

Oral Cancer

Have you visited our office lately? It may be one of the most important appointments you make these days. In keeping with our policy to provide informed and personal quality care, this letter is intended as general information of some of the services we offer and to boost your awareness of a potentially serious dental condition - oral cancer.

As dentists, I believe we play an essential role in raising the dental IQ of our nation. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the need for regular dental exams and oral cancer screening. As a member of The American Dental Association and the Barbados Dental Association, I believe that I should do my part in making this ambitious initiative a success.



Sores on mucous membrane of inner cheek and gum

Cancer can affect any part of the mouth including the lip or tongue. The incidence of oral cancer increases with age. Symptoms can include a persistent sore; red or white lesions; tenderness or numbness in the mouth or lips; a swollen or rough spot; or difficulty in chewing, swallowing, speaking or closing the mouth. Early detection through careful oral cancer examinations and testing can help detect cancer at a stage when it can be treated successfully. During a dental exam we can screen for precancerous changes in your mouth.

Become active in maintaining your oral health by practicing good oral hygiene, eliminating risk factors, and regularly visiting your dentist. We would encourage you to carry out exams on your mouth every 6 months. Check your tongue, inside of the cheek, top of the mouth, and floor of the mouth

for any red, white or discoloured lesions. And remember, when you do visit your dentist ask questions - we want to help you. Testing for oral cancer is now painless.