

Know the Signs: Early Oral Cancer Detection Saves Lives

Sage Dental oral care experts share information on oral cancer risks and prevention during Oral Cancer Awareness Month

BOCA RATON, FL, UNITED STATES, April 3, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Oral Cancer affects thousands of Americans each year, most over the age of 50. In an effort to drive awareness and increase the number of cases detected early and successfully treated, Sage Dental oral care experts are sharing the risks and tips for prevention as part of National Oral Cancer Awareness Month.

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*Jonathan Chang, Sage
Dentist*

In 2018, an estimated 51,540 people will be diagnosed with oral cancer, and more than 10,000 people will die of the disease. The average age of people diagnosed with oral cancer is 62, according to the American Cancer Society, but less than 25 percent of patients are younger than 55. Men are more likely to develop mouth cancer than women at a ratio of

six to one.

Oral cancer can be prevented. Survival rates for oral cancer that is detected and treated in early stages is between 75 and 93 percent. According to Sage Dental dentists, knowing the risks can save lives.

Top 5 Oral Cancer Risks:

- _ HPV (human papillomavirus) is the leading cause of oral cancers in the US. Due to this virus, the fastest growing segment of oral cancer patients are young, healthy, non-smokers according to the Oral Cancer Foundation.
- _ Ninety percent of oral cancer cases are due to tobacco use of some kind, including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco and snuff, among others.
- _ Smokeless tobacco use can increase the risk of developing mouth cancer by 15 times.
- _ Sun damage takes part in the development of oral cancer. Dentists recommend wearing at least SPF 30 or higher on lips.
- _ Mouth cancer is 2.5 times higher in those with periodontal disease.

“Healthy habits are a key contributor to avoiding these cancers,” Sage Dentist Jonathan Chang said. “In addition to regular screenings and dental visits, be aware of tobacco and alcohol intake, use sun protection on lips and understand that early detection means higher survival rates.”

In addition to education and awareness on the causes of oral cancer, there are a number of signs that can help detect oral cancer. Swelling or bleeding of the mouth, difficulty or discomfort swallowing, the onset of red or white irritated patches inside the mouth and enlarged lymph nodes could all be signs

of oral cancer and should trigger a cancer screening from the dentist.

About Sage Dental

Sage Dental, is a leading provider of dental health services with offices throughout Florida and Georgia. Founded in 1997, Sage Dental has earned the trust of nearly a million patients to provide caring comprehensive and convenient dental services for the entire family. Sage Dental offers a wide range of services including diagnostic & preventative care, orthodontics, cosmetic procedures and oral surgeries. Sage Dental also offers a VIP Discount Program, which provides substantial fee discounts off services in nearly all the Florida and Georgia offices. The program is ideal for patients without insurance, those who have exhausted their annual dental insurance benefits and those who seek discounts on cosmetic treatments. For a full list of services and locations visit www.mysagedental.com.

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