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## Communication Rehabilitation with People Treated for Oral Cancer

Jeff Searl, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, ASHA-F  
Associate Professor  
Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders  
Michigan State University

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## Cancer ↔ malignant growth

- Characteristics
  - Cell growth that is
    - Ongoing
    - Purposeless
    - Unwanted
    - Uncontrolled
    - Damaging
  - Cells that
    - Differ structurally
    - Differ functionally

Normal	Cancer	
		Large number of irregularly shaped dividing cells
		Large, variably shaped nuclei
		Small cytoplasmic volume relative to nuclei
		Variation in cell size and shape
		Loss of normal specialized cell features
		Disorganized arrangement of cells
		Poorly defined tumor boundary

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## Several types of cancer

Squamous cell = we see most often in oral cavity

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## Formation of Cancer

- **NORMAL:** Genes in DNA = controlled division, growth, and cell death
- **CANCER**
  - Genetic control lost or abnormal
  - Abnormal cell divides again and again
  - Mass of unwanted, dividing cells continues to grow
  - potential damage other cells/tissues in body
  - Controls that stop continued division lost/impaired

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## Anatomy Regions for designating cancer location

- Following six slides have images from

Trivandrum Oral Cancer Screening Project.

“A digital manual for the early diagnosis of oral neoplasia.”

[IARC link to Trivandrum screening](http://www.oralcancer.org)

**International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)**

Retrieved 05/28/2017 from <http://screening.iarc.fr/atlas/oral.php?lang=1>

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## Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review Regions for designating cancer location

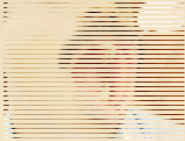
**Lip** (vermillion) = reddish hued area,

**Labial mucosa** = thin(ner) lining of the inside of the lips


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### Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review


Regions for designating cancer location



**Buccal mucosa** = lining of cheeks.



Stensen duct opening




**Gingiva** = tissue covering the neck of the teeth And alveolar ridge.


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### Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review

Regions for designating cancer location



**Alveolar ridge** = bony ridge that holds the teeth




**Retromolar trigone**= small triangular area behind the last lower molar on each side.


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### Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review


Regions for designating cancer location




**Anterior 2/3 of tongue** = mobile portion of tongue



**Filiform papillae** = many, fine, pointed, cone shaped, (blue arrow)



**Fungiform papillae** = mushroom-shaped, reddish, dorsum of tongue, (yellow arrow)




**Circumvallate papillae** = nodular appearing, posterior 1/3 of tongue, (#8-10)

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### Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review

Regions for designating cancer location



foliate papillae = leaf shaped, where side of tongue meets palatoglossal fold, minor salivary glands, lymphoid follicles




Ventral tongue surface = yellow arrow  
Median lingual frenum = white arrow  
Wharton duct opening = blue arrow


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### Lip & Oral Cavity Anatomy Review

Regions for designating cancer location







Floor of mouth = horseshoe-shaped, between ventrum of tongue and gingivae of mandibular teeth, extends to palatoglossal folds posteriorly



Hard palate = roof of oral cavity, contiguous with alveolar ridge of the maxilla and with the soft palate

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### Practice Time

## Head & Neck Cancer by the Numbers

**Incidence?** Cases in a population

- Incidence rate:** new cases within specified period of time
- Incidence proportion:** proportion of initially disease free population that develops the disease

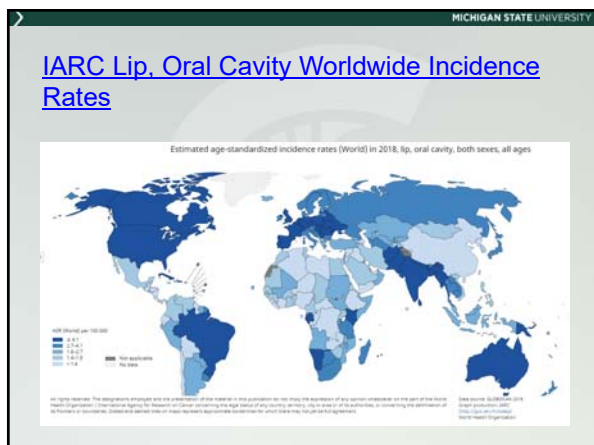
**Prevalence?** actual number of people alive with the disease

- Period Prevalence:** during a particular period of time
- Point Prevalence:** at a particular date in time

**Mortality?** # deaths in certain time period within a certain population

## Oral Cancer Incidence Rate Data

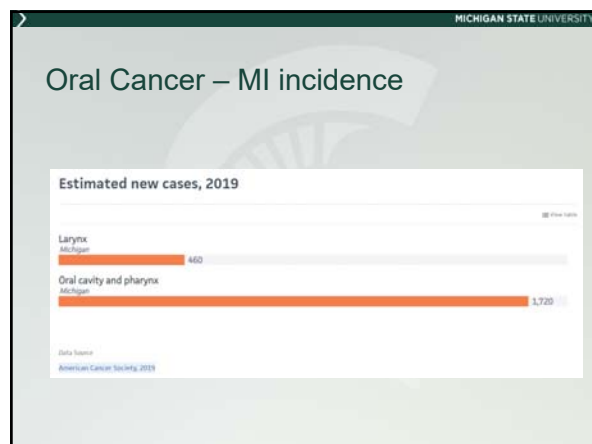
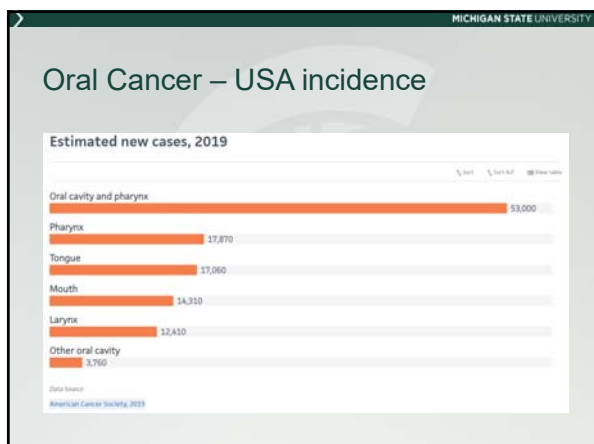
- Worldwide: 405,000 new case per year  
Highest rates: Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Hungary, France
- United States: 53,000



## Oral Cancer stats for the USA

[SEER is a good place to look](#) for all kinds of data for the USA

(Surveillance, Epidemiology and End-Results Program)



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- AND OTHERS
- DevCan – National Cancer Institute
- Head and Neck Cancer Alliance:
  - <http://www.headandneck.org/site/c.8hKNI0MEIm4E/b.6281225/k.BDD9/Home.htm>
- Support for People with Oral and Head and Neck Cancer:
  - <http://www.spohnc.org/>

Selections:	
Year	2013-2015
Race	All Races
Sex	Both Sexes
Starting Age	0
Ending Age	95+
Results:	
Probability of Developing Cancer	
Oral Cavity and Pharynx – Mal only	1.15%
Lip – Mal only	0.08%
Tongue – Mal only	0.36%
Floor of Mouth – Mal only	0.05%
Gum and Other Mouth – Mal only	0.17%
Oropharynx and Tonsil – Mal only	0.25%
Probability of Dying of Cancer	
Oral Cavity and Pharynx – Mal only	0.30%
Lip – Mal only	0.00%
Tongue – Mal only	0.08%
Floor of Mouth – Mal only	0.00%
Gum and Other Mouth – Mal only	0.05%
Oropharynx and Tonsil – Mal only	0.05%

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### Currently in the US – some general conclusions for Oral Cavity and Pharynx cancers

- Men 2x > Women
- Death rates declining 1%-2% past decade
- Survival deteriorates moving from lips to larynx
- 10%-15% have other head & neck tumors

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### Increasing Incidence of HNSCC

Increased incidence of **some types** of oral, head and neck squamous cell carcinoma over the last 3 decades.

