EFFECT OF HIGHLY ACTIVE ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY ON SALIVARY FLOW AND GUSTATORY FUNCTION

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Abstract:
HIV is devastating disease and has emerged as a global crisis since its discovery. Introduction of antiretroviral therapy has lead to 29% reduction in estimated annual death rates due to AIDS. HAART is important constituent of ART which reduces viral load and increases CD4 count. Though the introduction of HAART contributed to decrease in prevalence of HIV-related oral lesions by 10-50% studies have shown decline in salivary flow and change in taste sensations. This paper presents effect of HAART on salivary flow and gustatory function.