

April is Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Month with a special focus on **Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week April 13-19, 2020**

Head and Neck Cancer Awareness

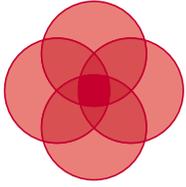
A message from the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance

Just because you can't feel it, doesn't mean it isn't there. Just ask the more than 65,000 Americans who were diagnosed with cancer of the head and neck last year. Unfortunately, many Americans do not recognize the symptoms of this life-threatening group of diseases, which include cancers of the oral cavity (mouth), larynx (voice box), pharynx (throat), sinuses, nasal cavity or salivary glands, and by the time they are diagnosed, the cancer has begun to spread. This is why early detection is so important.

The mission of the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance (HNCA) is to advance prevention, detection, treatment and rehabilitation of oral, head and neck cancer through public awareness, research, advocacy and survivorship. HNCA provides support to head and neck cancer patients throughout the year and educates the public on the risk factors, symptoms, treatment and prevention of oral, head and neck cancers.

Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week (OHANCAW®) is the flagship program of the HNCA. Each year, HNCA works with local hospitals, clinics and medical centers to provide free head and neck cancer screenings and

See **"Awareness"** on page 2



HEAD AND NECK CANCER
ALLIANCE

Oral, head and neck cancers claim approximately 14,600 lives per year in the US. However, if diagnosed early, these cancers can be more easily treated without significant complications, and the chances of survival greatly increase.

Who should get screened?

Every adult should be screened. Tobacco and alcohol users traditionally have been considered the populations at greatest risk for these cancers. However, throat cancer cases are on the rise in younger adults who do not smoke.

“Awareness” continued from page 1

awareness activities for community members in hundreds of locations in the US and abroad. The goal is to raise awareness of head and neck cancer and to encourage adults who are at high risk to take advantage of free screenings. The key message of the campaign is that early diagnosis is key to successful treatment of these types of cancers. In 2019, over 250 screening events were offered in 17 countries. In the US, events were held in 41 US states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Of the roughly 100 screening sites that shared their results with HNCA, 8,115 individuals were screened and 743 were referred for follow-up.

Typically, most screening and educational events occur during Awareness Week, taking place this year from April 13-19. However, given the global COVID-19 pandemic, most screenings and group events will occur later in the year. To find out about future screenings in your area, please visit www.headandneck.org.



HNCA and its medical and dental partners will promote awareness during the month of April with digital tools. Individuals are encouraged to share these materials on their own social media or websites and within any organizations to which they belong (companies, churches, clubs, community organizations, etc.). If you would like to receive these materials to share within your community, please send a request to Elizabeth Langdon at elizabeth@headandneck.org.

The work of HNCA extends beyond at-risk individuals and current patients. This year, the organization will present its inaugural Head and Neck Cancer Survivorship Symposium, presented in partnership with the American Head and Neck Society. Scheduled for July 18, 2020, in Chicago, IL, this program will bring together survivors, caregivers, and clinicians for a day of education and connections covering topics such as Caregiver Needs, Nutrition, Oral Care, Psychosocial Issues, Swallowing, Exercise, and Becoming a Champion for your Community. To learn more about the Survivorship Symposium, visit www.headandneck.org/symposium.



ORAL, HEAD & NECK
CANCER AWARENESS WEEK®

Special thanks to the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance and these contributors:



Elizabeth Langdon
VP, Strategic Communications
& Development
Head and Neck Cancer
Alliance



Meryl Kaufman
MED, CCC-SLP, BCS-S,
Secretary
Head and Neck Cancer Alliance
Board of Directors

Atos Medical is proud to support a variety of head and neck cancer awareness activities and events across the country. As you know, gatherings are on hold for now, but we are hopeful that these events will be rescheduled when it is safe for the community. In the meantime, you can help us spread the word about the importance of screening for every adult.



Atos Medical is committed to continually providing support and service to you

The world we live in today is ever changing as we join together to fight the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We want to assure you that Atos Medical is still here to help! As an essential provider of medical devices, we remain open to serve customers, though we have implemented precautions to keep our staff safe. Most team members are now working remotely to answer customer questions, provide support and resources, and ensure orders are processed. Our warehouse team remains onsite to pack and ship supplies daily with increased efforts to stay healthy and sanitize the work area while practicing social distancing. The Atos Medical manufacturing facility has increased production to support additional demand.