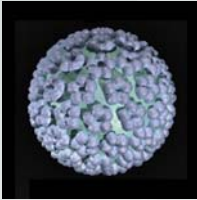
Despite decreasing smoking rates

Base of tongue, tonsil in particular – and particularly for white men

Head Neck Oncol. 2009 Oct 14;1:36. [www.headandneckoncology.org/content/1/1/36](http://www.headandneckoncology.org/content/1/1/36)

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### Primary reason for this increase - HPV



- Very common virus
- 50% sexually active adults with HPV infection in their lifetime
- >130 strains or genotypes
- Most of these strains are harmless, treatable, and/or noncancerous

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### HPV – Oral Cancer

- Fastest growing oral and oropharyngeal cancer population
  - Otherwise healthy
  - Non-smoking
  - 35-55 years old
  - More males than females (4:1)
  - HPV usually manifests in oropharynx, but also for more anterior oral sites

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### Sexual Transmission of HPV

- behavioral epidemiologists → changing sexual behaviors in the 1960s led to increased HPV exposure.
- Several studies = oral HPV infection is likely to be sexually acquired.

E.g., D'Souza and colleagues found that a high (26 or more) number of lifetime vaginal-sex partners and 6 or more lifetime oral-sex partners were associated with an increased risk of HNSCC

D'Souza et al. N. Engl J Med 2007 May 10; 356(19): 1944-56

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## Etiologic agents and risk factors

<p><b>Tobacco Products:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Smoking Tobacco</li> <li>▪ Cigarettes</li> <li>▪ Cigars</li> <li>▪ Pipes</li> <li>▪ Chewing Tobacco</li> <li>▪ Snuff</li> </ul> <p><b>Ethanol Products</b></p> <p><b>Laryngopharyngeal Reflux</b></p>	<p><b>Chemicals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Asbestos</li> <li>▪ Chromium</li> <li>▪ Nickel</li> <li>▪ Arsenic</li> <li>▪ Formaldehyde</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Factors:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ionizing Radiation</li> <li>▪ Epstein-Barr Virus</li> <li>▪ Human Papilloma Virus</li> </ul>
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## E-cigarettes

Received 1 November 2016 | Accepted 9 December 2016  
DOI: 10.1111/odi.12588

**SPECIAL ISSUE ARTICLE**

**Electronic nicotine delivery systems: Oral health implications and oral cancer risk**

Almud S. Sultan<sup>1</sup> | Maryam Jusu<sup>2</sup> | Camille S. Farah<sup>2</sup>

- 2014 FDA Regulations applied – relative sales to minors; only nicotine containing liquids
- 2017 National Youth Tobacco Survey
  - Middle school – 3% in last 30 days
  - High School – 11.7% in last 30 days
- Health risk studies – few
- The liquids keep changing
- NEJM (2015) and FDA – formaldehyde in vapor; other carcinogens
- Vitamin vaping!?

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## And more

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Genetic factors</li> <li>▪ Sun exposure (lips)</li> <li>▪ Wind exposure (lips)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diet low in fruits and veggies</li> <li>▪ Areca nut, betel nut, betel leaf; paan, pan masal, supari</li> </ul>
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## Reminder of synergistic impact of smoking and drinking

- Doing both is worse than doing either one individually
- Most who smoke also drink alcohol (reverse not true)
- OR of heavy drinking + heavy smoking significantly increased vs either behavior alone

CDC definition of 'heavy drinking': Men = 15/week, Women = 8/week

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## Staging & Surgical-Oncological Tx

- Clinical guidelines available – based heavily on
  - Size, local spread, distant spread (i.e., staging)
  - Patient wishes
  - Comorbidities
- Briefly... staging

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## Staging

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical vs. pathologic (surgical)</li> <li>• American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage 0, I, II, III, IVA, IVB, IVC</li> <li>• AJCC for Lip, Oral Cavity, p16 neg OP Cancer           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– T – primary tumor size</li> <li>– N – lymph node spread</li> <li>– M – distant spread</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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30

### AJCC Staging for Lip & Oral Cavity: T

LIP AND ORAL CAVITY STAGING FORM

CLINICAL <small>Extent of disease before any treatment</small>	STAGE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS	PATHOLOGIC <small>Extent of disease during and from surgery</small>
<input type="checkbox"/> clinical staging completed after neoadjuvant therapy but before subsequent surgery <input type="checkbox"/> TX Primary tumor cannot be assessed <input type="checkbox"/> T0 No evidence of primary tumor <input type="checkbox"/> Tis Carcinoma in situ <input type="checkbox"/> T1 Tumor 2 cm or less in greatest dimension <input type="checkbox"/> T2 Tumor more than 2 cm but not more than 4 cm in greatest dimension <input type="checkbox"/> T3 Tumor more than 4 cm in greatest dimension <input type="checkbox"/> T4a Moderately advanced local disease. (lip) Tumor invades through cortical bone, inferior alveolar nerve, floor of mouth, or skin of face, i.e., chin or nose (oral cavity) Tumor invades adjacent structures only (e.g., through cortical bone, [mandible or maxilla] into deep [extrinsic] muscle of tongue [genioglossus, hyoglossus, palatoglossus, and styloglossus], maxillary sinus, skin of face) <input type="checkbox"/> T4b T4b Vary advanced local disease. Tumor invades masticator space, pterygoid plates, or skull base and/or encases internal carotid artery Note: Superficial erosion alone of bone/both socket by gingival primary is not sufficient to classify a tumor as T4.	TUMOR SIZE: _____ LATERALITY: <input type="checkbox"/> left <input type="checkbox"/> right <input type="checkbox"/> bilateral	<input type="checkbox"/> y pathologic - staging completed after neoadjuvant therapy AND subsequent surgery <input type="checkbox"/> TX <input type="checkbox"/> T0 <input type="checkbox"/> Tis <input type="checkbox"/> T1 <input type="checkbox"/> T2 <input type="checkbox"/> T3 <input type="checkbox"/> T4a <input type="checkbox"/> T4b

### AJCC Staging for Lip & Oral Cavity: N and M

REGIONAL LYMPH NODES (N)

<input type="checkbox"/> NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed	<input type="checkbox"/> NX
<input type="checkbox"/> N0	No regional lymph node metastasis	<input type="checkbox"/> N0
<input type="checkbox"/> N1	Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, 3 cm or less in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N1
<input type="checkbox"/> N2	Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, more than 3 cm but not more than 6 cm in greatest dimension; or in multiple ipsilateral lymph nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension; or in bilateral or contralateral lymph nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N2
<input type="checkbox"/> N2a	Metastasis in single ipsilateral lymph node more than 3 cm but not more than 6 cm in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N2a
<input type="checkbox"/> N2b	Metastasis in multiple ipsilateral lymph nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N2b
<input type="checkbox"/> N2c	Metastasis in bilateral or contralateral lymph nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N2c
<input type="checkbox"/> N3	Metastasis in a lymph node more than 6 cm in greatest dimension	<input type="checkbox"/> N3
DISTANT METASTASIS (M)		
<input type="checkbox"/> M0	No distant metastasis (no pathologic M; use clinical M to complete stage group)	<input type="checkbox"/> M1
<input type="checkbox"/> M1	Distant metastasis	

