# **ORACLEHEAD & NECK CANCER UK** THE UK'S HIDDEN HEALTH CRISIS

### **The Alarming Statistics**

- 30% annual increase expected by 2030
- Only 1/3 of cases detected early
- Now among the top 5 cancers in men, top 10 overall
- **30% caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV),** preventable with vaccination
- Less than 60% uptake of HPV vaccine, leaving millions
  unprotected
- Only **50% of patients** start treatment within NHS target time; cancer at bottom of league table
- Only 1% of Cancer Research UK's cancer-specific funding allocated to head and neck cancers last year
- Lack of access to dentists and GPs driving late-stage diagnosis
- **Growing inequalities:** 101% higher incidence in men from most deprived areas

HEAD AND NECK CANCER HAS BECOME A PRESSING HEALTH CONCERN IN THE UK, YET IT REMAINS LARGELY UNKNOWN.

We have a critical window of opportunity to change its trajectory, but we need your support.

## The Hidden Crisis Unveiled

Despite being a top 10 cancer overall, head and neck cancer receives disproportionately less attention and funding:

**Inadequate Prevention:** Low HPV vaccine uptake leaves a significant portion of the next generation at risk. There are more cases of head and neck cancers than cervical cancers caused by HPV.

**Delayed Diagnosis:** Limited access to dental and primary care services hinders early detection which results in high rates of mortality and devastating quality of life for those affected.

**Treatment Delays:** Head and neck cancer patients face some of the longest waiting times in the NHS which means the cancers are advancing while patients are waiting.

**Underfunded Research:** Critical lack of funding hampers progress in treatment and care which prevents progress in improved treatment approaches and access to uniform best practice treatment across the country.

**Social Inequalities:** Stark disparity in incidence and survival rates highlights broader health inequalities

#### Oracle Head & Neck Cancer UK: Pioneering research for a cancer-free future

#### **For More Information**

Visit our website: oraclehnc.org.uk

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#### Support Our Vision and Become Part of the Change

Your expertise and involvement are crucial in our fight against head and neck cancer.

Join Oracle Head & Neck Cancer UK in fostering a collaborative community dedicated to research, education, and patient care.

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