



Facts & figures

Groups at Risk

People that smoke tobacco and drink alcohol to excess are up to 30 times more likely to develop the condition
Most likely to affect people over 40 years of age, though an increasing number of young people (especially young women) are developing the condition.

50 years ago mouth cancer was five times more common in men than women, now it is only twice as common, more and more women are being diagnosed

Mortality Rate

Around 1600-1800 people die of mouth cancer in the UK every year or an average of one every 5 hours

Early detection and treatment is critical as it considerably increases survival chances, allows for simpler treatment and results in a better quality of life for sufferers.

27% believed spicy foods to be a main risk factor (it is not!)

16% even thought hot drinks could cause mouth cancer, whilst another 15% thought that kissing could cause it.

There is increasing evidence which shows that oral sex can be a contributory factor in passing on the disease, via the transmission of the human papilloma virus (HPV) which can be found in lining of the mouth and throat, the cervix and the anus.

Finally and importantly there is a growing body of evidence which shows that some patients who reported positive for Mouth Cancer present with apparently none of the risk factors. More work on this important aspect of this disease is required and the foundation will be increasingly focusing on this worrying development in this year.

*** Every 5 hours someone dies from oral cancer**

Early detection saves lives - look out for

- Mouth ulcers**
- White or red patches**
- Any unusual changes in your mouth**



www.mouthcancer.org

 **Dental
Helpline**
British Dental Health Foundation
0 8 4 5 0 6 3 1 1 8 8

