

In an effort to make a more informed assessment of patients with periodontal disease, our office is now incorporating two salivary DNA tests-MyPerioPath and MyPerioID PST. This is important, as emerging research suggests that periodontal disease is linked to certain systemic disease.

Medical and dental research reveals that periodontal disease risk and prognosis is affected by multiple factors, including poor nutrition, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis/osteopenia, obesity, and pregnancy. It is also affected by medications such as long-term corticosteroids, calcium channel blockers, phenytoins, immune suppressants, and chemotherapeutics. Additionally, studies have shown that periodontal disease may be a risk factor for heart disease, and treatment of periodontal disease helps patients control their diabetes.

Because of these correlations between oral health and whole-body health, I would like you to know that I would be happy to conduct a MyPerioPath and/or MyPerioID PST test for any of your patients that may have an oral or systemic health condition such as those stated above.

Developed by OralDNA Labs, the MyPerioPath test identifies the periodontal pathogens that may be precipitating a patient's clinical symptoms. Test results include the type and concentration of disease-causing bacteria; a patient-specific, bacterial-related risk of disease progression; and suggestions for suitable antibiotic therapy. The MYPerioID PST test assesses a patient's genetic risk of having periodontal disease and his/her genetic risk of progression. Information gained from these tests allows us to treat the individual patient much more effectively, which may have a positive effect on whole-body health.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the salivary diagnostic test available from OralDNA labs, feel free to contact me at **(610)-667-0588**.

Best regards,

F. ALAN DICKERMAN D.D.S. FAGD

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