ABSTRACT

Background. The number of smokers increased over time. Whereas in one single cigarette there are a lot of toxic substances endangering body. Not only the smoker who lives in that danger but one who inhale cigarette smokes or what so called passive smoker also will experience even bigger danger if happens in a long term, especially in children. In dentistry, cigarette smokes inhaled by children could be one of the risk factor for dental caries by affecting saliva buffer capacity and saliva pH

Purpose. The aim of this research is to determine difference of saliva buffer capacity and pH in passive smoker child and non-smoker child.

Method. This research was conducted on subjects aged 6 to 7 years. The subjects parents did questionnaire to determine on which group their children were. An interview and def-t count was held after. The measurement of saliva buffer capacity and pH of the child on both groups was done using Saliva-Check Buffer (GC, United States of America).

Result. There was significant difference towards saliva buffer capacity in passive smoker child and non-smoker child ($p=0.001<0.05$) as well as saliva pH in passive smoker child and non-smoker child ($p=0<0.005$).

Conclusion. The saliva buffer capacity and pH have decreased in passive smoker child than in non-smoker child.

Keywords: Passive smoker child, saliva buffer capacity, saliva pH