

KARIES SCREEN TEST. DE

Check up is good -
testing even better!

Determination of the degree of colonization of the oral cavity in 2-4-year-old children

The cornerstone for the dental health of the children in the deciduous dentition is laid in the first two years of life.

With a healthy diet and a good oral hygiene from the first deciduous tooth in combination with a fluoridation concept, a healthy oral biotope develops in the first two years.

However, this development is at risk if sugar and carbohydrates are consumed uncontrollably. This is not only sweets, but also by drinks which often contain „hidden“ sugars. These can be fruit juices; but also certain breast milk substitutes contain an increased sugar concentration.

The growth of the amount of caries germs, in particular the lead germ at this age *Streptococcus mutans*, gets favored. This growth is increasingly displacing the „healthy“ germs in the oral biotope. The age of 2 years is a critical limit here. Scientific evidence has shown that a healthy oral biotope can only develop if this germ is not detectable at the age of 2 years.

The decisive factor for preventive care is therefore not the clinical, perhaps still caries-free findings, but rather an analysis of the oral biotope and the associated germ spectrum.

If *Streptococcus mutans* is detectable, then there is a high probability that tooth decay may develop in the next few years.

In the next session we will therefore check the saliva of your child for its bacterial factors. For this purpose, we will either make a smear of the tongue with a wooden spatula or remove the tooth plaque directly from the tooth with a brush.

After a few days, we will inform you about the results of this examination and discuss with you any further necessary prophylaxis measures.

