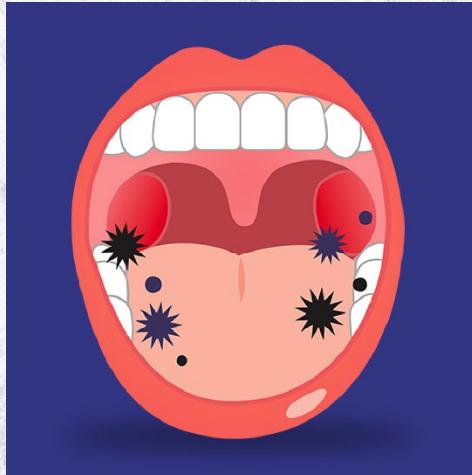


Mouth cancer:



Mouth cancer refers to the development of cancer in any of the oral cavity.

Mouth cancer can occur on the:

- Lips
- Gums
- Tongue
- Inner lining of the cheeks
- Roof of the mouth
- Floor of the mouth (under the tongue)

Symptoms:

Signs and symptoms of mouth cancer may include:

- A lip or mouth sore that doesn't heal well
- A white or reddish patch on the inside of the mouth
- Loose teeth
- A growth or lump inside your mouth

- Mouth pain
- Difficult or painful swallowing

Causes:

Mouth cancers develops when cells on the lips or in the mouth develop changes (mutations) in their DNA.

Risk factors:

- Tobacco use including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and others.
- Heavy consumption of alcohol
- Excessive sun exposure to your lips
- A sexually transmitted virus called human papillomavirus (HPV)
- A weakened immune system

Prevention:

Stop using tobacco.

Avoid drinking alcohol.

Avoid excessive sun exposure to your lips.

See your dentist regularly



Treatment:

Treatment for mouth cancer depends the location and stage of cancer, as well as your overall health. The treatment may be just one type, or you may undergo a combination of cancer treatments. Treatment options include surgery, radiation and chemotherapy.

