


HEAD & NECK CANCERS in IDAHO

2022

<h2>Incidence</h2>	<p>1,534 cases of malignant head and neck cancers diagnosed among Idahoans during 2015-2019.</p>	<p>Men in Idaho are 3 times more likely than women to be diagnosed with a cancer of the head or neck.</p> <hr/> <p>7 in 10 deaths from head and neck cancers were among male Idahoans during 2015-2019.</p>
<h2>Mortality</h2>	<p>321 Idahoans died of a cancer of the head or neck during 2015-2019.</p>	<p>Prevent head and neck cancers by encouraging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. • Patients to not drink alcohol or drink only in moderation and to quit using tobacco products. Contact ProjectFilter.org for free resources on quitting tobacco. • Bi-annual dental check-ups that include cancer screenings. 
<h2>Prevalence</h2>	<p>~1,800 Idahoans have been living with a diagnosis of head or neck cancer since July 2019.</p>	<p>Call to Action</p> <p>For Idahoans living with a head or neck cancer diagnosis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to radiation, refer patients for speech pathology evaluation. • Talk to your patients about quality of life, diet, and physical activity during and after therapy.

<h2>Health Behavior</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HPV vaccination in Idaho has increased 55% in girls and 180% in boys since 2014, but less than half of Idaho's youth aged 13-17 are vaccinated against cancer - causing HPV strains. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ As of 2020, 48.3% of girls and 44.4% of boys had completed the HPV vaccination series. • Tobacco products and heavy alcohol use are head and neck cancer risk factors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 8.2% of male and 6% of female Idahoans report drinking heavily* (2020 BRFSS). ◦ Nearly 2 in 5 Idahoans are current or former smokers (36.9%; 2020 BRFSS).
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There has been a **4.0%** decrease in rates of cancers of the larynx among males per year.

Idahoans living in areas with higher poverty were **30%** more likely to die of their head or neck cancer than Idahoans living in more affluent areas.

American Indian/Alaska Native were **25%** and Asian/Pacific Islanders were **36%** more likely to die of their cancer within 5 years of diagnosis than white Idahoans.



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*Drinking heavily is defined as more than 14 drinks a week for men and more than 7 drinks per week for women.