The majority of lip cancers are squamous cell carcinomas. Squamous cell carcinoma of the lip (SCCL) is strongly associated with long-term exposure to ultraviolet radiation from sunlight. SCCL has a 5-year survival of 90% if diagnosed early.

The objective of the study is to update the incidence and trends of invasive SCCL cancers using national data. Data from CDC’s NPCR and NCI’s SEER Program, covering 100% of the U.S. population, were used to examine invasive lip cancers diagnosed during 2004-2008. Rates were calculated per 100,000 people and age-adjusted to the 2000 US population. Statistics not displayed if fewer than 16 cases.

Rates were examined by: anatomic site (e.g., upper vs. lower; external vs. internal), age, sex, race, Hispanic ethnicity, region, and stage. Trends for 1999-2008 were also examined and cover 90.1% of U.S. population.

RESULTS (cont’d)

Most SCCL in the US occur on the lower, external portion of the lip and among men in comparison to women. Rates have declined steadily over the last decade, likely associated with decreased sun exposure and smoking rates and increased use of UV lip protection.

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RESULTS
- Rates and Counts of Oral Cancer by Site, 2004-2008
- Incidence of SCCL by Sex and Age
- Rates of SSCL by Sex and Stage
- Rates of SSCL by Sex and Region of US
- Rates of SSCL by Sex and Race/Ethnicity
- Rates of SSCL by Sex and Stage

METHODS
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SUMMARY
- The majority of SCCL occur on the lower, external portion of the lip and are diagnosed in early stages.
- Incidence increased with age and was highest among males, ages 80+ (7.61/100,000).
- Rates were higher among whites and non-Hispanics and highest among person living in the West and Midwest regions.
- From 1999 to 2008, rates declined more rapidly among males than among females.

CONCLUSIONS
- Most SCCL in the US occur on the lower, external portion of the lip and among men in comparison to women.
- Rates have declined steadily over the last decade, likely associated with decreased sun exposure and smoking rates and increased use of UV lip protection.

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