ORAL CANCER
A GROWING HEALTH ISSUE

Claim lines with an oral cancer diagnosis increased 61 percent from 2011 to 2015.

The greatest increases occurred in throat cancer and tongue cancer.

BY GENDER

Oral Cancer Claims by Gender 2011-2015

In the period 2011-2015, oral cancer occurred nearly three times as often in males as in females.

BY AGE

Oral Cancer Claims by Age Group

From 2011 to 2015, oral cancer claims increased for individuals 56 to 65 years old, and decreased for people over 65 years old.

Oral cancer claims were significantly higher for individuals 46 years and older than for younger people.

Tobacco use in any form is a principal risk factor for oral cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. Such use includes smoked tobacco in the form of cigarettes, cigars and pipes, and smokeless tobacco in the form of chewing tobacco and snuff. Excessive alcohol use and human papillomavirus (HPV) infection also are risk factors.

Source: FAIR Health’s FH NPIC® database of more than 21 billion privately-billed medical and dental healthcare claims from more than 60 contributors nationwide.