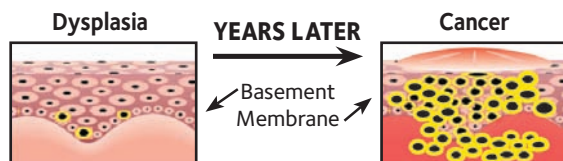


## Dentistry has great news for patients:

Routine testing of small oral spots is helping to find precancerous cells, years before oral cancer can start.

### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AS PART OF YOUR ROUTINE EXAM:

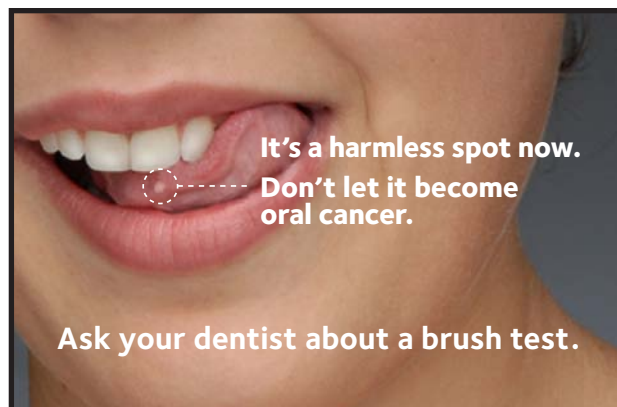
- Your dentist and hygienist look for spots in your mouth.
- If a spot is observed, your dentist may recommend further testing.
- A brush test sample is then sent for computer-assisted laboratory analysis.
- Even if a lab identifies abnormal cells, they can typically be removed - years before they can harm you.



If a brush test finds unhealthy cells, they can typically be removed, years before they can penetrate the basement membrane and become oral cancer.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

- 1 MOST PEOPLE WILL HAVE** tiny white or red spots in their mouth at one time or another.
- 2 SEE YOUR DENTIST REGULARLY** for a thorough oral exam. Although the vast majority of these spots do not contain unhealthy cells, your dentist may recommend further testing.
- 3 EVEN IF A LAB IDENTIFIES** abnormal cells, they can then typically be removed - years before they can harm you.



The ADA, in collaboration with Oral Cancer Prevention International, provider of the OralCDx brand of brush test, has embarked on a three-year nationwide public service campaign to boost public awareness of oral cancer and spotlight the dentist's role in helping to detect precancerous cells - years before oral cancer can start.

For more information please visit [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

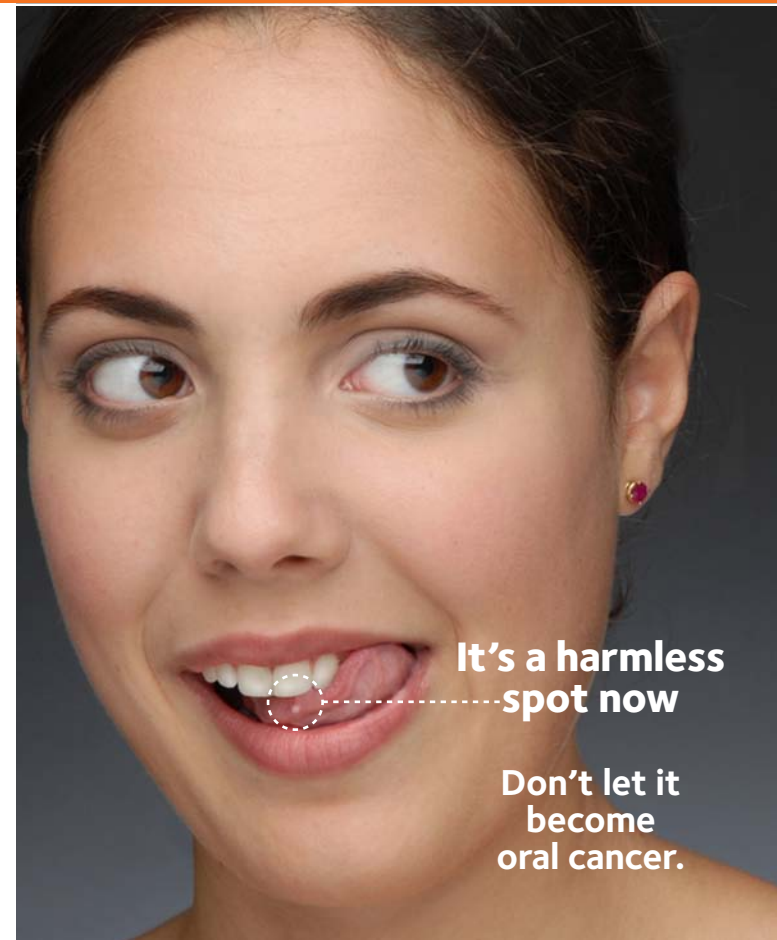
**ADA** American Dental Association<sup>®</sup>  
America's leading advocate for oral health



The OralCDx brand of brush test is an adjunct to the professional oral examination in the early detection of oral precancer. This test is not a substitute for a scalpel biopsy which should continue to be utilized to evaluate suspicious oral lesions. The ADA has no financial interest in this product. This brochure is part of an educational program supported by a grant from Oral Cancer Prevention International, Inc., provider of the OralCDx brand of brush test. For more information please visit [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org).

**W436**

An important message about oral cancer from the  
**AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION**



Now precancerous cells can be detected - years before oral cancer can start.

See your dentist regularly and ask about a brush test for oral spots.



A brush test for spots can help your dentist identify unhealthy cells (years before they can harm you)

## Dentistry has great news for patients:

By testing oral spots with a brush test, precancerous oral cells can be detected - years before oral cancer can start. This is much like the way that routine Pap smears detect precancerous cells years before cervical cancer can start.

### **ORAL CANCER CLAIMS TWICE AS MANY LIVES AS CERVICAL CANCER**

Your dentist can now help to prevent a disease that is rising among women, young people, and non-smokers. Furthermore, based on recent studies, there is growing concern about the link between HPV and some oral cancers.

### **THE GREAT NEWS IS THAT PRECANCEROUS CELLS CAN NOW BE DETECTED, LONG BEFORE ORAL CANCER CAN EVEN START**

The first step is to see your dentist regularly for a thorough oral examination. Most people will have tiny white or red spots in their mouth at one time or another. Your dentist may choose to use a specially designed brush to quickly sample the cells from the spot. This sample is then sent for computer-assisted laboratory analysis.

### **YOUR DENTIST – HELPING TO PROTECT YOUR GOOD HEALTH**

Although most small oral spots do not contain abnormal cells, they indicate to your dentist exactly where unhealthy cells may be located. If a spot is found by a brush test to contain unhealthy cells (known as dysplasia), it typically takes several years before they can cause any harm. During this time, the spot can be removed, long before oral cancer can start.

### **THE BRUSH TEST – ITS ACCURACY WAS DEMONSTRATED AT 35 DENTAL SCHOOLS**

The accuracy of the brush test has been demonstrated in large published clinical studies, including a major clinical trial conducted at 35 U.S. dental schools. Its use by over 30,000 U.S. dentists has already detected precancerous cells in thousands of patients, long before oral cancer could even start.

**ADA** American Dental Association®  
America's leading advocate for oral health

