RISE IN ORAL CANCER LINKED TO HPV, STUDY SHOWS

A n increase in the incidence and survival of oropharyngeal cancer in the United States since 1984 can be attributed to the human papilloma-virus (HPV) infection, say researchers in an article published online Oct. 3 in Journal of Clinical Oncology.

The results of previous studies have shown that oropharyngeal cancers can be divided into two separate diseases with distinct causes: HPV-negative cancers, which are associated with tobacco and alcohol use; and HPV-positive cancers, which are linked to certain types of HPV, a sexually transmitted virus.

Patients with HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancer tend to be younger than and to have better survival rates than patients with HPV-negative cancer.

To determine HPV infection’s role, researchers led by Anil K. Chaturvedi, PhD, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md., tested for HPV infection 271 archived samples of cancerous oropharyngeal tissue collected between 1984 and 2004 at three population-based cancer registries located in Hawaii, Iowa and Los Angeles in the National Cancer Institute’s Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Residual Tissue Repositories Program. By using a variety of molecular assays, researchers found that the proportion of oropharyngeal cancers that were HPV-positive—particularly among men—increased over time, from 16.3 percent for cancers diagnosed from 1984 to 1989 to 72.7 percent for cancers diagnosed from 2000 to 2004. They also found that the incidence of HPV-negative oropharyngeal cancers declined by 50 percent between 1988 and 2004, likely due to declines in smoking and tobacco use.

According to senior author Maura Gillison, MD, PhD, a professor of medicine at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center in Columbus, the study’s results suggest that if these trends continue, HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancer will become the major form of head and neck cancer and the leading HPV-associated cancer in the United States by 2020, surpassing cervical cancer.

“These increases may reflect increases in sexual behavior, including increases in oral sex,” said Dr. Gillison. She noted that approximately 90 to 95 percent of HPV-positive oropharyngeal cancers were caused by one HPV type—HPV16, which is targeted by vaccines for cervical cancer.

“With HPV vaccines, we have a great opportunity to potentially prevent oropharynx cancers in future generations, including in boys and men, but studies need to be done to evaluate the efficacy of HPV vaccines in preventing oral HPV infections,” Dr. Gillison said.

This study was supported by the Intramural Research Program of the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health; The James Comprehensive Cancer Center; The Ohio State University; and the Oral Cancer Foundation.

One of the study’s authors has been a consultant to and received an honorarium and research funding from Merck & Co., Whitehouse Station, N.J. Another author has been a consultant to Merck & Co.; Glaxo-SmithKline, Brentford, England; Amgen, Thousand Oaks, Calif.; and Bristol-Myers Squibb, New York City; and has received research funding from Merck & Co.

SIMPLE SCREENING CAN IDENTIFY PATIENTS WITH DIABETES, RESEARCH INDICATES

D ental visits can be an opportunity to identify patients with diabetes or prediabetes who are unaware of their condition, according to an article in the July issue of Journal of Dental Research.

Researchers at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in New York City recruited 601 patients who visited a clinic at the school, who were 40 years and older (if non-Hispanic white) or 30 years and older (if Hispanic or nonwhite) and who had never been told they have diabetes or prediabetes.

Approximately 530 patients with at least one self-reported diabetes risk factor (family history of diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, or being overweight or obese) received a periodontal examination and a fingerstick, point-of-care hemoglobin A1c test. Patients returned to undergo a fasting plasma glucose test (which indicates whether a person has diabetes or prediabetes) so that researchers could assess and compare the performance of several potential identification protocols.
They found that in this atrisk dental population, a simple algorithm composed of only two dental parameters (number of missing teeth and percentage of deep periodontal pockets) was effective in identifying patients with unrecognized prediabetes or diabetes. The addition of the hemoglobin A1c test increased the correct identification of patients with prediabetes or diabetes.

“Early recognition of diabetes has been the focus of efforts from medical and public health colleagues for years, as early treatment of affected individuals can limit the development of many serious complications,” said lead author Dr. Evanthia Lalla, an associate professor at the College of Dental Medicine. “Relatively simple lifestyle changes in prediabetic individuals can prevent progression to frank diabetes, so identifying this group of individuals is also important. Our findings provide a simple approach that can be easily used in all dental-care settings.”

This study was supported by a research grant from Colgate-Palmolive, New York City.

CHANGES COMING IN JADA AUTHOR GUIDELINES

Beginning in 2012, The Journal of the American Dental Association (JADA) will make some important changes in its guidelines for authors, says JADA Editor Michael Glick.

As of January 2012, authors submitting manuscripts that describe clinical trials will be required to use intent-to-treat analyses.

As of January 2012, authors will be required to provide the confidence interval with a $P$ value whenever the $P$ value is associated with an estimate of a population parameter or an effect size.

As of January 2012, each of a manuscript’s authors will be required to provide a statement of responsibility delineating what he or she contributed to the manuscript.

As of July 2012, JADA will strongly encourage authors to adhere to the Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) statement and to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement. Information on these is available online at “www.consort-statement.org” and “www.prisma-statement.org/”, respectively.

These changes will be reflected in JADA’s online submission and review system, JADA ScholarOne Manuscripts (https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jada). Questions may be directed to the JADA editorial office at 1-716-829-6413 or “JADAoffice@ada.org”.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A radiographic image included in the cover illustration for the September 2011 issue of JADA was mistakenly published without proper attribution. The image is the work of Dr. Dale Rosenbach, Monsey, N.Y., who should have been acknowledged. JADA regrets the oversight.

CORRECTION

Dr. Kevin Henner, who provided a response to a letter to the editor in the September issue of JADA (JADA 2011; 142[9]:1002), is from Deer Park, N.Y. JADA regrets the error.

Compiled by Amy E. Lund, senior editor.

MEETINGS

The 23rd Australian Orthodontic Congress will be held Feb. 10-14 in Perth. For more information, visit “www.aso2012perth.com”.

The American Student Dental Association will hold its 42nd annual session Feb. 29-March 4 in Minneapolis. For more information, contact, Ms. Meghan Keelcan by phone at 1-312-440-2845, by fax at 1-312-440-2820 or by e-mail at “Meghan@ASDAnet.org” or visit “www.asdanet.org”.

The Pacific Dental Congress will be held March 8-10 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. For more information, visit “www.pdconf.com/cms2012”.

The Academy of Laser Dentistry will hold its 18th annual conference and exhibition March 29-31 in Scottsdale, Ariz. For more information, contact Ms. Gail Siminovsky by phone at 1-954-346-3776, by fax at 1-954-757-2598 or by e-mail at “laserexec@laserdentistry.org” or visit “www.laserdentistry.org”.

APPOINTMENTS/ELECTIONS/AWARDS

Dr. L. Jackson Brown, Leesburg, Va., received the 2011 American Dental Association Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Priscilla Chang, Glenview, Ill., has been awarded the 2011 Jon Daniel Teaching Award by the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry.

Dr. Dean M. Deluke, Richmond, Va., has been named professor, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Eric T. Geist, Monroe, La., was named 2011 Alumnus of the Year by the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ADA ANNUAL SESSIONS

2012 Oct. 18-23, San Francisco
2013 Oct. 31-Nov. 5, New Orleans
2012 CONSTITUENT DENTAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETINGS

Meeting dates are subject to change. Dentists interested in attending any of the listed meetings should contact the sponsoring organization for more information.


Alaska Dental Society, 9717 Jewel Lake Road, Anchorage 99502-5381, 1-907-563-3003, May 7-9, Sitka.


Georgia Dental Association, 700 Peachtree Dunwoody Road, Suite 200, Building 17, N.E., Atlanta 30328-1655, 1-404-636-7553, July 19-22, Amelia Island, Fla.

Idaho State Dental Association, 1220 W. Hays St., Boise 83702-5315, 1-208-343-7543, July 17-21, Coeur d’Alene.


Indiana Dental Association, P.O. Box 2467, Indianapolis 46206-2467, 1-317-634-2610, June 7-9, Indianapolis.

Iowa Dental Association, 5530 W. Parkway, Suite 100, Johnston 50131, 1-515-986-5605, May 4-6, Des Moines.

Kansas Dental Association, 5200 S.W. Huntoon St., Topeka 66604-2398, 1-785-272-7360, June 7-9, Wichita.


Maine Dental Association, P.O. Box 215, Manchester 03105-0215, 1-207-622-7900, Sept. 28-29, Rockport.

Maryland State Dental Association, 6410 Dobbin Road, Suite F, Columbia 21045, 1-410-964-2880, Sept. 21-23, Ocean City.

Massachusetts Dental Society, Two Willow St., Suite 200, Southborough 01775-1027, 1-508-480-9797, Jan. 25-29, Boston.

Michigan Dental Association, 3657 Okemos Road, Suite 200, Okemos 48864-3927, 1-517-372-9070, April 18-21, Lansing.


Mississippi Dental Association, 2630 Ridgewood Road, Suite C, Jackson 39216-4903, 1-601-982-0442, June 7-10, Destin, Fla.


Nebraska Dental Association, 7160 S. 29th St., Suite 1, Lincoln 68516, 1-402-476-1704, April 13-14, La Vista.


New Hampshire Dental Society, 23 S. State St., Concord 03301, 1-603-225-5961, May 17-19, Meredith.

New Jersey Dental Association, One Dental Plaza, P.O. Box 6020, North Brunswick 08902-6020, 1-732-821-9400, June 22-23, Long Branch.


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Society, P.O. Box 4099, Cary 27519-4099, 1-919-677-1396, May 17-20, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

North Dakota Dental Association, P.O. Box 1332, Bismarck 58502-1332, 1-701-223-8870, Midwinter Meeting, Jan. 21-22, Fargo; Annual Session, Sept. 13-15, Bismarck.

Ohio Dental Association, 1370 Dublin Road, Columbus 43215-1009, 1-614-486-2700, Sept. 13-16, Columbus.

Oklahoma Dental Association, 317 N.E. 13th St., Oklahoma City 73104-2835, 1-405-848-8873, April 26-28, Oklahoma City.

Oregon Dental Association, P.O. Box 3710, Wilsonville 97070-3710, 1-503-218-2010, April 12-14, Portland.

Pennsylvania Dental Association, P.O. Box 3341, Harrisburg 17105-3341, 1-717-234-5941, April 27-28, Hershey.

Rhode Island Dental Association, 875 Centerville Commons, Building 4, Suite 12, Warwick 02886, 1-401-825-7700, May 26, Providence.

South Carolina Dental Association, 120 Stonemark Lane, Columbia 29210-3841, 1-803-750-2277, May 3-6, Myrtle Beach.

South Dakota Dental Association, P.O. Box 1194, Suite 103, 804 N. Euclid, Pierre 57501-1194, 1-605-224-9133, May 17-19, Sioux Falls.


Vermont State Dental Society, 100 Dorset St., Suite 18, South Burlington 05403-6241, 1-802-864-0115, Sept. 15-16, South Burlington.

Virginia Dental Association, P.O. Box 3095, Henrico 23228, 1-804-288-5750, June 14-16, Williamsburg.


Wyoming Dental Association, P.O. Box 40019, Casper 82604, 1-307-237-1186, June 14-17, Sheridan.

Compiled by Amy E. Lund, senior editor.