

ALL ORAL CAVITY

The 5-year survival for people with oral cancer is 59%.

Sex Survival was slightly higher for women than for men.

Age at diagnosis Older age at diagnosis was associated with worse survival with a range in 5-year survival from 80% for persons diagnosed under 45 years to 44% for those over 75 years.

Subsite There were slight differences in survival for different subsites within the oral cavity with tongue and gum cancers tending to have a poorer prognosis than those of the floor of mouth and palate.

Regional comparisons Survival did not differ between residents of Melbourne and the rest of Victoria.

Time trends Survival improved over the 15 years from 1990 from 50% to 59%.

A clinician's comment "The improvement in survival from oral cancer is encouraging, presumably related to factors such as improved imaging (helical CT scans, MRI and PET) that have become increasingly available allowing better delineation and staging of disease which then impacts favourably on treatment decisions and outcomes."

Table 1: Survival by years after diagnosis, sex, age group and tumour subsite for Victorians with cancer of the oral cavity in 2004 and selected years from 1990.

Years after diagnosis		Survival (%)	95% confidence interval	
1		81	(78-85)	
2		71	(67-76)	
3		65	(60-70)	
4		62	(57-67)	
5		59	(53-64)	
By subgroup	Number of deaths	5-year survival (%)	95% confidence interval	p-value
All cases	518	59	(53-64)	
Sex				0.01
Male	346	57	(50-64)	
Female	172	63	(54-72)	
Age at diagnosis				<0.01
0-44	27	80	(67-93)	
45-54	80	56	(44-69)	
55-64	112	68	(58-78)	
65-74	155	56	(45-67)	
75+	144	44	(30-59)	
Region of residence				0.07
Melbourne	335	59	(52-66)	
Rest of Victoria	183	58	(48-68)	
Tumour subsite				0.02
Tongue	266	53	(45-61)	
Gum	42	58	(38-77)	
Floor of mouth	89	69	(56-82)	
Palate	121	63	(53-74)	
Selected years				<0.01
1990		50	(44-57)	
1995		58	(52-64)	
2000		59	(54-65)	
2004		59	(53-64)	



