

Oral Lesion Excision

What Is A Oral Lesion Excision?

Oral lesion excision is a medical procedure performed to remove abnormal growths or lesions that develop in the oral cavity, which includes the mouth and surrounding structures. These lesions can be benign or potentially cancerous. Excision is commonly recommended to diagnose, treat, or prevent complications associated with oral lesions.

What Are The Surgical Approaches?

Oral lesion excision involves different surgical approaches based on the size, location, and nature of the lesion:

1. **Scalpel Excision:** For smaller lesions, a surgical scalpel is used to remove the lesion along with a margin of healthy tissue.
2. **Laser Excision:** Lasers can be used to precisely remove lesions and minimise bleeding. Laser excision is often preferred for lesions in sensitive areas.
3. **Electrocautery:** This method uses an electrical current to cut and remove lesions. It also helps control bleeding during the procedure.

What Does It Involve?

Oral lesion excision is usually performed as an outpatient procedure under local anaesthesia. The surgeon uses the chosen method to carefully remove the lesion and surrounding tissue. Once the lesion is excised, the wound is closed using sutures, and appropriate measures are taken to ensure minimal bleeding and promote healing.

How To Prepare?

Preparation for oral lesion excision involves discussing your medical history, current medications, and allergies with your healthcare provider. You may need to fast for a specific period before the procedure, as directed by your healthcare team.

How Long Does It Take?

The duration of oral lesion excision varies based on the size and complexity of the lesion being removed. On average, the procedure typically takes around 15 to 30 minutes.

What Happens After?

After the procedure, you might experience some temporary discomfort, swelling, or mild pain. Pain relief medication and specific aftercare instructions will be provided. It's important to follow any dietary restrictions or post-operative care guidelines provided by your healthcare provider.

The excised tissue is often sent to a laboratory for analysis to determine the nature of the lesion. The results will help guide further treatment if necessary.

Recovery times vary depending on the extent of the excision and the chosen method. Most patients can return home shortly after the procedure. You'll need to avoid activities that could disrupt healing, such as consuming hot or spicy foods and maintaining good oral hygiene.

Full recovery might take a few weeks, during which time the surgical site will heal. Attend follow-up appointments to monitor your progress and discuss any concerns that may arise during your recovery.