



Dr. Garry Lunn
GENERAL DENTISTRY
MICROSCOPE ASSISTED
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Oral Cancer, What's to See?

Oral cancer is the 8th most common cancer in the Western world. More than 2300 Canadians were diagnosed with oral cancer in 2006, which is more than the number that were diagnosed with stomach, brain, and ovarian or cervical cancer. One of the reasons Canadians die from oral cancer is the result of the late stage at which their oral cancer was diagnosed.

We offer



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Early detection of oral cancer means a higher success rate in treatment.

In 2006 Dr. Lunn was part of a pilot project with the BC Oral Cancer Prevention Program Screening Initiative. During this time we participated in the awareness campaign and usage of the **VELscope**, a machine that uses the natural fluorescence of the tissue for direct oral visualization of early stage tissue changes.

During your routine check ups, we have always performed an oral cancer screening. We are enhancing this service by using this device to see areas of concern before they may be visible in white light conditions, thereby increasing our ability of early detection. There is no risk associated with this procedure.

The VELscope is another adjunct we are using to achieve optimal care for you.

The risk factors associated with oral cancer are the use and duration of alcohol and tobacco exposure.

Symptoms can include oral pain, tingling, numbness, difficulty with speech or swallowing, restricted mouth opening and lesions that don't heal in a two-week period should be brought to our attention immediately. Also there may be no symptoms at all, therefore the importance of routine oral cancer screenings at our office.

Cancer outside the mouth is also preventable. Sun exposure, especially during the summer months contributes to cancer of the skin, including the lips. A lip balm with SPF 30 applied through out the day is recommended.

Office News

At the College's most recent meeting in Japan, Dr. Lunn was installed as the Vice President of the International College of Dentists. (ICD)