Introduction

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The oral cavity (Figure 53.1) extends from the mucosal surface of the lips to the junction of the hard and soft palate. It does not include the soft palate, uvula or tonsils, which form part of the oropharynx. Oral cavity cancer is the eighth most common cancer worldwide, with an estimated 350 /uni00A0 000 cases arising annually . While there have been significant advances in the understanding and management of oral cavity cancer, the morbidity and prognosis associated with it have remained largely unchanged. In this chapter, we will outline the aeti ology and epidemiology of oral cavity cancer, as well as risk factors for this disease, and highlight important geographical variations. Additionally , we will explore the in vestigation and management of oral cavity cancer. Lastly , we will outline emerging techniques and technologies utilised in oral cavity cancer treatment.

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