

The amount of *S. mutans* in the dental plaque was detected at the second and third examinations. Data obtained in the second examination served as the baseline.

Statistical Analysis

Changes of dental plaque, weight, pH value, and the number of *S. mutans* colonies in dental plaque were analyzed by Student's paired *t*-test.

RESULTS

Plaque Weight

Average dental plaque weighed 6.97 mg before and 25.42 mg after consuming water in the control

group. In the experimental group, the average dental plaque weighed 7.45 mg before and 4.99 mg after consuming polyphenol-containing milk. Dental plaque weight showed an increasing tendency with a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) in the control group, and the average increase was 18.45 mg.

Dental plaque weight showed a decreasing tendency and a significant difference in the experimental group consuming polyphenol-containing milks, and the average decrease was 2.46 mg. Dental plaque weight in the experimental group decreased an average of 20.43 mg. In a comparison with the control group, the decrease was 80.37% (Fig. 2).

pH Value of Plaque

The average plaque pH in the control group was

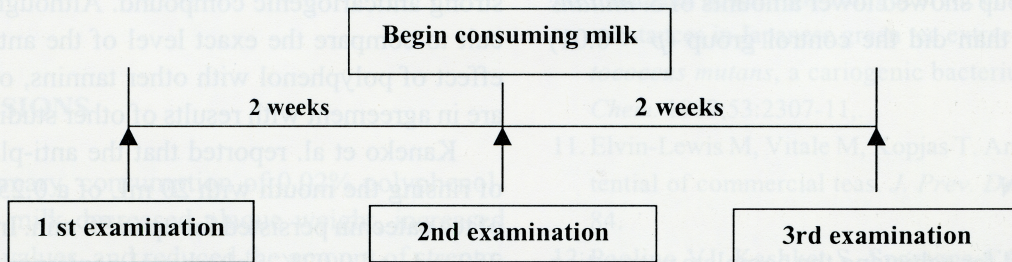


Fig. 1. Examination times of the study.

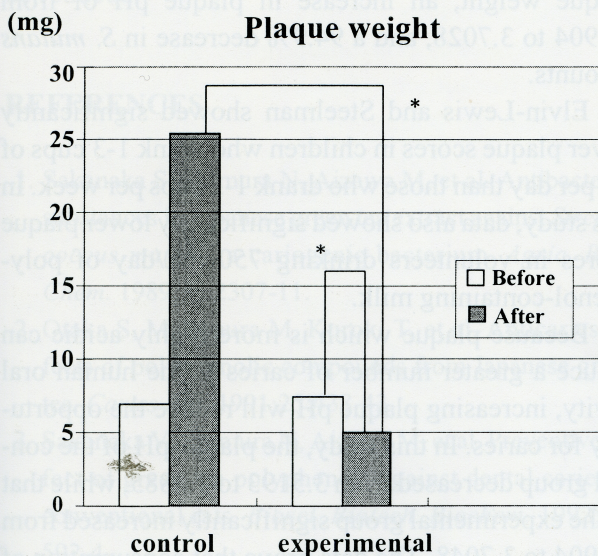


Fig. 2. Changes in plaque weight. (* $p < 0.05$).

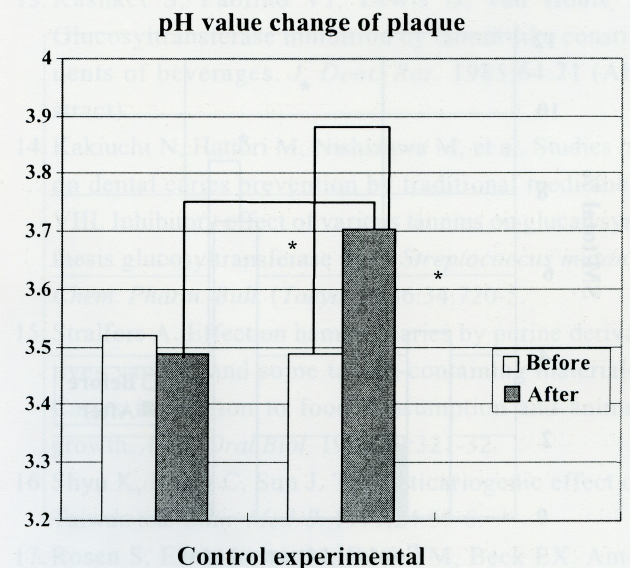


Fig. 3. Change in pH values. (* $p < 0.05$).