Figure 1: Survival by year

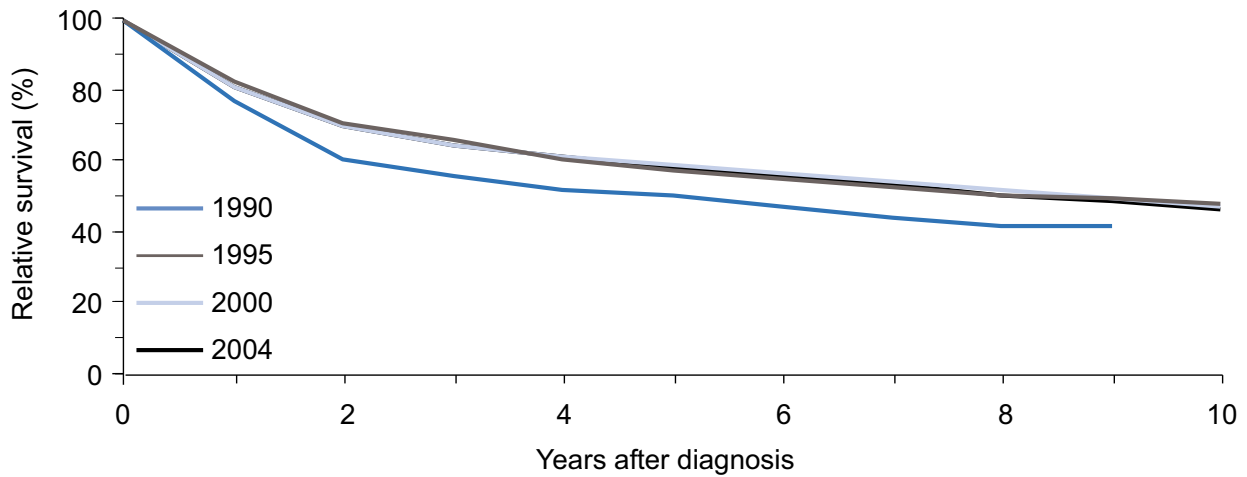


Figure 2: Survival by sex

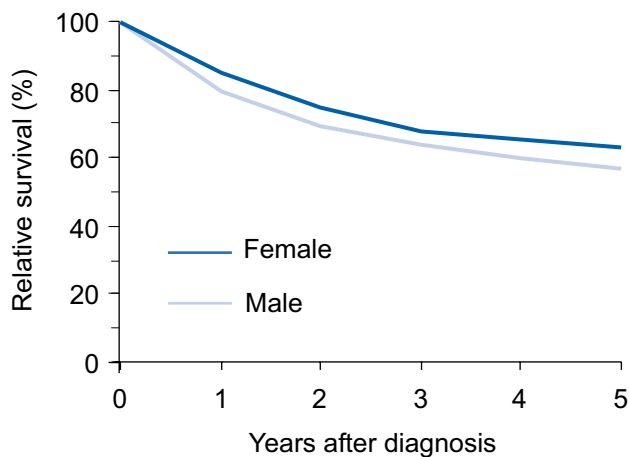


Figure 3: Survival by age group

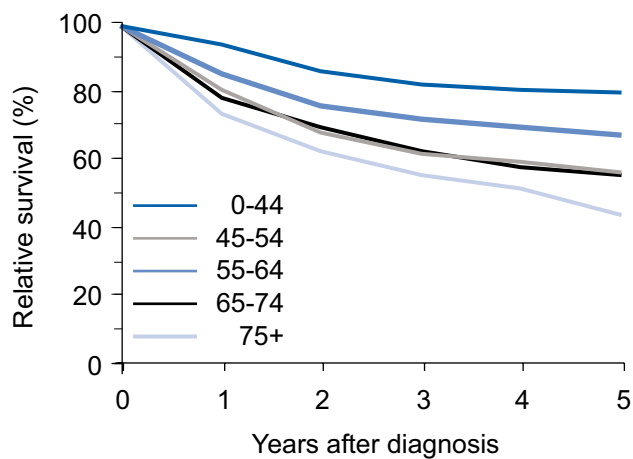
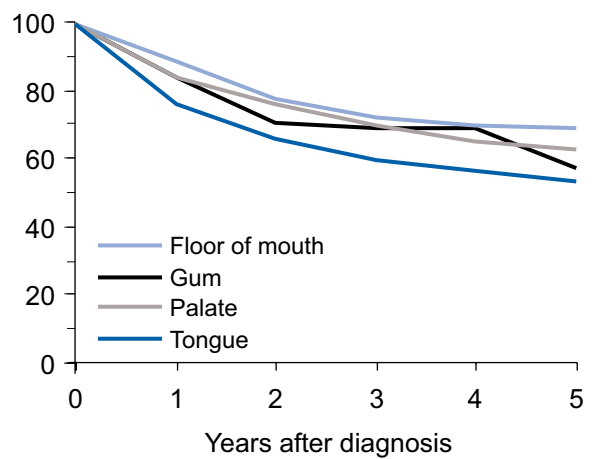


Figure 4: Survival by subsite



SALIVARY GLANDS

The 5-year survival for people with salivary gland cancer is 69%.

Sex Survival was higher for women (82%) than for men (58%).

Tumour subsite Survival for patients with tumours of the parotid gland was the same as for those with cancers of other salivary glands.

Regional comparisons Survival did not differ significantly between residents of Melbourne and the rest of Victoria.

Time trends Survival fluctuated over the period of this analysis.

Note Analysis includes only primary parotid gland tumours and not the more common metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of skin origin.

Table 1: Survival by years after diagnosis, sex and tumour subsite for Victorians with salivary gland cancer in 2004 and for selected years from 1990.

Years after diagnosis		Survival (%)	95% confidence interval	
1		83	(74-92)	
2		78	(67-88)	
3		75	(63-86)	
4		72	(60-84)	
5		69	(56-82)	
By subgroup	Number of deaths	5-year survival (%)	95% confidence interval	p-value
All cases	66	69	(56-82)	
Sex				0.01
Male	46	58	(39-78)	
Female	20	82	(67-98)	
Region of residence				0.14
Melbourne	38	73	(58-88)	
Rest of Victoria	28	61	(37-85)	
Tumour subsite				0.23
Parotid	48	69	(55-84)	
Other salivary gland	18	69	(41-98)	
Selected years				<0.01
1990		69	(55-82)	
1995		59	(46-73)	
2000		79	(68-90)	
2004		69	(56-82)	



