

## TWO DIMENSIONAL GEL ELECTROPHORESIS OF SALIVA FROM CHILDREN WITH ACUTE LIMPLOCYTIC LEUKEMIA

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In recent years, the interest in the characterization of salivary proteome has increased. The determination of reliable biomarkers in this fluid could lead to methods for monitoring and diagnostic for some diseases such as cancer. The determination of specific proteins that are differentially expressed requires high resolution techniques such as two dimensional electrophoresis (2DE). In this work 2DE was utilized to compare saliva pools from children with ALL that were in the intensification phase of treatment (Gbtli-93 protocol) and healthy children. The isoelectric focusing step (first dimension) was carried out using Immobiline<sup>TM</sup> Dry Strips with a Non-linear 3-10 pH gradient. The second dimension, SDS-PAGE, was done using 12% polyacrylamide gels. After 2DE, the proteins were detected by silver staining. Preliminar analysis of 2DE profiles revealed some qualitative and quantitative differences between both samples. It was possible to observe that some spots of 30-45 kDa and 6 to 8 pH range were more intense in saliva sample of ALL patients than in control samples. Spots corresponding to proteins bearing molecular masses and isoelectric points similar to cystatins and alpha amylase were differentially detected in the samples tested. The differentially expressed proteins will be subjected to identification by mass spectrometry.