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## Ptyalism

### Handling Excessive Saliva During Pregnancy

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Though it has a funny name, ptyalism (ti 'ah-lizm) is simply an excess production of saliva. As a symptom of pregnancy it occurs frequently in women who are suffering from nausea or morning sickness and seems to occur most often during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.

"Most authorities believe ptyalism actually represents inability of the nauseated woman to swallow normal amounts of saliva rather than a true increase in the production of saliva," says Dr. Jorge Pando, an OB/GYN with Palmetto General Hospital in Hialeah, Fla.

