

period of two hours and the contents examined every ten minutes. It was found that usually there is a distinct increase in the cholesterol present in the duodenal contents after the administration of the magnesium sulfate. After an hour the cholesterol content decreases.

The amount of cholesterol in the duodenal contents varies in different patients, between 25 and 105 milligrams per 10 c. c. in the fasting state. After the administration of the magnesium sulfate, the amount of cholesterol is often tremendously increased. This increase is very sudden and would give the impression as if the gall bladder voided its concentrated bile into the duodenum.

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### The organic constituents of the saliva.

By HOWARD B. LEWIS and HELEN UPDEGRAFF.

*[From the Laboratory of Physiological Chemistry of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.]*

We have applied the recent method of Benedict for the determination of uric acid in blood to the filtrate obtained from saliva by a slight modification of the Folin-Wu tungstic acid precipitation method. Fifty-one samples of saliva from thirty healthy men showed maximum and minimum contents of uric acid of 2.9 and 0.6 mgs. per 100 c.c. of saliva, while fifteen samples from ten women showed similar variations from 2.3 mg. to 0.7 mg. In more than fifty per cent. of the salivas obtained from men, the uric acid content fell within a range of 1.6 to 2.1 mgs., while in the case of the women the values ranged from 1.05 to 1.15 mgs. in more than fifty per cent. of the salivas examined. Twenty-two samples collected at intervals over a period of four months from the same woman showed variations of from 1.5 mg. to 0.7 mg. Samples of saliva and blood were collected simultaneously and analyzed for uric acid.

Salivary uric acid was much lower than the uric acid of the blood (approximately thirty per cent. of the uric acid of the blood in most cases) as shown in the table.

The salivary glands are apparently not readily permeable to the glucose of the blood. In only one of the salivas studied was there obtained sufficient reduction (Folin-Wu method) to make possible an approximate estimation (0.006 per cent. calculated as glucose). Although the blood sugar was increased about fifty per cent. one and one-half hours after enteral administration of 100 grams of glucose, glucose could not be detected in the salivas of two individuals.

Further work on other organic constituents of saliva is in progress.

COMPARATIVE URIC ACID CONTENTS OF SALIVA AND BLOOD.

Subject	Sex	Uric acid per 100 c.c.	
		Saliva.	Blood.
		mg.	mg.
E. H.	F.	2.2	3.9
H. U.	F.	1.2	4.0
H. U.	F.	1.1	3.9
H. U.	F.	1.5	4.1
H. B. L.	M.	1.3	5.3
H. B. L.	M.	2.2	5.6
H. B. L.	M.	2.1	7.1
H. B. L.	M.	2.1	7.5
W. H. G.	M.	1.7	3.2
G. H. H.	M.	1.8	4.1
M. B. T.	M.	1.3	4.4