



Dear Patient,

As a healthcare provider, I am concerned about oral cancer, which is too often diagnosed in later stages of development and as a result claims more than *one life every hour of every day* in America. It has become the sixth leading cancer among men and is one of the few cancers in which the rate of occurrence is increasing among young adults. Most people are not aware of the potential risks; however, when detected early enough, the survival rate for oral cancer is very high.

At one time oral cancer was predominantly seen among smokers, however, increasingly, oral cancer is being seen in patients of all ages. Although smoking is still a leading factor, many other criteria such as age, family history, ethnicity and alcoholic consumption also play a role. Many experts have surmised that an increasing cause is exposure to the HPV virus, which is the primary precursor of cervical cancer. There are 9,700 new cases of cervical cancer each year whereas there are 31,000 cases of oral cancer every year. Also, the morbidity rate of oral cancer is *twice* that of cervical cancer. These various factors all point towards the need for better technology to assist in the early detection of this curable disease.

At Dental Solutions, we have always conducted an annual comprehensive oral cancer screening for all of our patients, but we have recently incorporated a new FDA-approved breakthrough technology that will allow us to see things we've been unable to see previously. By detecting potential problems earlier, we'll be providing our patients with the best oral health care currently available.

This new and exciting technology, called VELscope™, utilizes a narrow band of safe, high-energy blue light and specialized filtering technology to help thoroughly evaluate the oral tissue for abnormal areas of concern, such as potentially cancerous lesions that may not be evident under white light. To get more information, you may visit www.velscope.com.

As we care about your health as well as your teeth, we are now offering this to all adult patients during their oral examinations. We believe that this new technology will assist us in detecting disease at earlier stages and therefore catch abnormalities before they turn into cancer.

Your dental insurance may or may not cover the fee for this care. Coverage for this procedure (like most dental procedures) usually varies among insurance companies; however, this modest fee of **\$29.00** is well worth the benefit that this new device provides.

Regards,

William B. Stofer, DDS

Lyndsey R. Hazen, DDS

Below listed are the leading risk factors associated with oral cancer. Please check below if any of the following apply to you:

Use of Tobacco Products

Family Members Have Had Cancer

Drink Alcohol

Over Age 40

YES, I would like to have the VELscope™ oral cancer screening test today.

No thank you, I would prefer not to have the VELscope™ oral cancer screening test today.

Print Name : _____

Signature : _____ Date: _____