealed from current study proved some significance in replacing salivary lipid testing as against the serum. It will not only reduce anxiety and pain, but it will foster a friendlier environment for clients, and it will improve compliance. Saliva therefore can be used as a non-invasive diagnostic tool in assessing lipid profile especially in apparently healthy children.

Conclusion and Recommendation Conclusion

- In this study, the relationship between serum and salivary lipids showed some similar patterns and trends
- There are no significant differences between sex and serum and salivary lipid, however, to some extent there was statistically significant difference as related to age and socio-economic status (SES) with lipid level, especially for TC and TG, using both serum and saliva.
- Means values shows similar trend across all boarders.
- Correlation analysis shows significant positive moderate correlation.

Recommendation

- Saliva medium may be employed for lipid testing
- There is need to design a nomenclature for salivary lipid testing
- A collaborative study may be required for validation of use of saliva, implementation and evaluation.
- Involvement of the governmental bodies and major stakeholders is required early in order to achieve a sustainable project.

Limitation of Study

- The need to prove without reasonable thought that all subjects fasted especially the younger age (< 10years), a more reliable and evidence-based approach such as admitting the child in hospital to be directly observed, is required.
- 2. Inability to separate salivary lipids de novo, from ultrafiltrated plasma fractions.

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