### AJCC Staging by TNM

LIP AND ORAL CAVITY STAGING FORM

ANATOMIC STAGE - PROGNOSTIC GROUPS							
GROUP	T	CLINICAL		GROUP	T	PATHOLOGIC	
		N	M			N	M
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Tis	N0	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Tis	N0	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> I	T1	N0	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> I	T1	N0	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> II	T2	N0	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> II	T2	N0	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> III	T3	N0	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> III	T3	N0	M0
	T1	N1	M0		T1	N1	M0
	T2	N1	M0		T2	N1	M0
	T3	N1	M0		T3	N1	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> IVA	T4a	N0	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> IVA	T4a	N0	M0
	T4a	N1	M0		T4a	N1	M0
	T1	N2	M0		T1	N2	M0
	T2	N2	M0		T2	N2	M0
	T3	N2	M0		T3	N2	M0
	T4a	N2	M0		T4a	N2	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> IVB	Any T	N3	M0	<input type="checkbox"/> IVB	Any T	N3	M0
	T4b	Any N	M0		T4b	Any N	M0
<input type="checkbox"/> IVC	Any T	Any N	M1	<input type="checkbox"/> IVC	Any T	Any N	M1
<input type="checkbox"/> Stage unknown				<input type="checkbox"/> Stage unknown			

### Surgery, Radiation & Chemotherapy for Oral Cancer

#### OVERALL Approach

- Surgical resection as 1°
  - Particularly with early stages (T1/T2, N0)
  - +/- reconstruction
  - +/- elective neck dissection; sentinel node biopsy
- Radiotherapy or Chemoradiation as Adjuvant

[Note: Oropharyngeal = more nonsurgical, and minimally invasive surgery]

### Resection - more pics later

- Removal of tissue**
- Tumor size & location dictates removal volume
- E.g., Tongue
  - Partial (<40%)
  - Hemi (40%-60%)
  - Subtotal (>60% - almost all)
  - Total (100%)

### Reconstruction Ladder - more later

- Healing by secondary intention
- Primary closure
- Skin grafting (split or full thickness)
- Composite grafts
- Locoregional flaps
- Free tissue transfer



**Primary and Secondary Intention**

The diagram illustrates two types of wound healing. **Primary intention** involves a clean, straight wound that is closed with sutures, resulting in a fine scar. The layers shown are the epidermis, dermis, and subcutaneous tissue. **Secondary intention** occurs when a wound is left open to heal from the bottom up, involving the migration of epithelial cells and the formation of scar tissue.

**Flaps - local, regional → examples**

**Pedicle flap (converts to free flap)**

**Submental Island Flap**

**Pectoralis Major Myocutaneous Flap**

This slide shows examples of local and regional flaps. The **Submental Island Flap** is a flap of skin and muscle from the submental area, which can be converted into a free flap. The **Pectoralis Major Myocutaneous Flap** is a flap of skin, muscle, and fat from the chest, used for reconstruction of the head and neck.

**Free Flaps – also various →**

**Fibula flap (contains bone)**

**Anterolateral Thigh**

This slide illustrates two types of free flaps. The **Fibula flap** is a flap of bone and soft tissue from the fibula, used for reconstruction of the jaw. The **Anterolateral Thigh** flap is a flap of skin and muscle from the anterolateral thigh, used for reconstruction of the head and neck.

**Neck Dissection – also various extents**

This slide shows various extents of neck dissection. The diagrams illustrate different levels of dissection, from a partial neck dissection to a total neck dissection, which involves the removal of all lymphatic tissue in the neck.

**Neck Dissection**

**Elective neck dissection in oral carcinoma: a critical review of the evidence**

**>50% pts with OSCC = lymph metastases**

**Most important prognostic factor = lymph mets**

**50% reduction in 5yr survival of regional nodes involved**

**SO → treating the neck is critical**

**Therapeutic – Opportune – Elective**

This slide discusses the role of neck dissection in oral carcinoma. It highlights that more than 50% of patients with oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) have lymph node metastases. The most important prognostic factor is lymph node metastasis, and a 50% reduction in 5-year survival is observed when regional lymph nodes are involved. Therefore, treating the neck is critical, and neck dissection can be therapeutic, opportunistic, or elective.

**Neck Dissection**

**The Role of Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy in Head and Neck Cancers and Its Application Areas**

**Treating the person with “N0” neck**

**Elective Neck Dissection**

- 3 RCT = advantages for survival
- Most offer it – stil some controversy


**Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy**

This slide discusses the role of neck dissection in head and neck cancers. It highlights the importance of treating the person with a “N0” neck. Elective neck dissection is performed, and three randomized controlled trials (RCT) have shown advantages for survival. However, there is still some controversy about whether to offer it. Sentinel lymph node biopsy is also mentioned as a key component of neck dissection.

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## Radiation Therapy

[NCI Resource on Radiation The](#)



- 3 ways to deliver
  - External beam radiation therapy – common for oral
  - Brachytherapy (internal radiation therapy)
  - Systemic radiation
- Mode of impact = damages cell DNA; damaged cells stop dividing or die

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## Briefly – external beam



- 'Simulation'
  - planning
  - Detailed imaging (CT, could be MRI, PET, ultrasound)
- Mask - stabilize head
- Computer + MD - determine dose, area of exposure, safest paths of radiation delivery, schedule of treatment intensity/duration

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## External beam - delivery

- Various schedules and approaches now
- Historically - 5 days/week for 6-7 weeks
- Other **fractionation** schedules in use
  - Hyperfractionation** – smaller dose more than 1x day
  - Hypofractionation** – larger dose 1 day or less
  - Accelerated fractionation** – larger daily or weekly doses

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## Last on external beam

- IMRT** = intensity-modulated radiation therapy
  - "beam shaping"
  - Varied radiation intensity to different areas/depths
  - Reverse planning
- 3D-CRT** = 3-dimensional conformal radiation therapy
- IGRT...Tomotherapy...Stereotactic radiosurgery**

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## Chemotherapy – briefly

- Drugs - slow or stop growth of cancer cells
- Combo with radiation Tx in head and neck cancer in many instances
  - To make a tumor smaller
  - Destroy cancer cells remaining after XRT or surgery
  - Enhance other treatments
  - Kill cancer cells that recur

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## Side Effects – some impacting speech

- Mucositis
- Xerostomia
- Candida, other
- Lymphedema
- Fibrosis





### Side Effects – some impacting speech

- Dysgeusia
- Dermatitis
- Dental decay
- osteoradionecrosis

### Chemotherapy

Cisplatin – standard treatment for H&N SCC

- Intravenous
- **Common side effects**
  - Nausea, vomiting
  - Low blood count
  - Renal toxicity
  - **Ototoxicity**
  - Altered blood test results (magn, calcium, potassium)
- Less common side effects: Peripheral neuropathy, Decreased appetite, Taste sensation change, Hair loss

### Oral Cancer Impact on Speech

- Cancer impact
- Cancer treatment impact – surgery, radiation

### Oral Cancer Impact on Speech

Before any treatment

- N=172 (125M/47F)
- Dx:
  - maxillary alveolar ridge – 9
  - Buccal mucosa – 12
  - Margin tongue – 42
  - Palate – 8
  - Oral floor – 50
  - Mandibular alveolar ridge - 51
- 12% lower Word Recognition (automatic)
- Female>Male (OSCC)
- Age and gender → WR
- Location of tumor mattered

**Speech intelligibility in patients with oral cancer: An objective baseline evaluation of pretreatment function and impairment**

Florian Seifels PhD, MD, DMD<sup>1</sup> | Nicolai Oetzel MD<sup>2</sup> | Luisa Theresa Goellner<sup>3</sup> | Werner Adler PhD<sup>4</sup> | Maximilian Rohde MD, DMD<sup>5</sup> | Andreas Maier PhD, Dr.-Ing.<sup>6</sup> | Levi Mathias<sup>7</sup> | Marco Walter Koenig PhD, MD, DMD<sup>8</sup> | Christian Kugler MD, DMD<sup>9</sup>

Head & Neck, 2019;1-7.

