



What is

Pancreatic Cancer?

Pancreatic cancer occurs when there is out-of-control cell growth in the pancreas. The cells continue dividing and form lumps called tumors, which interfere with the normal functioning of the pancreas.

- > 30,000 people are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the US every year.
- > The 5-year survival rate is less than 5%.
- > Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related death in the US.
- > The average life expectancy after diagnosis is just three to six months.
- > 94% of pancreatic cancer patients will die within 5 years of diagnosis.
- > 74% of pancreatic cancer patients die after the first year.
- > Unfortunately, treatment options are limited.

What is the link between pancreatic cancer and gum disease?

Studies have found positive associations between gum and bone disease and pancreatic cancer. In one study, men with a history of gum disease had a 63% higher risk of developing pancreatic cancer than those with no history of gum disease. People with chronic inflammation caused by gum disease harbor higher levels of harmful bacteria in the mouth and gut. Over many years, this can lead to higher amounts of cancer-causing nitrosamines.

Resources

www.pancreatic.org

www.medicalnewstoday.com

www.msnbc.msn.com