

Grade 1 (Low Grade) Oral Cancer Description: Cancer cells resemble normal mouth cells and are well differentiated, meaning they grow and spread more slowly.

Treatment Methods:

1. Wide Local Excision Surgery: This procedure involves surgically removing the tumor along with a margin of normal tissue surrounding it to ensure no cancer cells remain. It aims to achieve clear margins, minimizing the risk of recurrence. The excised tissue is examined to confirm the absence of cancer cells in the surrounding area. Recovery involves monitoring for any signs of recurrence and managing potential side effects, such as changes in oral function or appearance.

2. Mohs Micrographic Surgery: This precise surgical technique involves removing the cancerous tissue layer by layer. Each layer is immediately examined under a microscope until no abnormal cells remain. This method ensures complete cancer removal while preserving as much healthy tissue as possible. It is particularly effective for cancers in cosmetically or functionally sensitive areas. Recovery typically involves minimal scarring and a high cure rate, making it a preferred option for many patients.

3. Radiation Therapy: This treatment uses high-energy beams, such as X-rays or protons, to kill cancer cells. Often used post-surgery, it aims to eliminate any remaining cancer cells that may not have been surgically removed. Radiation therapy can be external, where a machine directs radiation at the cancer, or internal (brachytherapy), where radioactive material is placed near the cancer site. Side effects may include fatigue, skin changes, and mouth sores, but these are usually temporary and manageable.

4. External Beam Radiation: This form of radiation therapy delivers focused beams of radiation from outside the body to the cancerous area. It is often used in combination with other treatments, such as surgery, to maximize effectiveness. The procedure is typically done over several weeks, with sessions scheduled five days a week. Each session lasts only a few minutes. The precise targeting helps to minimize damage to surrounding healthy tissue. Patients may experience side effects like skin irritation, fatigue, and dry mouth, but these are usually temporary and subside after treatment ends.

5. Cryotherapy: This treatment involves freezing cancer cells using liquid nitrogen. It is particularly effective for very small, early-stage cancers. The process destroys cancerous cells by freezing them, which causes them to die. Cryotherapy is minimally invasive and can often be done in an outpatient setting. Recovery is generally quick, with few side effects. Some patients may experience mild discomfort or blistering at the treatment site, but these symptoms typically resolve quickly.

6. Laser Surgery: This technique uses a high-intensity laser beam to remove or destroy cancerous tissue. The laser can cut through tissue with precision, reducing damage to surrounding healthy areas. It is particularly useful for accessible tumors in the mouth. Laser surgery often results in less bleeding

and a shorter recovery time compared to traditional surgery. Patients may experience mild discomfort or swelling post-procedure, but these effects are usually temporary. The precision of laser surgery also helps to minimize scarring and preserve oral function.