### Oral Cancer Impact on Speech

Before any treatment

Controls WR = 75.81 ± 7.15%

Location		
Maxillary alveolar ridge	9	71.71 ± 6.69%
Buccal mucosa	12	71.45 ± 10.80%
Margin of tongue	42	66.31 ± 15.29%
Palate	8	65.40 ± 15.75%
Oral floor	50	62.24 ± 24.37%
Mandibular alveolar ridge	51	60.75 ± 13.72%

**Speech intelligibility in patients with oral cancer: An objective baseline evaluation of pretreatment function and impairment**

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Head & Neck, 2019;1-7.

### Oral Cancer Impact on Speech

Before any treatment – self-report

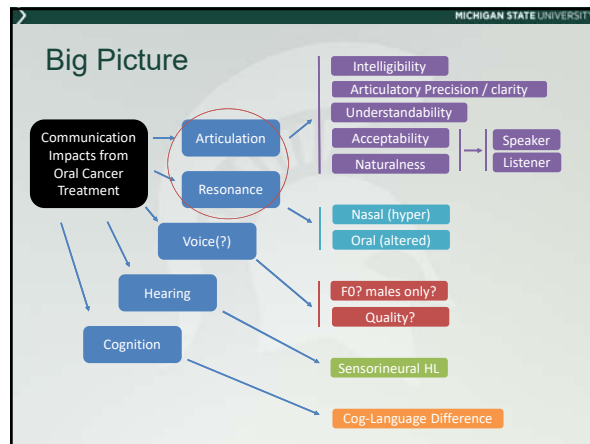
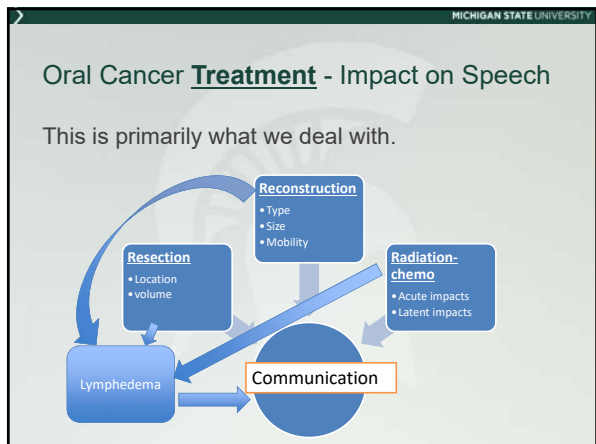
- N=21
- Oral cancers + 1 BOT
- Interviews + thematic analysis
- Detection of Speech Changes?

**PATIENT DELAY IN ORAL CANCER: A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF PATIENTS' EXPERIENCES**

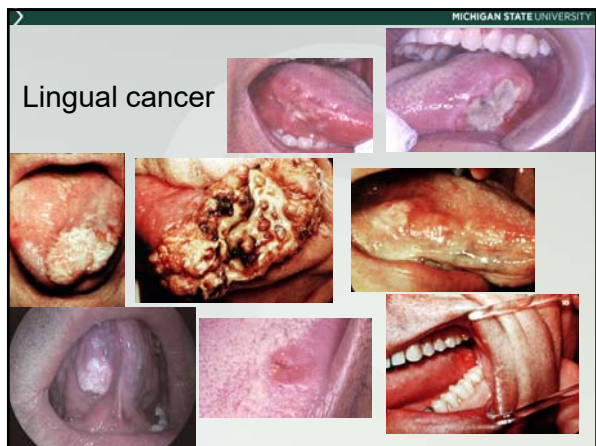
*Change in eating or talking.* Many patients noted that they had experienced some interference with function during the development of the disease. Frequently, patients made a point that the pain or discomfort that they experienced as a result of their oral lesion was only experienced during mastication or when they spoke.

*I can't chew. As soon as this started I don't chew, I just swallow. It don't get serious unless I chew, I've got some grandchildren at home and I shout at them—the pain starts. So I've been trying not to chew or shout. (17; no prolonged delay)*

p.481



- ### Subset of tumor locations considered here
- Tongue
  - Palate (hard/soft)
  - Lips
- These 2 cause the most trouble for speech
- A few details on each of these with links to speech.



- ### Degrees of Tongue Resection
- Partial Glossectomy
  - Hemiglossectomy
  - Sub-total of Near-total glossectomy
  - Total glossectomy

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## Partial Glossectomy




Primary closure

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## Hemiglossectomy and Near-total Glossectomy

- Free tissue reconstruction usually preferred
  - Can match flap to defect in terms of size/volume
  - Large defects can be filled
  - Possibility for microvascular anastomosis procedure
  - Flap tissue not exposed to XRT




Radial forearm free flap

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## Total glossectomy

- Tongue "pull through" technique unless tumor invades mandible
- May require rectus abdominis or anterior lateral thigh flap rather than forearm due to need for increased bulk



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## Total glossectomy



Pectoralis flap      Anterolateral thigh flap

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## Tongue Cancer Surgery – what changes?

- Mass
- Mobility
- Oral cavity space
  - Volume
  - Contour
- Sensation
- Besides speech
  - Saliva issues
  - Eating/chewing
  - Appearance

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## Example: Partial Glossectomy +

Case 1. DH

Age at video = 65  
Smoker who quit at 57

Dx with FOM, lingual cancer at 59

TX sequence

- 48 radiation treatments soon after Dx.
- 5yrs later (age 64) cancer returned aggressively
- FOM+lingual resection; radial forearm flap
- Some SLP follow-up for swallow, not speech

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## Partial Glossectomy

Case 2.

Female

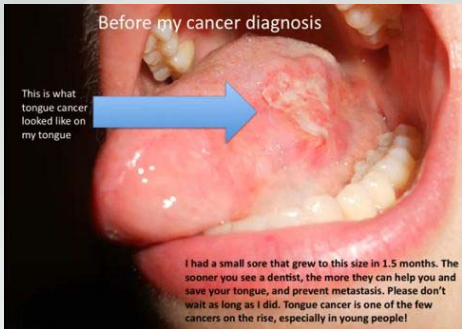
early 20's

Non-smoker

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## Partial Glossectomy: Case 2

Before my cancer diagnosis



This is what tongue cancer looked like on my tongue

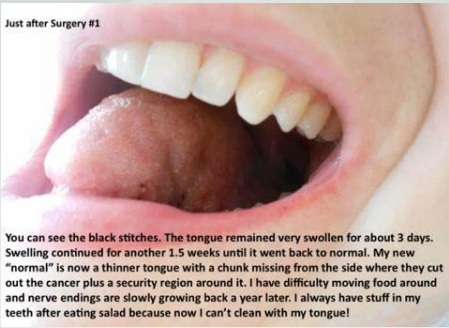
I had a small sore that grew to this size in 1.5 months. The sooner you see a dentist, the more they can help you and save your tongue, and prevent metastasis. Please don't wait as long as I did. Tongue cancer is one of the few cancers on the rise, especially in young people!

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[link to immediate post surgery](#)

## Partial Glossectomy: Case 2


Just after Surgery #1



You can see the black stitches. The tongue remained very swollen for about 3 days. Swelling continued for another 1.5 weeks until it went back to normal. My new "normal" is now a thinner tongue with a chunk missing from the side where they cut out the cancer plus a security region around it. I have difficulty moving food around and nerve endings are slowly growing back a year later. I always have stuff in my teeth after eating salad because now I can't clean with my tongue!

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## Partial Glossectomy: Case 2



After 2 surgeries and just before my 7 weeks of chemo and radiation began

I got a bacteria which required medicine to eliminate these painful bumps in my throat and the back of my tongue. I could barely swallow. With dry mouth, the "good bacteria" does not exist, so your mouth is more vulnerable to growing "bad bacteria". This is very normal. Pasta with olive oil was the easiest to swallow and least painful.

