

# New Treatments and Drugs in Oral Cancer

UMB CURE Scholars Program

#### Tyjahnae Morton and Hali Smith

UMB CURE Scholars Program - Seventh Cohort 2 Green Street Academy, Baltimore, MD Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Maryland, Baltimore

# Purpose of Study

To examine the recent treatment and innovations for oral cancer.

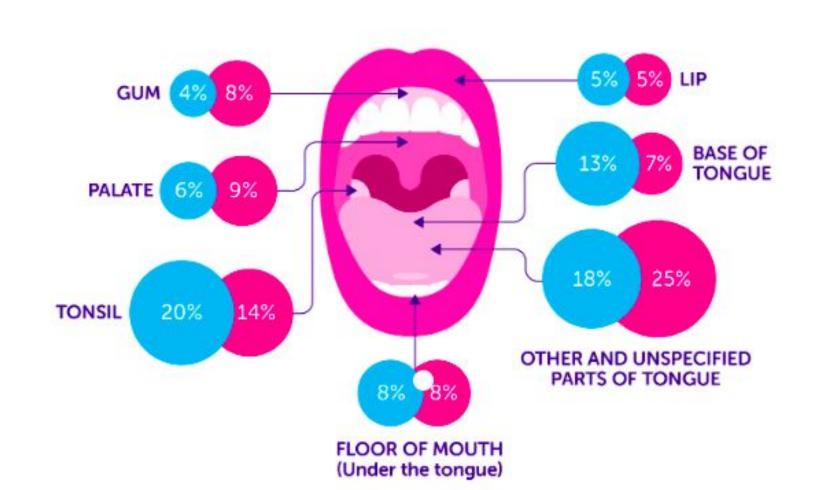
#### Introduction

Oral cancer is a cancer that you can get in your mouth. Oral cancer is dangerous because you could have oral cancer and not be aware you have it. Delayed treatment could lead to worse outcomes. Scientists and researchers are dedicated to finding a cure because of the significant morbidity and mortality associated with oral cancer.

# **Public Perception**

- Many people do not know or have very little knowledge of oral cancer.
- Most people do not know that dentists screen for oral cancer.

# ORAL CANCER CASES: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY ANATOMICAL SITE



## Discoveries and Innovations

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) uses a drug that the cancer cell ingests and then light activates the cell thus killing the cancer cell. It is less damaging than surgery.

# **Applications in Medicine**

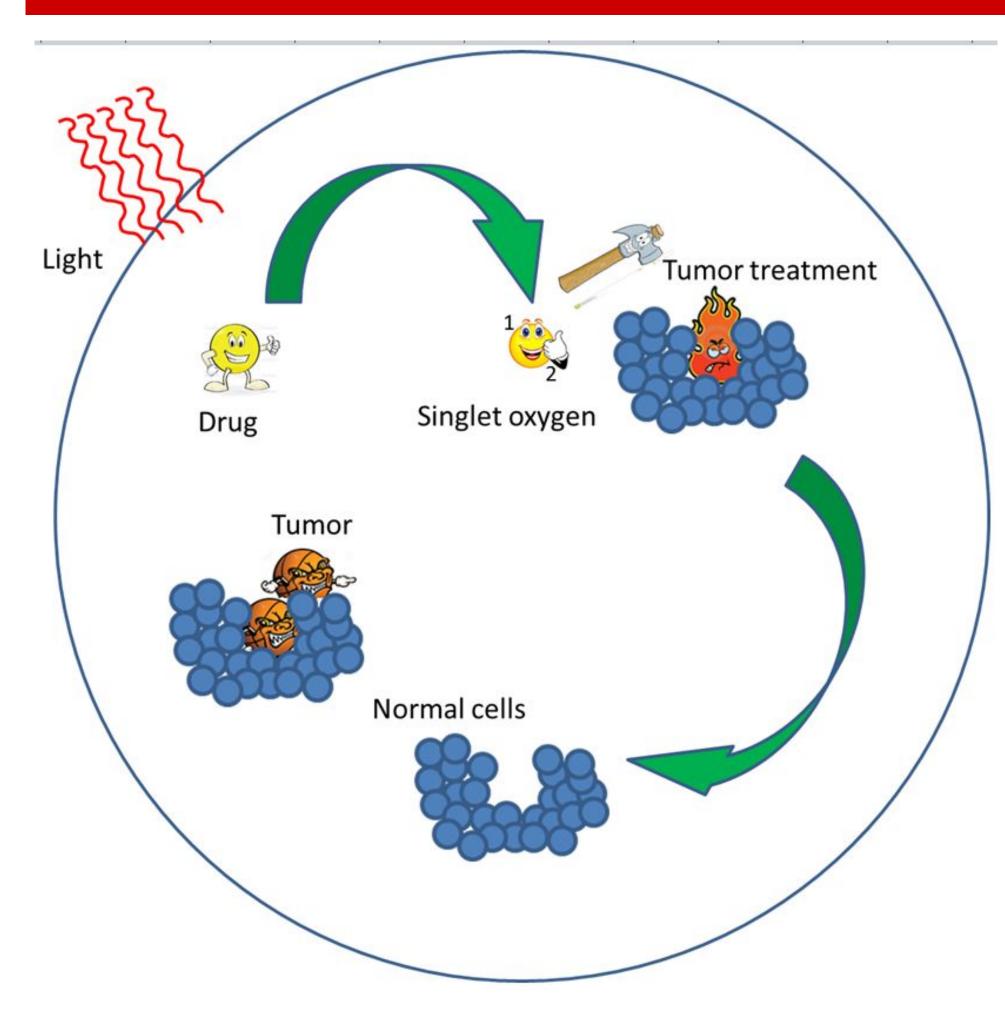


Figure 1. Light activates the drug which then selectively attacks the cancer.

#### Data



Figure 2. Symptoms of Oral Cancer

#### Conclusion

Scientists should continue to develop new and innovative ways to detect and treat oral cancer. In addition to more research, more education is necessar.y for earlier detection.

#### References

https://oralcancerfoundation.org/facts/whats-new-oral/facts/whats-new-oral-cancer-research/https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov