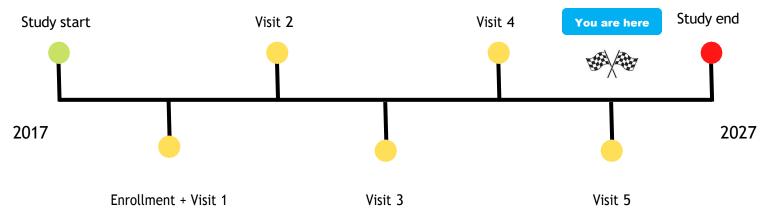
## MOUTH Study At A Glance





Thank you for participating in our study. We appreciate your dedication and want to update you on our progress since our last newsletter.

Since 2017, almost 1300 people have enrolled in the MOUTH Study. To date, over 1000 participants have completed the study.

# of Participants	Actual	Goal	% Goal
Enrolled	1284	1302	99%
In Follow-Up	334	250	134%
Complete (so far)	1080	1284	84%

Study progress as of January 23, 2024

In December 2023, we closed enrollment into our follow-up group. Over 330 participants have had at least one follow-up visit, and 59 have completed all five visits for the study.

#### What's New?

INTERVIEWS: We are interested in hearing about your experience participating in the MOUTH Study and your thoughts about oropharyngeal cancer screening.

If you have completed the study and would like to share your thoughts, let us know!

PUBLICATIONS: Visit our website for articles and updates, including the first paper published using study data!

Email: MOUTHstudy@jhu.edu
Website: http://bit.ly/MOUTHStudy

# MOUTH Study: By the numbers (as of 1/23/2024) Remote kits completed: 207 kits MRIs + Ultrasounds completed: 223 Saline swished and gargled: 20,360 mL Time spent spitting in a tube:

265 hours

### MOUTH Study FAQ + What's Next?



#### How long do most HPV infections last?

In our study, most new infections cleared quickly, within a year or two. However, prevalent infections lasted longer with half of them cleared by 2.4 years. Some infections lasted for many years, and more than a third of prevalent oral HPV infections in adults were still detected 5 years later. We have a new paper that will describe these results in more detail later this year in the Journal of Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Prevention (CEBP).

#### Is there any treatment for oral HPV infection?

Currently, there is no treatment for the oral HPV infection. Most people who acquire an infection usually clear the virus on their own within a year or two of getting the infection with no treatment or interventions. Most people who develop an oral HPV infection will never go on to develop the cancer.

The HPV vaccine & older adults:

The HPV vaccine protects against new infections with most high-risk (cancer-causing) types of HPV and 2 other types of HPV that cause genital warts. However, it does not protect against any HPV infections you may already have. By age 30, most adults have already been exposed to some type of HPV and thus the vaccine provides lower benefit in adulthood. While people get the most benefit when vaccinated at a younger age, some studies show there is some benefit from vaccinating middle-aged adults. Based on that data, the HPV vaccine is now licensed, i.e. available for people up to the age of 45.

#### How can I learn more about oral HPV infections and oral cancer?

Our website (http://bit.ly/MOUTHStudy) has additional information about oral HPV and oral cancer.

Am I done with the study? Will I hear from the study team in the future about results?

After your last visit, you may be contacted to ask if you would like to participate in an optional short interview about your experience in the study. While individual sample results are not shared, your data is analyzed for research purposes and the summarized results of our studies on these biomarkers will be reported in various articles. Data analysis is ongoing, and we will update our website as additional papers are published.

#### **CONTACT US**

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