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## Partial Glossectomy: Case 2

After about 3 weeks of radiation




[Catherine's story through radiation](#)

I had mucositis (worst side effect for me). With this condition, even lukewarm water caused extreme pain to my tongue. It was also difficult to talk because the tip of my tongue would touch my teeth while pronouncing some words. So I wrote a lot. I wouldn't wish mucositis on my worst enemy.

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## Partial Glossectomy: Case 2


After about 4 weeks of radiation



Even though I do 8 mouth rinses a day, and take a ton of meds and morphine, nothing takes away the pain of eating/drinking. Absolutely horrible! It was even painful to take this picture. (Note: After tongue surgery, I can no longer stick my tongue out very far...no more ice cream cones.) Also slurred speech with the letter "s".

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### Partial Glossectomy: Case 2



Chubby cheeks from radiation. Crooked smile from weakened muscle and less flexibility in my neck, but still having fun. Who cares what others think, it's time to do what you haven't done before. It's time to live!

Now, after treatment, I have recessed gums (increased sensitivity). Yes, the side effects they tell you about are very real! I also have dry mouth from 35 days of radiation. One salivary gland was completely removed and the remaining glands got radiated very hard and don't function well now. I carry water everywhere I go. Check out [kleenkanteen.com](http://kleenkanteen.com) for a good steel bottle!

3 months after last radiation

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### HemiGlossectomy: Robert (w/flap)



[Robert at 2 months](#)

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### Near-Total glossectomy: Case example

ODE TO THE PRESENT.


This moment as smooth as a board and fresh  
 This hour, this day as clean as an untouched glass. 1 month post

Not a single spiderweb from the past  
 We touch the moment with our fingers  
 We cut it to size, we direct it's blooming  
 It's living, it's alive, it brings nothing from yesterday that can't be redeemed  
 nothing from the lost past. This is our creation 10 month post

It's growing this very instant, kicking up sand  
 or eating out of our hand.


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### Palatal tumors



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### Palatal Malignancies – a bit more variety



- Squamous Cell
- Adenoid Cystic
- Adenocarcinoma
- Mucoepidermoid Ca
- Other
- Anaplastic Ca

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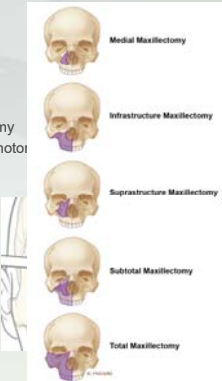
### Palatal Cancers

- Not very common
- Soft palate > hard palate
- Soft palate causes – as before
- Hard palate –
  - perhaps as before; reverse smoking; syphilis; irritation from dentures?
  - Often late presentation (months to years)



### Hard Palate Resection

- Approach based on size
  - Small lesion = transoral, partial maxillectomy
  - Larger = partial maxillectomy → lateral rhinotomy
  - Large extending through palate → total maxillectomy
- Palate is midline structure
  - Neck treated bilaterally – END
- Combo Surgery + XRT for most



### Hard Palate - Obturation




### Hard Palate – Obturation = historical gold standard




### Hard Palate – Reconstruction = new


- Radial forearm (Jeong et al., 2017)
- Rectus abdominus flap (Ogino, et al., 2019)
- Anterolateral thigh; latissimus dorsi, fibula osteocutaneous, etc. (Hanasono et al., 2012)



### Soft Palate Resection - obturation



### Lip Cancer





### Lip Cancer - Treatment

- Really depends on staging, regional node involvement, distant metastasis
- Often caught early so local excision with no, or minor, reconstruction

### Lip Cancer – surgical examples

Excision with primary closure

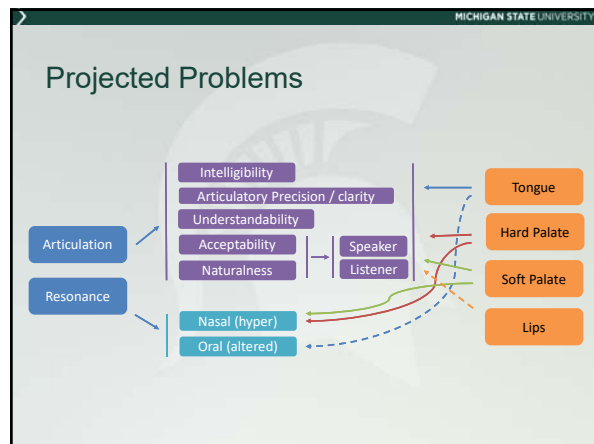
### Lip Cancer - surgery

- Lip flap
  - Remove tumor from top lip
  - Raise flap from lower lip
  - Close upper lip defect

### Excision with lip reconstruction

### Lip Cancer: Case Study (all lower lip)

- 40 yr old
- Smoker for 20+ years
- Lip cancer dx at age 38
- Sequence of Tx
  - Radiation (38) and chemo (16)
  - Cancer returned quickly (2 weeks)
  - Resection (lower lip, FOM, jaw) w/ reconstruction (multiple)



### The literature? → speech intelligibility

**Speech Intelligibility After Glossectomy and Speech Rehabilitation**  
Chien H, Fung S, Lee J, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2006;24(18):39-45.

- N=27
- 3 groups
- Ratings of SI, other measures
- At 6 months post surgery
- "intelligible" after partial (12)
- "partially intelligible" after subtotal (9)
- "intelligible with attention" after total

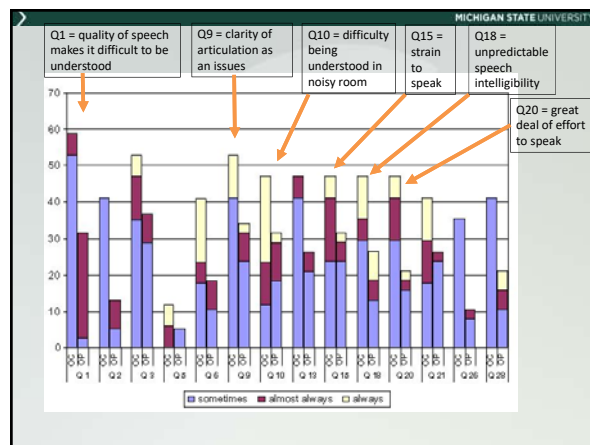
### Sampling of others regarding SI

Author	Details	Results
Chien et al. (2006)	39; total & near total; 1 yr post	- 8% = unintelligible - 92% = intelligible - SI task/rating unclear
Carvalho et al. (2008)	36; hemi & near total, wearing palatal augmentation	- 22% = normal SI - 31% = mild impairment - 25% = moderate - 22% = severe - Better with vs w/o pros.
Borggrevén et al. (2007)	80; oral and oropharyngeal; 1 yr post; flap recon	- 71% = deviant SI (rating)
Romer et al. (2019)	81; T1/T2 oral SCC, no reconstr	- "excellent" speech outcomes
Steltzle et al. (2013)	71; tongue, FOM, mandib alveolar ridge	- WR at 12 months 28% lower for all vs control
Lee et al. (2014)	63; oral tongue, most T1; partials	- Mean "understandability rating" = 88%

### Evaluation of speech outcomes using English version of the Speech Handicap Index in a cohort of head and neck cancer patients

Byghave C, Overvad K, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2005;23(15):3688-3694.

