

Oral Abnormality Screening Consent Form

We are very concerned about oral cancer and conduct screening examination on every patient.

The incidence of Oral Cancer continues to rise in USA. The American Cancer Society indicates they expect a remarkable increase in this deadly disease. Alarming, 25% of the new oral cancer cases are people that do not have any of the traditional life risk factors, such as age and tobacco and alcohol use.

Traditionally, our dentist and hygienists have done oral cancer screening with the naked eye, but recently a new technology, the **VELscope** has received FDA approval. The **VELscope** (for Visually Enhanced Lesion scope) will help us pinpoint and identify suspicious tissue at earlier stages before they may become life threatening concerns.

VELscope, similar to other early detection procedures like colonoscopy, mammography, PAP smear and PSA exam, is a painless, non-invasive blue light that is shined into the patient mouth. The images are viewed through the back of the VELscope headpiece and the hygienist or dentist may find tissue abnormalities at an earlier stage. Before the exam, the room is darkened and much like “desert storm night vision technology” the clinician can see changes in tissue that may not be visible to the eye. These detected changes can range from something minor to something of greater concern that may require further examination and follow up.

The **VELscope** testing is an addition to our traditional visual oral cancer screening and will add only a few minutes to the entire exam. The normal fee for this procedure is \$65, however the Doctor feels so strongly that every patient has this examination at least once a year, therefore our charge for this examination is only **\$20**. The VELscope exam may or may not be covered by dental insurances. As part of our standard of care and because we care about you, we strongly recommend that you choose this additional screening procedure.

Please sign the area below to accept the financial responsibility for this procedure.

Once again, we feel this breakthrough technology is very important to the enhanced quality of care we can offer to our patients.

YES

I authorize the office to perform the VELscope examination.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____