

ORAL Cancer and the Dentist

Did you know that oral cancer is considered to be the sixth deadliest cancer in the world with roughly 30,000 new cases of oral cancer diagnosed each year? As a result, oral cancer claims one life an hour here in the United States - more than the number of lives lost to skin or cervical cancer. Close to three-quarters of these new cases are detected in the later stages of development giving these individuals a five-year survival rate but only 50% generally survive. Unfortunately, the survival rate hasn't decreased significantly in the past 40 years. However, when detected

and treated early, oral cancer can be 90% curable. Oral cancer is a growing problem among people age 40 and older and, especially among smokers, smokeless tobacco users and drinkers. However, according to the American Dental Association, over 25% of those who are diagnosed with oral cancer (oral cancer victims), including those under the age of 30, have no lifestyle risk factor and do not fall into these categories.

Regular dental checkups include an oral cancer exam.

For answers to this article or questions,
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