

## Oral Cancer 2019 Information Sheet – Dansville/Bath Dental Professionals

- One American dies every hour from oral cancer, 24 hours per day. We have found several cases in our practice alone.
- The death rate from oral cancer in the US is higher than that of breast cancer, cervical cancer, prostate cancer, and colon cancer.
- Low survival rate is because most oral cancer is detected late. **If detected early, treatment is more than 90% successful.**
- Oral cancer is 3 times more common and has double the death rate of cervical cancer. Over 55 million pap smears will be performed this year to detect cervical cancer yet the medical professions and patients are slow to accept oral cancer screening.
- **Research suggests that the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) plays a key role in more than 20% of cases. This is the same virus connected to cervical cancer. The virus presents a 5 times increase in occurrence of oral cancer in males and females under the age of 40 and this is the fastest growing group of oral cancer patients.**
- **25% of oral cancer is being found in non-smokers and non-drinkers.**

### ViziLite Plus with TBlue630 –

- This is an FDA-cleared technology for screening patients for oral cancer.
- Test sensitivity is approximately 100% - if you have oral cancer it is likely to be found. Negative predictive factor is also nearly 100% - if nothing is found, you likely do not have oral cancer.
- **29%** of TBlue positive reactions test negative with biopsy – approximately 29% of the sites identified with this system will not be cancerous.

### **Our patients need-to-know:**

1. **Yearly** oral cancer screening is recommended for all patients over the age of 17.
2. Studies in the USA show visual oral cancer screenings are only about 40% effective. Vizilite assisted screening has been shown to be nearly 100% effective.
3. Positive screening test results do not mean that you have cancer; they indicate further testing is recommended.
4. The fee for the screening test is \$49. (Weigh against the cost of late detection.)
5. The test is quick, painless, has no negative side effects, and can be performed during your regular hygiene exam.
6. Early detection saves lives!

If you have any questions – please do not hesitate to ask us!

4/19