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

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