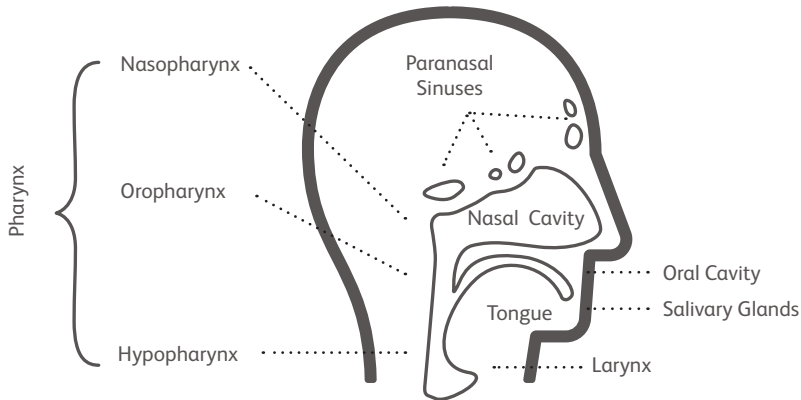


Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

Squamous cell carcinoma accounts for **more than 90%** of all head and neck cancers.

Head and Neck Cancer Regions

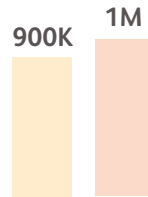


What is head and neck cancer?

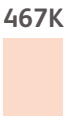
Head and neck cancer refers to a group of cancers that start in the head and neck. These cancers usually begin in the squamous cells that line the moist, mucosal surfaces inside this region of the body, like those inside the mouth, nose and throat. They are often referred to as **squamous cell carcinomas of the head and neck (SCCHN)**.

Head and neck cancer is the **sixth most common** cancer worldwide.*

Between **900,000** and **1,000,000** new cases are diagnosed each year.*



More than **467,000** deaths are a result of head and neck cancer, annually.*



Source: GLOBOCAN 2020

Risk Factors

Risk factors for SCCHN may be behavioral, viral or demographic. Head and neck cancer is more common among:



Tobacco and alcohol users



People with human papillomavirus (HPV)



Men



Older adults

About 85% of head and neck cancers are caused by tobacco and alcohol use.

People infected with HPV are more likely to develop head and neck cancer.

Head and neck cancers are more common among men than women.

Head and neck cancers are diagnosed more often among people 50+.

Signs and Symptoms

Some people with SCCHN have no signs or symptoms at all, but symptoms may include:



Swelling or a sore that does not heal



Lump in the head or neck area



Persistent sore throat



Red or white patch in the mouth



Hoarseness or change in the voice

Treatment Options

A patient's treatment options are dependent on the type and stage of their SCCHN, but may include:



Surgery



Radiation Therapy



Chemotherapy



Targeted Therapy



Immunotherapy

* All figures from total number of deaths/incidences are for Hypopharynx, Oropharynx, Nasopharynx, Larynx, Salivary Glands and Lip/Oral Cavity cancers.