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Build your own calculus

Bjørn Peare Bartholdy¹, a.g.henry¹

¹Leiden University



Bjørn Peare Bartholdy Delft University of Technology, Leiden University

ABSTRACT

This collection contains protocols for growing a calcifying oral biofilm model. Protocols include artificial saliva, a mineralising solution (CPMU), an alpha-amylase activity assay, and a biofilm growth protocol with starch treatments.

The purpose of these protocols is to explore fundamental aspects of using dental calculus to infer dietary patterns in past populations. The main protocol contains starch treatments to look at the incorporation and extraction of starch granules from dental calculus, but can also be used to look at other dietary components, such as various proteins, other plant extracts, and whatever else may have been consumed in the past.

Protocols are modified protocols from Sissons et al. (1991) and Extercate et al. (2010)

IMAGE ATTRIBUTION

Image created by Bjørn Peare Bartholdy using BioRender.com

GUIDELINES

The protocols should be conducted in a sterile environment to avoid contamination of the biofilm with external contaminants.

If starch is used for treatments, it is important to work in a starch-free lab and include control samples in each plate to test for external contamination and crosscontamination between wells.

FILES

Protocol



NAME

Artificial saliva

VERSION 1

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CPMU

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Biofilm growth with starch treatment

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NAME

Amylase activity

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Protocol





VERSION 2

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Protocol



NAME

CPMU

VERSION 2

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