Figure 1: Survival by year

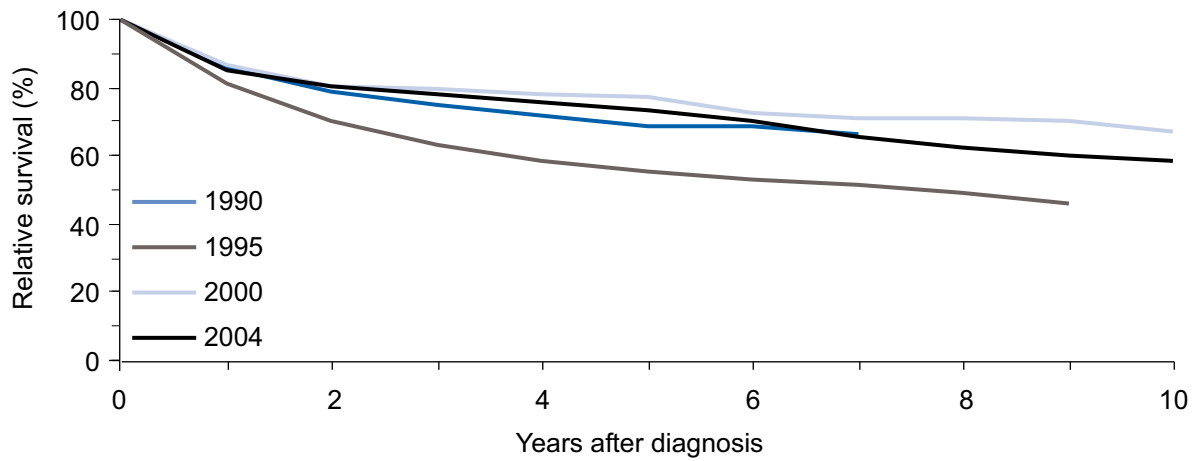


Figure 2: Survival by sex

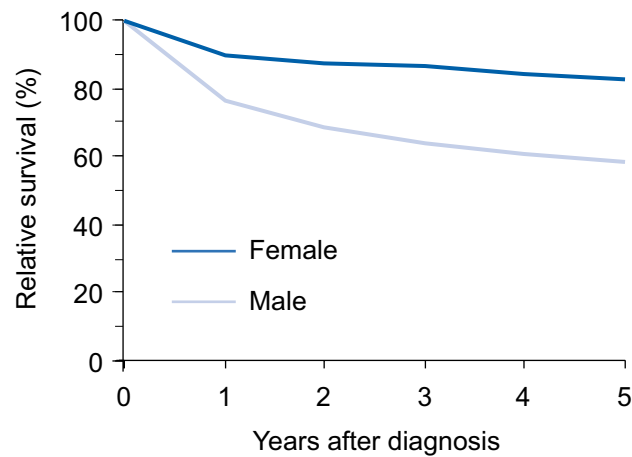
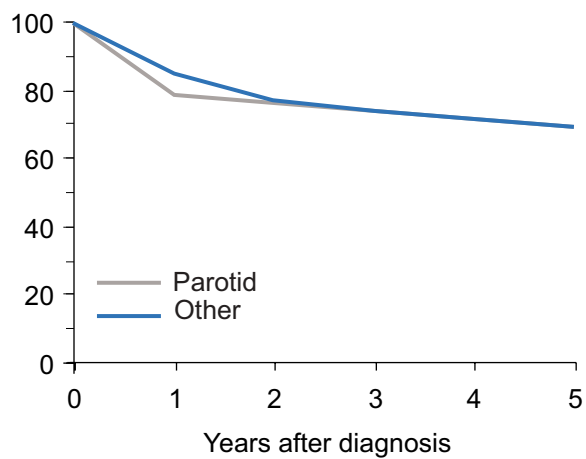


Figure 4: Survival by subsite



PHARYNX

The 5-year survival for people with pharyngeal cancer is 49%.

Sex Survival was similar for women (47%) and for men (49%).

Age at diagnosis Older age at diagnosis was associated with worse survival, with survival ranging from 78% for persons diagnosed before the age of 45 to 27% for those over 75 years.

Tumour subsite There were differences in survival between tumour subsites, with the proportions highest in nasopharyngeal tumours (69%) and lowest for cancers of the hypopharynx (25%).

Regional comparisons Survival was higher for residents of Melbourne (52%) than the rest of Victoria (42%).

Time trends Survival improved over the 15 years from 1990 from 33% to 49%.

A clinician's comment "The group of tumours within the pharynx includes very different natural histories. Nasopharyngeal cancer is very responsive to radiotherapy and chemotherapy and is generally considered a different disease from other head and neck cancers. Oropharyngeal cancer has, stage for stage, a much better prognosis than hypopharyngeal cancer. Human papilloma virus (HPV) associated oropharyngeal cancer is becoming more prevalent, especially in younger non-smokers – this increase in cancers with a more favourable prognosis may be expected to affect the survival."

Table 1: Survival by years after diagnosis, sex, age group and tumour subsite for Victorians with pharyngeal cancer in 2004 and for selected years from 1990.

