

# Head & Neck Cancer in Illinois



Cancers that start in the

- lips,
- mouth,
- throat,
- voicebox,
- sinus cavities,
- nasal cavity, or
- salivary glands

are collectively known as head and neck cancers.

More than **1,800** people were diagnosed with head and neck cancer in 2019.

Almost **70%** of all head and neck cancers are caused by HPV, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**2x** Rates are more than twice as high in men compared to women.

More than **400** people died of head and neck cancer in 2019.

## Risk Factors



### Tobacco and heavy alcohol

use are associated with most head and neck cancers. Fortunately, the number of cancers caused by these behaviors is falling.



### Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)

The number of head and neck cancers caused by HPV is **increasing**. Safe sex practices and HPV vaccination could help prevent these cancers.

For help quitting tobacco, call the Illinois Quitline  
**1-866-QUIT-YES**

Sources:

Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Cancer Registry, public data file, data as of November 2021.

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