

Identity, intimacy and sexual functioning among oral cavity cancer patients: a qualitative study of an intimate matter

Published: 29-07-2021

Last updated: 04-04-2024

To identify the extent to which patients after curative treatment for oral cavity cancer by surgery and / or radiotherapy experience changes and any problems in their identity, intimacy and sexuality.

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Recruiting
Health condition type	Other condition
Study type	Observational non invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON51043

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

CONNECT study

Condition

- Other condition
- Head and neck therapeutic procedures

Synonym

Head and Neck Cancer, mouth cancer, Oral cancer

Health condition

Mondholte kanker

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Ziekenhuis

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Research gelden afdeling hoofdhalsoncologie en chirurgie NKI-AVL

Intervention

Keyword: Intimacy, Oral cancer, Sexuality

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

Qualitative study.

Secondary outcome

na

Study description

Background summary

There is a lot of focus on problems with intimacy and sexuality when malignancies are related to the sexual organs. However, little is known about this in patients with malignancy in the oral cavity. However, this area is very important functionally and aesthetically. Treatments in which (part of) the tongue is removed, extensive reconstructions and radiation treatments in this area sometimes have major effects on this. For example, patients may experience changes in speech, appearance, mouth opening and decreased sensation around the mouth, dry mouth or drool. By exploring to which extent these functional problems have consequences in the areas of identity, intimacy and sexuality, we hope to be able to better inform and guide patients about problems in these areas.

Study objective

To identify the extent to which patients after curative treatment for oral cavity cancer by surgery and / or radiotherapy experience changes and any problems in their identity, intimacy and sexuality.

Study design

Interviews will take place on the basis of a semi-structured interview protocol. These interviews of about 45-60 minutes each are conducted by two researchers (1 interviewer, 1 observer). This takes place in the patient's home situation or, if desired or necessary, in the hospital or digitally. The interviews are based on audio recording processed. Thematic analysis with a narrative approach.

Study burden and risks

na

Contacts

Public

Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Ziekenhuis

Plesmanlaan 121
Amsterdam 1066CX
NL

Scientific

Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Ziekenhuis

Plesmanlaan 121
Amsterdam 1066CX
NL

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

- Eighteen years and older
- Be proficient in the Dutch language
- Treated for oral cavity cancer in the NKI-AvL
- Treated with curative intent surgery and/or radiotherapy
- Longer than three months after the last primary treatment
- The treatment was no more than four years ago

Exclusion criteria

- Younger than eighteen years of age
- Palliative treatment, or not treated at all
- Systemic treatment (immunotherapy, chemotherapy, bio- or chemoradiation)
- Another head and neck tumor at presentation
- Relapse or progression after treatment
- Patients with cognitive impairment or psychiatric illness

Study design

Design

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Other

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 05-11-2021

Enrollment: 12

Type: Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date:	29-07-2021
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC NedMec

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL76983.031.21