- 17 OC & 38 OPC
- Subsites
  - Tongue 15
  - BOT 15
  - Tonsil 22
  - FOM 2
  - SP 1
- Various stages
- Primary surgery
- All with AV RT/ChemoRT
- 2yr -12 yr follow up
- Speech Handicap Index



### Dwivedi et al – other findings

- Overall Speech Quality (self-report)
  - OC: 35% good-excellent, 65% ave – poor
  - OPC: 76% good-excel, 24% ave/ - poor
- OC and OPC – speech worse in evening → fatigue
- More severe speech-related psycho-social impairment -OC
  - Feelings of incompetence bc of speech
  - Avoidance of groups bc of speech
  - Feeling tense while talking because of distorted speech
  - Avoidance of going out bc of speech

### Predictors of speech and swallowing function following primary surgery for oral and oropharyngeal cancer

Zuydam, A.C., Lowe, D., Brown, J.S., Vaughan, E.D., & Rogers, S.N. Clin. Otolaryngol. 2005;30:428-437

- 238 OC, 34 OPC, 6 maxillary sinus
- UW – QOL pre, 6-mos, 1 year, longer
- PREDICTORS of Speech outcomes (on UW-QOL) at 12 mos:
  - Tumor size (smaller = better)
  - XRT (none = better)
  - Closure/reconstruction (primary = better)
  - Neck dissection (less extensive = better)

### Zyudam et al - Results

- Importance of speech function to survivors at 1yr – relative to other choices
  - Saliva (14)
  - Chewing (13)
  - Speech (13)**
  - Swallowing (10)
- Activity (8)
- Appearance (7)
- Anxiety (6)
- Taste (6)
- Mood (5)
- Pain (5)
- Shoulder (4)
- Recreation (2)

### What to make of it all? – some nuggets

- Greater resection volume = worse speech (Bohle et al., 2005; Furia et al., 2001; Ji et al., 2017)
- Increased tongue mobility & strength = higher SI [partial & hemi] (Kreeft et al., 2009; Lazarus et al., 2013)
- Highly variable SI after total and subtotal (Kreeft et al., 2009)
- Correlation bulk and contours of reconstructed tongue (Kimata et al., 2003; Seikaly et al., 2003)
- Maxillectomy reduces speech function & SI → but generally well managed prosthetically (Futran et al., 2002)

### More Nuggets

- Patient reported speech outcomes = lower than clinical measures (Rinkel et al., 2015)
- Radiation Therapy Impact?
  - RT as primary: variable outcomes
  - RT as adjuvant: tends to worsen speech outcomes (Keeft et al., 2009)

Negative Impact	No Significant Impact
Stelzle, et al. (2013)	Laaksonen et al. (2010, 2011)
Bozec et al. (2009)	Pauloski et al. (1998)
Nicoletti et al. (2004)	

- Soft palate involvement = worse speech outcomes (Bohle et al., 2005)

### Lymphedema – speech?

The slide includes an anatomical diagram of the head and neck with lymph nodes highlighted, a clinical photo of a patient's mouth showing tongue swelling, a diagram of lymph node drainage patterns, and a clinical photo of a patient's face showing facial swelling.

### More..

- Lymphedema impact?
  - Acute and latent impacts on speech reported (Deng et al., 2013; Jackson et al., 2016; Payakachat et al., 2013)
  - "my tongue swelling, it impacted my speech... it impacted my ability to eat" (Deng et al., 2016, p.1271)
- "At times I feel my tongue is too big for my mouth and my speech is then very slurred and much worse than what it is now... very difficult to understand" (Jeans et al., 2018, p.5)
- "I'm not talking normal because of the swelling of the tongue" (Jeans et al., 2018, p.5)

### SLP Roles: Pre-operative/Pre-XRT

- Baseline:
  - Speech production – characteristics, deficits
  - Intelligibility
  - Communication needs
  - Speech-Com QOL
  - Cognitive-Comm
- Phoneme inventory
- Oral mech exam

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## SLP Roles: Pre-operative/Pre-XRT

Baseline	Tasks/Tools
Communication needs & wishes	Interview, self-report
Speech impact	Speech Handicap Index (Rinkel et al., 2008; Dwivedi et al., 2011)  Communication Participation Inventory Bank (CPIB) (Yorkston et al., 2013)
Speech Production	Phoneme Inventory or Artic Test Ratings or measurements of...
Speech Intelligibility, Acceptability	SIT test; ratings/scaling
Oral mech exam	Rate, range, speed, coordination; symmetry
Hearing	Make sure it is not forgotten
Cognitive-Communication	

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## SHI

Table 1  
Speech Handicap Index question layout.

1. My speech makes it difficult for people to understand me
2. I run out of air when I speak
3. The intelligibility of my speech varies throughout the day
4. My speech makes me feel incompetent
5. People ask me why I'm hard to understand
6. I feel annoyed when people ask me to repeat
7. I avoid using the phone
8. I'm tense when talking to others because of my speech
9. My articulation is unclear
10. People have difficulty understanding me in a noisy room
11. I tend to avoid groups of people because of my speech
12. People seem irritated with my speech
13. People ask me to repeat myself when speaking face-to-face
14. I speak with friends and neighbors or relatives less often because of my speech
15. I feel as though I have to strain to speak
16. I find other people do not understand my speaking problem
17. My speaking difficulties restrict my personal and social life
18. The intelligibility is unpredictable
19. I feel left out of conversations because of my speech
20. I use a great deal of effort to speak
21. My speech is worse in the evening
22. My speech problem causes me to lose income\*
23. I try to change my speech to sound different\*
24. My speech problem upsets me
25. I am less outgoing because of my speech problem
26. My family has difficulty understanding me when I call them throughout the house
27. My speech makes me feel handicapped
28. I have difficulties to continue a conversation because of my speech
29. I feel embarrassed when people ask me to repeat
30. I'm ashamed of my speech problems

How do you rate your own speech at this moment (please circle the right answer)?

Excellent      Good      Average      Bad

Questions in bold are the one used to calculate scores of speech domain. Questions not in bold (except with \*) were used to calculate scores of psycho-social domain.  
\* Additional question to evaluate overall speech.

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## CPIB

The Communicative Participation Item Bank – General Short Form

Instructions:  
The following questions describe a variety of situations in which you might need to speak to others. For each question, please mark how much your condition interferes with your participation in that situation. By "condition" we mean ALL issues that may affect how you communicate in these situations including speech conditions, any other health conditions, or features of the environment. If your speech varies, think about an AVERAGE day for your speech – not your best or your worst days.

	Not at all (0)	A little (2)	Quite a bit (4)	Very much (8)
1. Does your condition interfere with... ...talking with people you know?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Does your condition interfere with... ...communicating when you need to say something quickly?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Does your condition interfere with... ...talking with people you do NOT know?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Does your condition interfere with... ...communicating when you are out in your community (e.g. errands, appointments)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Does your condition interfere with... ...asking questions in a conversation?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Does your condition interfere with... ...communicating in a small group of people?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Does your condition interfere with... ...having a long conversation with someone you know about a book, movie, show or sports event?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Does your condition interfere with... ...giving someone DETAILED information?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Does your condition interfere with... ...getting your turn in a fast-moving conversation?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Does your condition interfere with... ...trying to persuade a friend or family member to see a different point of view?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Hearing Status

- Age-related decline is possible
- Treatment related alteration (chemo) also possible
  - Cisplatin + radiation = SNHL (e.g., Hitchcock et al., 2009; Zuur et al., 2007)
- Baseline hearing prior to starting radiation-chemo-surgery; period reassessment after

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## Cognitive Function (CF)

- Baseline is important
- Post
- Periodic assessment thereafter
  - Bond et al (2012, 2016): CF decrease even before Tx; 13% with language deficits post chemorad
  - Gan et al (2011):
    - CF decline in 90% of HNC pts at 16 months post
    - Degree of CF correlated with radiation dose
    - Various memory abilities = most impacted
  - Hsiao et al (2010) - similar

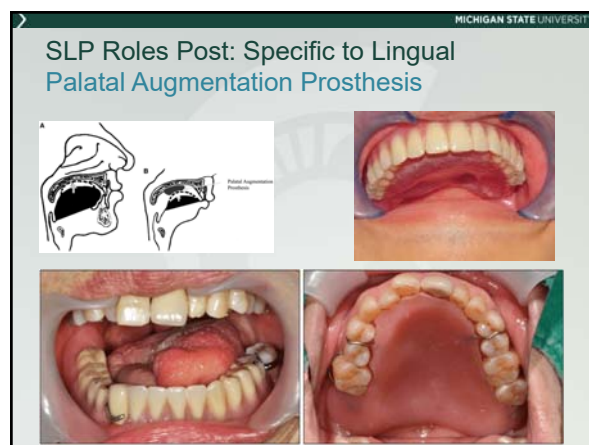
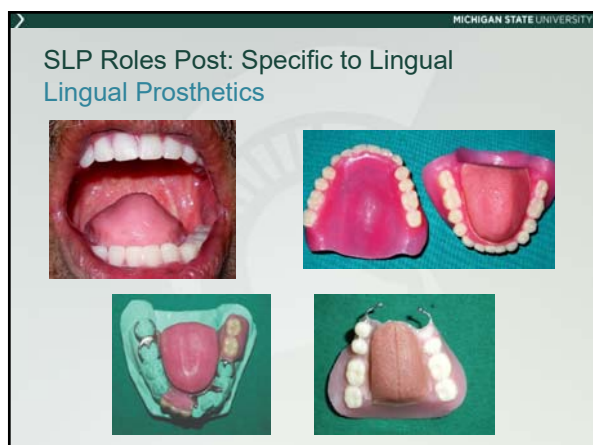
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## Post Surgery

- What was done?
- What structures are left?
- How do they move?
- Further plans? - more surgery; chemoradiation; prosthetics?

Baseline	Tasks/Tools
Communication needs & wishes	Interview, self-report
Speech impact	Speech Handicap Index (Rinkel et al., 2008) Communication Participation Inventory Bank (CPIB) (Yorkston et al., 2013)
Speech Production ★	Phoneme Inventory or Artic Test Ratings or measurements of...
Speech Intelligibility, Acceptability ★	SIT test; ratings/scaling
Oral mech exam ★	Rate, range, speed, coordination; symmetry
Hearing	Make sure it is not forgotten
Cognitive-Communication	?

SLP Roles Post: Specific to Lingual
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 primary roles           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communication rehabilitation</li> <li>▪ Participation in prosthetic attempts               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palatal augmentation</li> <li>• Lingual prosthetic</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>



SLP Roles Post: Specific to Lingual
<p><b>Speech and Swallowing Data in Individual Patients Who Underwent Glossectomy after Prosthetic Rehabilitation</b></p> <p>Viviane de Carvalho<sup>1</sup> and Luiz Ubirajara Senise<sup>2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Rehabilitation Department, Cancer Institute Américo de Carvalho, São Paulo, SP, Brazil <sup>2</sup>Department of Otorhinolaryngology, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 studies specific to Oral Cancer only – palatal augmentation           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/5 = improved speech intelligibility</li> <li>• More improvement in those with larger resections</li> <li>• 1 other showing vowel formants closer to pre-op</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

SLP Roles Post: Specific to Lingual
<p><b>Speech and Swallowing Data in Individual Patients Who Underwent Glossectomy after Prosthetic Rehabilitation</b></p> <p>Viviane de Carvalho<sup>1</sup> and Luiz Ubirajara Senise<sup>2</sup></p> <p><sup>1</sup>Rehabilitation Department, Cancer Institute Américo de Carvalho, São Paulo, SP, Brazil <sup>2</sup>Department of Otorhinolaryngology, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 14 studies specific to Oral and Base of Tongue – palatal augmentation and lingual prostheses           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intelligibility improve for vowels (2 studies), consonants (5), sentences (1), conversation (6)</li> <li>• Improved resonance (4)</li> <li>• Improved voice quality (3)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**SLP Roles Post: Lingual & Palatal Augmentation Prosthesis**

- Be on the team
  - Maxillofacial Prosthodontist
  - You
  - Head & Neck Surgeon
  - Dietetics
  - Etc.
- Speech (and swallow) evals
  - Baseline
  - During construction as appropriate
  - Post final construction
- Primary speech foci = SI

**SLP Interventions**

- What's been tried?
- Does it work?

**SLP Interventions for Glossectomy**

What's been tried?

- Understand ...
  - Remaining structures
  - Movement capabilities
  - Relation to other structures
- Train alternative productions of problematic speech sounds

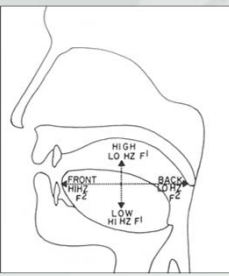
**SLP Roles Post: Specific to Labial**

- Pre-post testing of maxillary and velopharyngeal prosthetics
- How to
  - Perceptual
  - Nasometry
  - Flexible endoscopy
  - Aerodynamics

**Tongue Resections – historically attempted substitutions for consonants**

Phoneme	Strategy
t/d/n	sub lower lip for tongue tip
s/z/	slit btw upper/lower teeth or slit btw tensed/spread lower lips
k/g/ng	pharyngeal contact with ?
l	midpoint lip-lip; buccal?
r	vocalic /r/; overlap lips
th	draw lower lip down from inside of upper lip and teeth
sh, ch	nothing great (try for any fricative)

**and Vowels ? – usually less focus (more so with total and near-total glossectomy)**



Vowels	Strategy
front/back (e/a)	mandibular thrust
hi/lo (/i/ae)	mand. Elevation
short/long (/i/l)	duration

**NOTE:**  
Old training lit mostly regarding people with laryngectomy + glossectomy



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## SLP Roles Post: Specific to Palatal

- Expectations – usually not much
- General intelligibility strategies

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## Does SLP Intervention Help?

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Speech Intelligibility After Glossectomy and Speech Rehabilitation

Cristina L. B. Faria, SLP, MSc; Luc P. Kowalik, MD, PhD; Maria P. Di O. Latorre, PhD; Elizabeth C. Angell, SLP, PhD; Nohal M. S. Martins, SLP; Ana P. B. Barros, SLP; Karina C. B. Ribeiro, DDS, MSc

- N=27 in 3 groups
  - Total glossectomy (GRP1)
  - Subtotal glossectomy (GRP2 – retained BOT)
  - Hemiglossectomy (GRP3)
- 10-12 Tx session [3-6 months]
- Rating 0-7 "understandable ... vowels, CV, VCV"
- "Intelligible" rated (4 pt scale) – spontaneous speech
  1. *Intelligible* indicates clear, with no difficulty whatever understanding the speech;
  2. *Partially intelligible*, some difficulty understanding part of the sentence, but no loss in understanding the story;
  3. *Intelligible with attention*, much difficulty understanding part of the sentence, with loss in comprehension of the story; and
  4. *Unintelligible*, impossible to understand the sentence and all of the story.

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Speech Intelligibility After Glossectomy and Speech Rehabilitation

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#### What was the therapy?

- Maximize residual tongue movement
  - Vowel differentiation practice – isolation and combo with bilabials
  - Phoneme inventory review and train consonant replacements as possible
- Adaptive articulation
  - Pitch and intensity range (vowels?)
  - Reduce speaking rate
  - Saliva management
  - Overarticulation training
  - Yawn-chewing (for jaw? voice?)
- Reduce negative compensations

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## The Results

Figure 1. Mean scores of intelligibility of words before and after speech therapy. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Testing protocol is described in the "Patients and Methods" section.

Figure 2. Mean scores of intelligibility of consonant-vowel sequences (CV) before and after speech therapy. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Testing protocol is described in the "Patients and Methods" section.

