



Summit Family Dental

8136 21 MILE ROAD, SHELBY TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN, 48317
(586) 726-0606

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

CHEW ON THIS!

Hi! Happy Spring! I am so glad to start to hear the birds chirping and the sun shining more. Spring and Summer are my most favorite times of the year!

This April is oral cancer awareness month. I am very passionate in talking about this, as I have seen several cases over my years as a dentist, and also my aunt was diagnosed several years ago. She has had to undergo three surgeries to remove a growth on her tongue, that then had spread to her jaw. After the growth to her jaw, she had to have several teeth removed and part of her jawbone. She is in her 70's and had quit smoking and drinking of any sort, in her late 20's. Her dr. thinks that she was exposed to the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) at one point in her life. I can't stress enough the need for frequent dental exams at our office. When you come in for a cleaning, you will actually have two different sets of eyes screening for oral cancer-your hygienist and your dentist.



We want you to know that we always will give you our best treatment and we really appreciate that you choose us to help you stay in your best oral health!

April is Oral Cancer Awareness Month

Oral cancer is one of the most common yet most preventable cancers. Out of the 70,000 people diagnosed this year with head and neck cancer, 30% of those will involve cancer of the oral cavity. While most people are aware of the link between smoking and lung cancer, few realize that the use of tobacco products is the #1 cause of oral cancer. HPV (human papilloma virus) can infect the mouth and throat and cause cancers of the oropharynx (back of the throat). It is thought to cause 70% or oropharyngeal cancers of the United States.

If detected early the 5-year relative survival rate is approximately 81%. The American Cancer Society and the American Dental Association recommend yearly professional oral exams. The first step in prevention is a careful

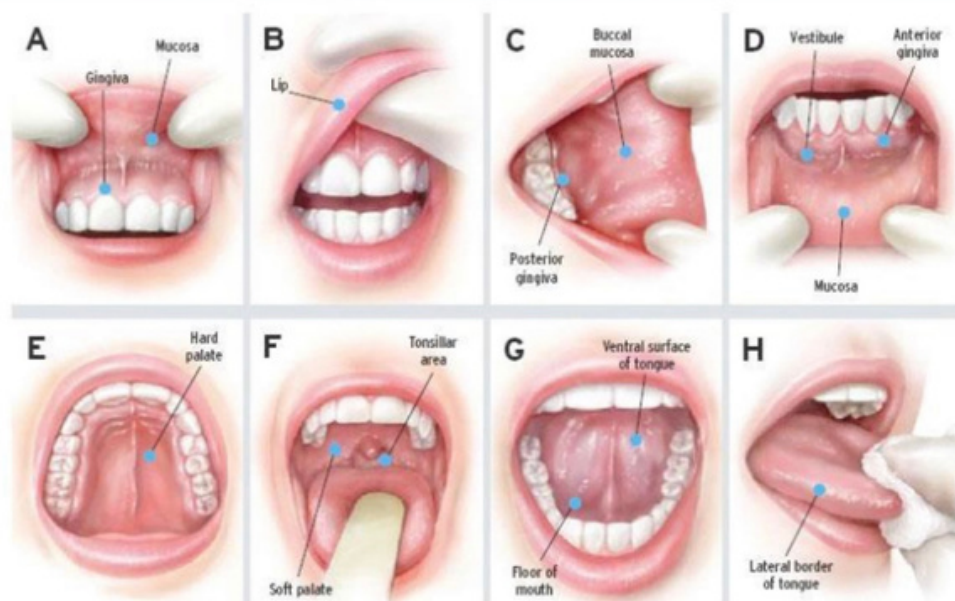
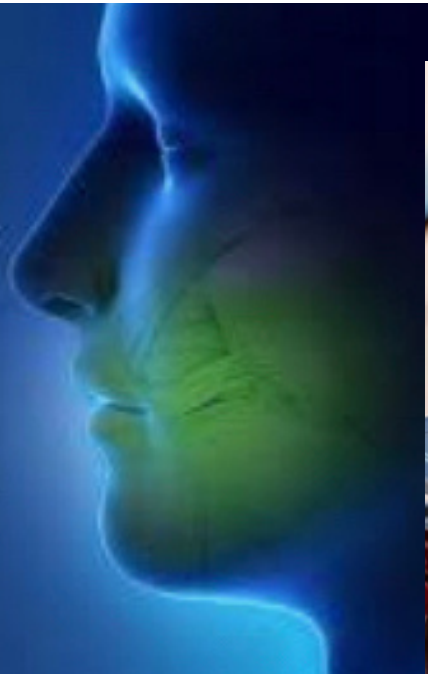
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Oral Cancer Awareness continued...

oral exam from your dentist and/or your hygienist. You often wonder why you are asked to "stick your tongue out?" This is why. We are looking for any lumps or bumps that shouldn't be there. Any abnormal discoloring or any different lesions that have been there for awhile, or are not going away, we would want you to go to see an oral surgeon for a biopsy. I haven't seen a lot of oral cancers. There was a time when I noticed an abnormal spot on the side of the tongue, confirmed it with Dr Krista and we gave that patient a referral to see an oral surgeon. It ended up being stage 3 oral cancer and the patient had to undergo surgery. Everything turned out fine and the patient was very appreciative for us "catching this" This was a great day at the dental office finding this! The moral of this story is to keep your regular appointed dental visits so we can screen for oral cancer.

Karlyn Casey RDH

**An Oral
Cancer
Screening
May Just
Save Your
Life!**



**Refer a friend
and receive 3
entries to win an
Ooni Pizza Oven
Ask someone for
details Drawing
June 30th, 2021**

Team Highlight: MEET MELISSA

Melissa has been a part of Summit Family Dental for 11 years. She's a great asset as the front desk team leader. She loves being a wife and mom to 2 boys. One with special needs who she says teaches her daily that love needs no words. What a perfect time to recognize

Melissa as April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day. She also learned very quick to be a great teacher for her kindergartner. In Melissa's spare time she enjoys bike rides, volunteering at church and reality TV. She loves working in the dental field!



*"All the dentists there are so professional and I never would leave them! Karyn the dental hygienist is so thorough and explains everything to me on how to improve my oral care. Caroline is great as well! The entire staff is welcoming and friendly!" -
Giuseppina P.*

*"I got a referral from a friend for Summit Family Dental. I had a horrible toothache. They got me in right away to take a look. Such sweet people. Very friendly. Clean, and extremely professional. I did have to go to an oral surgeon but i will be back for other work. Oh and
GO BLUE!! -Melissa R*





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INSIDE ISSUE **SUMMIT FAMILY** **DENTAL'S NEWSLETTER**

CHEW ON THIS!

- Oral Cancer Awareness Month
- Team Highlight and Reviews
- Refer a friend to be entered to win an OONI outdoor pizza over Drawing June 30th 2021

