

Drugs Aging. 2007;24(11):957-65.
doi: 10.2165/00002512-200724110-00007.

Management of xerostomia in older patients : a randomised controlled trial evaluating the efficacy of a new oral lubricant solution

[Stéphane Mouly](#)¹, [Michel Salom](#), [Yves Tillet](#), [Anne-Claude Coudert](#), [Frantz Oberli](#), [Philip M Preshaw](#), [Stéphane Desjonquères](#), [Jean-François Bergmann](#)

Affiliations expand

- PMID: 17953462
- DOI: [10.2165/00002512-200724110-00007](https://doi.org/10.2165/00002512-200724110-00007)

Abstract

Background: Xerostomia is a subjective sensation of mouth dryness that may frequently occur in older patients.

Objective: To compare the clinical efficacy and acceptability of a new oxygenated glycerol triester (OGT) oral spray taken five times daily with that of a commercially available saliva substitute Saliveze in the treatment of xerostomia.

Methods: Forty-one institutionalised patients (28 women, 13 men; mean age 84 +/- 7 years) were randomly assigned to receive either OGT or Saliveze in a 2-week, randomised, parallel-group study. Clinical assessment of xerostomia included evaluation of mouth dryness using a self-rated, 10cm long visual analogue scale (VAS), objective assessment of oral tissue condition using a four-point ordinal scale and subjective assessment of symptoms of xerostomia using dichotomous responses to a questionnaire. The primary endpoint was the day (D) 14 patient-based mouth dryness score measured on a self-rated VAS.

Results: At D14, OGT resulted in significantly greater efficacy with respect to mouth dryness (mean between-treatment difference 2.1 +/- 0.1, 95% CI 1.9, 2.3; p = 0.001), swallowing difficulty (1.8 +/- 0.3, 95% CI 1.5, 2.1; p = 0.001), speech difficulty (1.1 +/- 0.2, 95% CI 1.0, 2.4; p = 0.04) and overall sensation of symptom relief (2.7 +/- 1.2, 95% CI 1.9, 3.8; p = 0.001). Objective assessment of oral tissues also showed significantly better improvement with OGT spray with respect to dryness (p = 0.01), stickiness (p = 0.005) and dullness (p = 0.001) of oral mucosa; severity of mucositis (p = 0.01); and thickening of the tongue (p = 0.03). A significant difference in taste acceptability was also noted in favour of OGT (1.4 +/- 0.6, 95% CI 1.2, 1.9; p = 0.04).

Conclusion: OGT lubricant oral spray was superior to Saliveze in improving xerostomia and oral tissue condition in older institutionalised patients.