Figure 3. Mean scores of intelligibility of spontaneously produced sentences before and after speech therapy. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Testing protocol is described in the "Patients and Methods" section.

Glossectomy Group	Mean (SD)		P
	Before Therapy	After Therapy	
1	2.33 (0.82)	2.67 (1.36)	.26
2	2.28 (0.82)	1.68 (0.71)	.03
3	1.40 (0.62)	1.28 (0.68)	.78

\*Scores are described in the "Patients and Methods" section. For scoring, 1 indicates intelligible; 2, partially intelligible; 3, intelligible with attention; and 4, unintelligible. Differences were analyzed using the Wilcoxon test.

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Skelly et al. (1971). Compensatory physiologic phonetics for the glossectomee. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 36, 101-112.

- N=25 (14 totals and 11 partials)
- SLP Tx for all – started 9mos to 2 years post surgery
- Speech intelligibility assessed pre- and post-Tx
  - W-22 PB Word Lists
  - 3 listeners from pool of 27 listeners per subject
- Functional communication test

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## What did Skelly do?

- SLP Tx program – 12 months
  - Non-speech exercises – "excursion"
  - "drill for intelligibility" of vowels, consonants
  - Exploring compensatory artic with remaining articulators
  - Identifying those compensations that positively impact intelligibility
- Also did cinefluoroscopic studies of 5 patients

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TABLE 3. Intelligibility summary, total glossectomies. Note: Rank order in which patients are listed was determined by consensus of three staff speech pathologists. The dysphagic patients (9 through 14) were all considered to rank ninth.

Clinician Ranking of Patients	CID W-22 PB		Glossal Monosyllables		Life Situation Questions	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
1	8	42	2	38	4	76
2	6	40	0	36	12	76
3	8	34	4	26	8	66
4	6	24	0	30	0	56
5	4	26	0	22	4	46
6	4	20	0	16	0	40
7	4	18	0	14	0	40
8*	0	18	0	12	0	26
9**	0	0	0	0	0	0
10**	0	0	0	0	0	0
11**	0	0	0	0	0	0
12**	0	0	0	0	0	0
13**	0	0	0	0	0	0
14**	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*Also laryngectomy  
\*\*Dysphagic

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TABLE 4. Intelligibility summary, partial glossectomies.

Clinician Ranking of Patients	CID W-22 PB		Glossal Monosyllables		Life Situation Questions	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
1	16	46	10	30	56	86
2	24	42	20	50	56	88
3	12	36	16	30	42	76
4	20	40	20	40	54	78
5	12	34	20	34	40	65
6	12	34	16	26	40	60
7	8	26	14	24	40	58
8	6	24	10	20	36	56
9*	6	—	12	—	24	—
10*	8	—	10	—	28	—
11*	6	—	10	—	26	—

\*Three patients dropped from program in the early stages.

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Skelly et al. (1972). Changes in phonatory aspects of glossectomee intelligibility through vocal parameter manipulation. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 37, 379-389.

- N = 10 (total glossectomy) plus 10 controls (other cancers of neck, mandible)
- SLP Tx for this study initiated 16 weeks to 9 years post surgery (all had completed articulatory therapy prior to the therapy offered in this study)
- SLP Tx designed for 4 months duration, weekly sessions, homework

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Skelly et al. (1972). Changes in phonatory aspects of glossectomee intelligibility through vocal parameter manipulation. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 37, 379-389.

- The therapy goals:
  - Reduction of oral and pharyngeal noises
  - Adjustment of vowel duration
  - Elevation of habitual pitch
  - Extension of pitch range
  - Improved resonance of higher harmonics

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Skelly et al. (1972). Changes in phonatory aspects of glossectomee intelligibility through vocal parameter manipulation. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 37, 379-389.

- The therapy approach:
  - Various throat relaxation activities (borrowed from singers)
  - Yawn-sigh vowels, voicing during rotary chewing
  - Vowel duration activities (max, short but loud)
  - Pitch practice (habitual:vowels, words, phrases, convo; variation: intonation exercises)

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Skelly et al. (1972). Changes in phonatory aspects of glossectomee intelligibility through vocal parameter manipulation. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 37, 379-389.

TABLE 1. Pre- and postproject scores and measures for the experimental group.

Clinician Ranking	Intelligibility Test Scores (Norm 100%)			Mean Harmonic Frequency High (Norm 8 K Hz)		Mean Duration in Sec (Norm 0.49 sec)	
	Pre %	Post %	Gain	Pre K Hz	Post K Hz	Pre sec	Post sec
1	57	72	15	3.42	6.14	0.72	0.56
2	55	71	16	2.71	5.00	0.59	0.54
3	50	66	16	2.92	4.64	0.73	0.57
4	43	53	10	2.42	4.35	0.80	0.68
5	34	44	10	2.00	3.28	0.76	0.68
6	25	35	10	2.50	3.14	0.93	0.78
7	24	30	6	1.42	2.35	0.84	0.71
8	20	20	0	0.50	1.42	0.27	0.27
9	15	15	0	0.50	0.50	0.20	0.25
10	10	10	0	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25

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### Takatsu et al (2016)

- N=62; partial glossectomy, various reconstruction
- Assessed vowel space area and formant transition slopes for /a/, /i/, /u/
- Vowel space and formant slopes decreased pre-post surgery
- Post-SLP, increased space and slopes

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### Blythe et al (2015)

- Systematic review re: SLP intervention outcomes with people who have partial glossectomy
  - 1422 articles screened
  - 76 reviewed
  - 7 met criteria for inclusion
- All were level III or IV (Oxford) – most were case series, one was quasi-experimental

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### Blythe et al

- Trends
  - Interventions varied
    - individually prescribed for compensations
    - range of motion
    - Other (some re: rate, voice, etc.)
  - Essentially all demonstrated improvement in intelligibility
    - Study quality generally low
    - Mixed Tx approaches within same participant

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### SLP Roles Post: Palatal Tumor

- Hard Palate = maxillary prosthetics
- Soft Palate = velopharyngeal prosthetics or flaps

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### SLP Roles Post: Palatal Tumor

#### Be on the Prosthetics Team

- Speech (and swallow) evals
  - Baseline
  - During construction as appropriate
  - Post final construction
- Focus
  - Nasal Escape/Resonance
  - Intelligibility, understandability

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### SLP Roles Post: Palatal Tumor

- Nasal Escape/Resonance
  - Perceptual ratings of
    - hypernasality = vowel phenomenon
    - nasal emission = consonant phenomenon ("audible burst on pressure consonant")
  - Instrumental Assessments
    - Flexible endoscopy of VP closure
    - nasometry
    - Aerodynamic assessment

**HYPERNASALITY (nas. flutter)**

1. He will read to Les. /li/
2. Will we leave at three?
3. You were ride to Lou. /lu/
4. Who drew the bluebird?
5. Ruby grew three trees.
6. Bob had our dollar. /la/

Spontaneous speech rating:

**NASAL EMISSION**

1. Paula paid Perry. /pu/
2. Terry took Teds. /tu/
3. Kelly called Carla. /ka/
4. Father fed Fido. /fa/
5. Sally saved Sarah. /sa/
6. Sherry shoved Shelly. /ʃu/
7. Charlie chewed chili. /tʃi/
8. Sarah hid howly. /hu/
9. Sally smiled smoky. /smu/
10. Riley road railroads. /ru/

Spontaneous speech rating:

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## SLP Role Post: Labial Cancer surgery

- Literature tells us what...?
  - Essentially no empirical data published about effectiveness or efficacy of any intervention
- Typically limited to no need for SLP involvement unless total labial resection/reconstruction
- Our basis for intervention
  - Logic and understanding of
    - normal speech sound production
    - abilities of remaining articulators
  - Expert opinion

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## Questions