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**SaliPen for Dry Mouth Treatment**

Dry mouth (or xerostomia) is a chronic and mostly irreversible condition, affecting millions of people. It is caused, mainly, as a side effect of hundreds of commonly used medications, by radiation therapy for head & neck cancer, and by auto-immune diseases. Dry mouth disturbs significantly the quality of life and the ability of chewing, swallowing and speaking. It causes bad breath, sleep disturbance and dental destruction.

Saliwell has developed a technological solution for the treatment of xerostomia. The patented SaliPen device treats dry mouth by electro-stimulation of low-intensity that is not felt by the patient. By triggering salivary glands to produce more saliva, the dry mouth sensation declines. As opposed to currently available treatments, Saliwell’s solution is characterized by long-lasting and robust beneficial effects, no side effects and low costs.

SaliPen is worn typically for only a few minutes every day (left picture below). It has two flexible arms with electrodes (center picture) that are placed in the mouth. The right picture shows the arms contacting the inner gums of the lower wisdom teeth, underneath the tongue (not shown). The rest of the device stays outside the mouth.

A worldwide post marketing Phase IV trial in 14 clinical centers showed significant improvement in oral wetness (both subjective and objective) over an 11 month period. Patients that started the trial with a salivary flow rate of 0 (either unstimulated or stimulated by mastication) developed the ability to spit saliva that was lost either due to Sjögren’s syndrome or radiotherapy for head and neck cancer.

FDA (USA), CE (Europe) and TGA (Australia) have approved the SaliPen device. FDA has defined the indication for use as follows: “SaliPen is an electrical salivary stimulator system, indicated for use in patients with xerostomia (dry mouth), under prescription of a dental practitioner or physician.” That means that “subjective” complaint of oral dryness is enough to prescribe the device, with no need to obtain any “objective” signs, such as measurement of salivary flow rate.

**Selected publications**