



Why do patients delay to search for oral cancer treatment?

Laurindo Moacir Sassi

Hospital University Evangelico Mackenzie, Brazil

Abstract:

Background: Even though the prevalence of patients uninformed about oral cancer prevention has diminished, a data gathered by our service, they still take time to search for the public health service when there is an oral lesion. For this reason, the aim of this research was to examine the interval since first symptoms until final diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) in the head and neck region in southern Brazil.

Material and Methods: The individuals were prospectively selected and underwent anamnesis, physical examination and interview in the first medical consultation at a Cancer Hospital from south of Brazil.

Results: From 488 patients who underwent clinical examination, 105 were included in the study with diagnosis of SCC. Patients average interval from first symptoms to final diagnosis was 152 days (median 86; max: 1105; min: 1), the average professional interval was 108 days (median: 97; max: 525; min: 1), and the average total period interval was 258 days (median: 186; max: 1177; min: 45). Factors statistically associated with patient and diagnosis itinerary intervals were smoking and poorly adapted dentures and distance from home to hospital, respectively.

Conclusions: The identification of the itinerary characteristics of this specific population may reflect in more effective public policies, such as primary and secondary prevention programs, aiming to increase the survival of oncological patient. Furthermore, the knowledge of the variables that influence the late diagnosis minimizes patient's journey in search of care to cancer centers through health programs.



Biography:

Laurindo Moacir Sassi is an Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery; PhD; MSc; DDS; Department's Chief Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Chief in Chair Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery). Erasto Gaertner Hospital-Cancer Center - Curitiba - PR; Residence Coordinator of (CTBMF) - Erasto Gaertner Hospital; Member of the (CTBMF) Service - Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Hospital University Evangelico Mackenzie-Pr; Member of the Brazilian College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Traumatology; Member of the Brazilian Society of Stomatology and Oral Pathology - SOBEP; Member International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery.

Publication of speakers:

1. Laurindo Moacir Sassi et al. Significance of p16 positive expression in oropharyngeal cancers. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev.* 2014;15(23):10289-92.
2. Laurindo Moacir Sassi et al. Immunohistochemical analysis of BRAF V600E mutation in ameloblastomas. *Clin Oral Investig.* 2019 Feb;23(2):779-784.

[Webinar on Dental Health | December 14, 2020 | London, UK](#)

Citation: Laurindo Moacir Sassi; Why do patients delay to search for oral cancer treatment?; Dental Health 2020; December 14, 2020; London, UK