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A rapid, non-invasive tool for periodontitis screening in a medical care setting

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Biomarker	No or mild periodontitis (n=51)	Moderate Periodontitis (n=54)	Severe periodontitis (n=51)	Total periodontitis (moderate + severe) (n=105)
Albumin (µg/ml)	1.50 (0.81-2.50)	1.70 (1.00-3.15)	2.59 (1.66-4.18) ^{b***}	2.00 (1.35-3.45) ^{a**}
Chitinase activity (AU/ml)	0.76 (0.24-1.34)	0.85 (0.45-2.17)	1.54 (0.53-2.69) ^{b*}	1.09 (0.48-2.55) ^{a**}
Protease activity (U/ml)	2.30 (1.24-3.94)	2.42 (1.24-5.31)	2.83 (1.05-13.0) ^{b*}	2.51 (1.14-7.73) ^{a*}
MMP-8 (ng/ml)	0.87 (0.31-1.83)	0.78 (0.36-2.17)	1.24 (0.27-2.71)	1.04 (0.34-2.45)

Data are presented as median (interquartile range).

a: significantly different from no/mild periodontitis

b: significantly different from patients without severe periodontitis

Comparisons between any two 'diseased' groups (severe and total periodontitis) and 'non-diseased' groups (non-severe and no/mild periodontitis) were performed using Mann-Whitney U tests.

*p <0.05, **p <0.01, ***p <0.001