11 Summary

This presented thesis is concentrate on saliva and its function in the mouth. It is divided into nine chapters. I use theoretical knowledge from vocational literature and speciality magazines.

The first part deals with composition of saliva, its function and it contains a description of all components. The attention in this part is concentrated on defensive components of saliva, such as alfa-amylasa and other enzymes. The saliva's effect against the dental decay and affecting to plague and tartar is explained as well.

The second part is about the disorders of salivation and its causes. The diseases of salivary glands (for example sialolithiasis, inflammation of salivary glands, tumors, cysts, etc.) and their manifested symptoms in the oral cavity are described in this section. The systemic disease, (Sjögren's syndrome, Mikulicz's disease) in which xerostomia is one of the main symptoms, are described in chapter 6.7. In these causes numerous changes occur as well as mucosa, gingiva and teeth. It includes various forms of inflammation and increased number of dental decay.

In the final chapters "Xerostomia and Periodontium" and "Xerostomia and Diseases of Oral Mucosa" are compared the physiological state on one side and manifestation of lack of saliva on the other one. The treatment of xerostomia is described in a special chapter.

The picture addition contains photographs depicting diseases. Next there are samples of some fluoride preparations, visual methods of cleaning the teeth and used aids. There is a list of literature which is enclosed in the final part.