

From the University of Mississippi Medical Center Division of Public Affairs

UMMC TO OFFER FREE ORAL CANCER SCREENINGS APRIL 23

Media contact: Jack Mazurak at (601) 984-1970 or [jmazurak@umc.edu](mailto:jmazurak@umc.edu).

JACKSON, Miss. – Free screenings for oral cancer will be offered at the University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Clinic in the Jackson Medical Mall on Wednesday, April 23, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The screenings are part of Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week. UMMC's Department of Otolaryngology and the Division of Oral Oncology will provide the screenings, which take about 10 minutes. Staff from The ACT Center for Tobacco Treatment, Education and Research will promote tobacco cessation.

Head and neck cancers include cancers of the mouth, throat, voice box, skin, sinuses, and salivary and thyroid glands. Most oral cancers occur on the lips, tongue or the floor of the mouth, and if they are not caught early, they can be disastrous. The five-year survival rate is about 50 percent

Tobacco and alcohol use are the leading risk factors for oral, head and neck cancers. According to the National Cancer Institute, 85 percent of head and neck cancers are linked to tobacco use. What's more, people who use both tobacco and alcohol are at greater risk for developing these cancers than those who use only tobacco or alcohol.

Warning signs include having a sore in your mouth that doesn't heal, persistent pain or the sensation of something being stuck in your throat.

Appointments and walk-ins will be accepted. To schedule an appointment, call (601) 984-5162.

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Please forward this message to colleagues who might be interested. If you wish to be removed from this list or know of a colleague to add, send an e-mail message to: [jmazurak@umc.edu](mailto:jmazurak@umc.edu).

The University of Mississippi Medical Center, located in Jackson, is the state's only academic medical center. UMMC encompasses five health science schools, including medicine, nursing, health related professions, dentistry and graduate studies, as well as the site where University of Mississippi pharmacy students do their clinical training. The Medical Center's health-care enterprise includes five hospitals and University Physicians, the faculty group practice. The Medical Center's threefold mission is to educate tomorrow's health-care professionals, conduct innovative research to improve human health, and to provide the highest quality care available to the state's population. A major goal of the Medical Center is the improvement of the health of Mississippians and the elimination of health disparities. For more information, contact the Division of Public Affairs at (601) 984-1100 or [umc.edu/publicaffairs](http://umc.edu/publicaffairs)