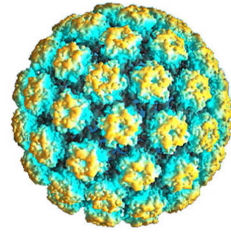


Association of Dental Groups



The Link Between Viruses and Oral Cancer

Figures show that 6,767 people are diagnosed with mouth cancer in the UK each year,ⁱ but how many cases are as a result of the human papilloma virus (HPV)?

HPV is the name given to a group of viruses that can affect the skin and the moist membranes that line parts of the body, including the mouth and throat.

It has been suggested that HPV could account for more than 50% of infection-linked cancers in females and approximately 5% in malesⁱⁱ – an alarming number considering the general lack of HPV awareness in patients.

With extensive research still being conducted on the matter, it is important that dental professionals and practices continue to keep patients updated on the risk factors and symptoms of HPV.

To find out more on raising awareness of HPV and for general information on the issue of mouth cancer as a whole, contact the ADG.

For more information about the ADG visit www.dentalgroups.co.uk

ⁱ Facts and Figures. Mouth Cancer Action Month. Accessed online August 2015.
<http://www.mouthcancer.org/facts-figures/>

ⁱⁱ zur Hausen H. Papillomaviruses in the causation of human cancers - a brief historical account. *Virology* 2009;384:260-5.