Atos Medical Customer Service
Tel: **800.217.0025**
7:00am-5:00pm Central Time,
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As always, there are many free resources available 24/7 at www.atosmedical.us > **RESOURCES** that may be especially helpful during this time. Our **EMERGENCY RESOURCES** page offers an Emergency Card, Neckbreather Braclets and Medical Alert Decals to help you prepare for unexpected situations and emergencies. The **CARETIPS SHEETS** page offers many supportive topics, including many that are especially relevant now. Topic 11: Preparing for Travel includes information to help you stay prepared and assemble a kit of extra supplies you may want on hand.

If you have a voice prosthesis (VP), CareTips Topics 1, 7, 10 and 14 provide tips for maintaining your VP with Provox® Brush and Flush to maximize its device lifetime, how to determine if your VP is leaking and what to do if your VP dislodges or falls out. Your Provox® Plug or Provox® Vega™ Plug can help temporarily stop leakage through your indwelling device until a new voice prosthesis can be placed by your clinician. As always, both Plugs are eligible for Medicare Assignment. For all other insurance providers, please contact customer service for information on coverage.

As always, follow the medical advice of your clinician, and call 911 in any emergency medical situation.

For the latest information on Coronavirus, please refer to the websites of the World Health Organization (WHO) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) below:

CDC www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html

WHO www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

CLINICIANS' CORNER: Professional news and events

Atos Medical 2020 Educational Webinar Series

Atos will be hosting a three-part Educational Webinar Series for healthcare professionals. These webinars are a unique opportunity to examine the latest research about issues impacting patients after total laryngectomy. Highlights will be presented from qualitative research data compiled from over 1800 patients with laryngectomy. ASHA CEUs offered. Below are details of the first topic. You must register individually and in advance for the webinars—**open to clinicians only**. Please select only ONE session per topic. For more information, contact your Atos Medical Clinical Educator or visit www.atosmedical.us

April 13-May 1

Pulmonary Health Post-Laryngectomy: Current Insights and Evidence

Hear more about the pulmonary challenges patients experience after total laryngectomy and current solutions for managing them.

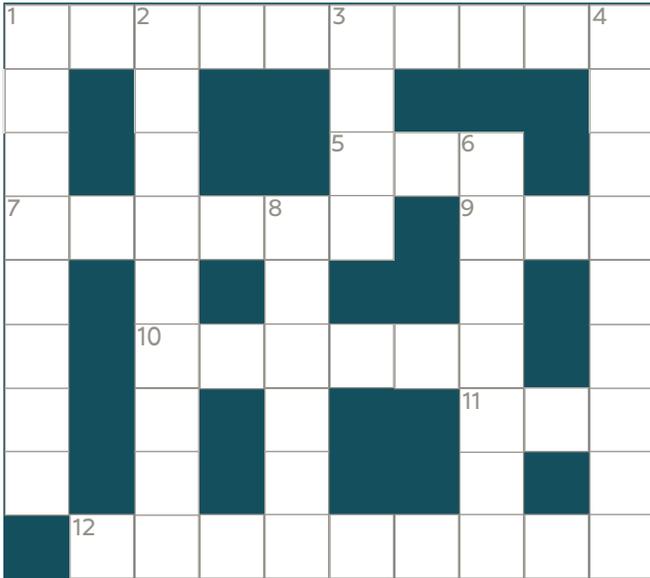
Crossword answer key
(See crossword puzzle on page 4.)



Atos

Breathing-Speaking-Living

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Crossword answer key is on page 3.

ACROSS

- 1 US state contains the lowest and highest points in the lower 48
- 5 Systematic recording of events, observations or measurements
- 7 LA is known as the City of -----
- 9 Mixture of nitrogen, oxygen and other gases that we breathe
- 10 ----- Leigh, star of "Gone with the Wind"
- 11 Acronym used for emergency contacts in mobile phone
- 12 Protection from debris, dust and small particles for the eyes

DOWN

- 1 For many, Spring ----- is an annual tradition
- 2 Using Provox® Brush and Flush regularly may improve the ----- of a voice prosthesis
- 3 Barn, Great-Horned, Screech, Snowy, Barred, and Spotted are some species of this bird
- 4 April 13-19, 2020 is a week designated to promote oral, head and neck cancer -----
- 6 Curly leaf parsley or a slice of lime
- 8 Apollo 8 and Apollo 13 astronaut, James -----