Years after diagnosis		Survival (%)	95% confidence interval	
1		76	(71-80)	
2		63	(57-69)	
3		57	(51-64)	
4		53	(46-59)	
5		49	(43-56)	
By subgroup	Number of deaths	5-year survival (%)	95% confidence interval	p-value
All cases	357	49	(43-56)	
Sex				0.17
Male	283	49	(42-57)	
Female	74	47	(33-61)	
Age at diagnosis				<0.01
0-44	18	78	(62-95)	
45-54	54	77	(66-88)	
55-64	95	47	(35-60)	
65+	190	27	(17-37)	
Region of residence				0.10
Melbourne	245	52	(44-60)	
Rest of Victoria	112	42	(30-55)	
Tumour subsite				<0.01
Oropharynx	168	54	(45-64)	
Nasopharynx	49	69	(55-82)	
Hypopharynx	140	25	(14-36)	
Selected years				<0.01
1990		33	(26-39)	
1995		39	(33-46)	
2000		53	(46-60)	
2004		49	(43-56)	



Figure 1: Survival by year

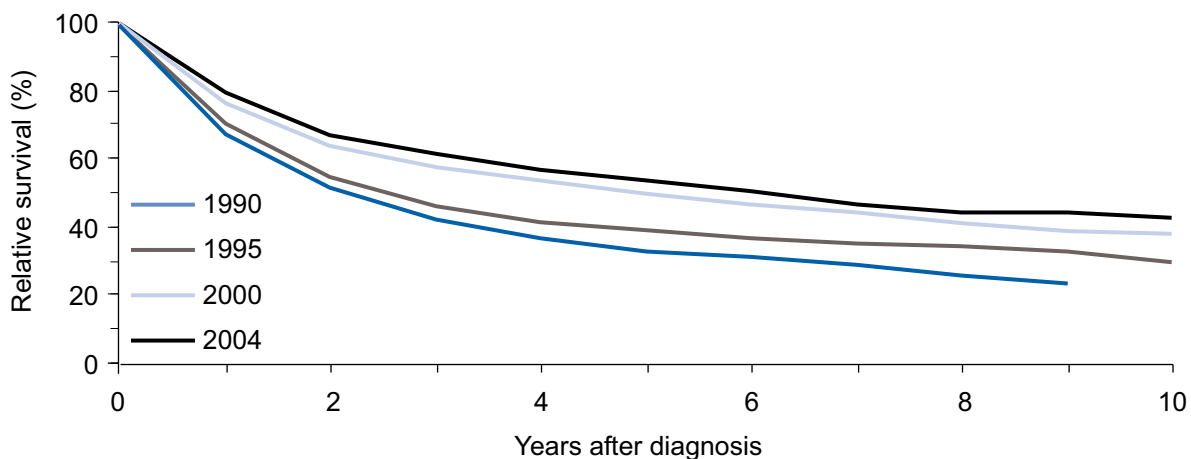


Figure 2: Survival by sex

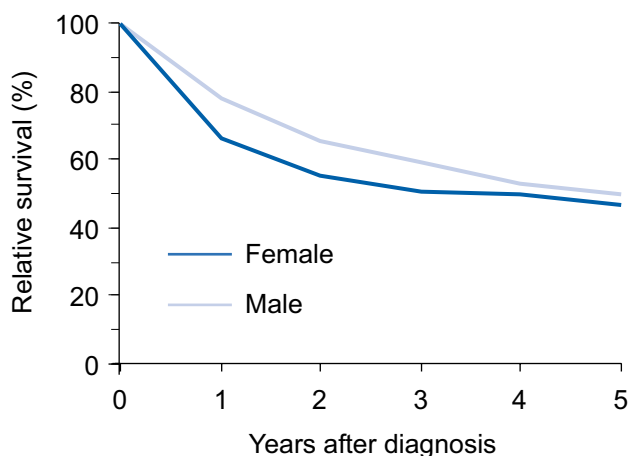


Figure 3: Survival by age group

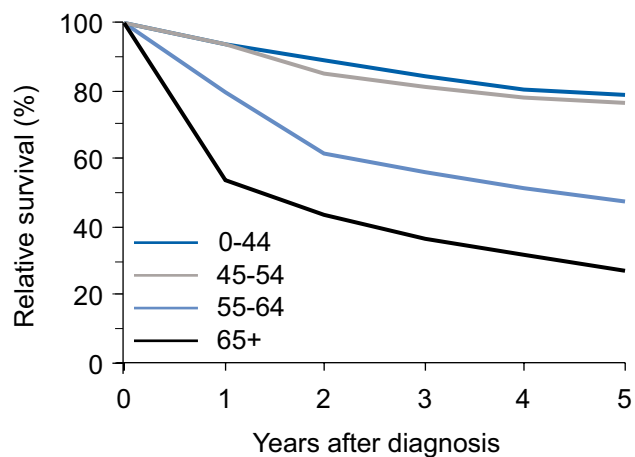


Figure 4: Survival by subsite

