



## Oral Cancer Screening Consent Form

**We are very concerned about oral cancer and conduct screening examinations on every patient.**

The incidence of Oral Cancer continues to rise in the USA. The American Cancer Society indicates that in 2007, they expect a remarkable 11% increase in this deadly disease. **Alarmingly, 25 % of the new oral cancer cases are people that do not have any of the traditional life style risk factors, such as age and tobacco and alcohol use.**

Traditionally, dentists and hygienists have done oral cancer screening with the naked eye, but recently a new technology, the **VELscope** has received FDA approval. The **VELscope** (for Visually Enhanced Lesion scope) **will help us pinpoint and identify suspicious tissue at earlier stages before they may become life threatening concerns.**

VELscope, similar to other early detection procedures like colonoscopy, mammography, PAP smear and PSA exam, is a painless, non-invasive blue light that is shined into the patient's mouth. The images are viewed through the back of the VELscope handpiece and the hygienist or dentist may find tissue abnormalities at an earlier stage. Before the exam, the room is darkened and much like "desert storm night vision technology" the clinician can see changes in tissue that may not be visible to the eye. These detected changes can range from something minor to something of greater concern that may require further examination and follow up.

**The VELscope testing is an addition to our traditional visual oral cancer screening and will add only a few minutes to the entire exam. However, the VELscope exam may or may not be covered by dental insurances. The fee for this enhanced examination is \$ 25. As part of our standard of care and because we care about you, we strongly recommend that you choose this additional screening procedure.**

Once again, we feel this breakthrough technology is very important to the enhanced quality of care we can offer to our patients.

**YES I authorize the office to perform the VELscope examination.**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

No. I would prefer not to have the VELscope oral cancer screening. Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_