

# DENTISTRY AND DENTAL MATERIALS

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## EARLY DETECTION OF ORAL CANCER

**Hidayah Mohamed AbdulGhafar Elyas**

Nahdah International Colleges, Sudan

Cancer is Latinized from Greek word “karkinos” Meaning crab, denoting how carcinoma extends its claws like a crab into adjacent tissues. Cancer is a disease caused by mutated normal cells which grow in an uncontrolled way, cause sing a lump called a tumor to form. Oral cancer sites: Tongue’s surface, lips, cheek, gums, roof and floor of the mouth, tonsils and salivary glands. Squamous cell carcinoma is the most common malignant tumor of the oral cavity. For most countries, five-year survival rates of oral cavity cancer are around 50%. The best outcome is for lip cancer, 90% of patients surviving for five years. The lowest survival was for hypo pharyngeal tumors. In general, prognosis decreases with advanced disease stage. For most countries age adjusted death rates from oral cancer was estimated at 3-4 per 100,000 male and 1.0-2.0 per 100,000 for female. It is multi factorial in origin. Recognized risk factors are tobacco, alcohol and areca nut use, infection with human papillomavirus (HPV). And many others risk factors. Dentists can be risk factors!!! Clinical appearance of potentially malignant lesions is an important predictor of malignant transformation, occurring about five years earlier than oral cancer. Both public and professional awareness of oral cancer is fundamental for minimizing the time from onset of signs or symptoms to diagnosis. All lesions of the oral cavity that persist or do not respond to the usual therapeutic measures must be considered precancerous or malignant until proven otherwise. The earliest signs of oral cancer may be mistaken for other condition such as a tonsillitis or cold. The detection of asymptomatic cancer is a significant problem. Inspection of head and neck with assessment of cervical lymph nodes and cranial nerve function can help in early detection.

## BIOGRAPHY

Hidayah Mohamed AbdulGhafar Elyas has completed her MSc at the age of 35 years from Riyadh Elm University, KSA. She is the Director of Oral Radiology Riyadh Elm University, KSA. She has over than nine researches as supervisor for the students.

[dr.hedaya.elyas@gmail.com](mailto:dr.hedaya.elyas@gmail.com)