Early Diagnosis:
The Key to Prevention and Conservative Treatment of Oral Cancer

**1 in 60 men and 1 in 140 women will develop
oral cavity and oropharyngeal cancers in the United States.**

(The American Cancer Society, 2021)

Early detection and early treatment are the key to surviving an oral cancer diagnosis. As dental professionals on the front line, diligence in screening during examination is crucial for early detection and diagnosis.

In this essential course, we will identify patient risk factors, explore the statistics, and discuss the importance and effectiveness of HPV vaccinations. Together we will delve into the basic screening examination and documentation protocols, as well as illuminate signs, symptoms, and enhanced early detection tools. Together we will explore staging and treatment options. We will also give emphasis to skills for communicating results and referral protocols.

This topic is important to Dr. Parul Dua Makkar on a professional and personal level. Her younger and only brother, Dr. Manu Dua, lost his life to squamous cell carcinoma (SSC) of the tongue. Manu was also a dentist, age 33 at the time of his diagnosis and 34 at the time of his death. Due to circumstances beyond her control, Parul could not save her brother from this diagnosis and fate. However, implementing these protocols can make a difference in your patients' lives.

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Learning Objectives:

- Define oral cancer and explore the statistics

- Recognize the risk factors and signs/symptoms of oral cancer

- Evaluate how to advocate for yourself and your patients

- Discuss prevention, HPV vaccines and encouraging biopsy

- Examine the currently accepted protocol to use when an area of concern is identified

- Explore staging and various treatment options

- Discover new technology which enhance detection

- Understand how to effectively and comfortably talk to your patient about oral cancer

- Learn how to help patients manage adverse reactions to cancer treatment

SUGGESTED FORMAT:
Full or Partial Day; Lecture, Workshop, Keynote

SUGGESTED AUDIENCE:
All Healthcare Professionals