

2019/2020 MASCC/ISOO Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Mucositis

Short Summary #2

Developed by the Mucositis Study Group

Detailed publication

Basic oral care for the management of oral mucositis

Citation

Hong CHL, Gueiros LA, Fulton JS, Cheng KKF, Kandwal A, Galiti D, Fall-Dickson JM, Johansen J, Ameringer S, Kataoka T, Weikel D, Eilers J, Ranna V, Vaddi A, Lalla RV, Bossi P, Elad S. Systematic review of basic oral care for the management of oral mucositis in cancer patients and clinical practice guidelines. Support Care Cancer 27, 3949–3967 (2019).

Professional Oral Care

- **Guideline category: No Guideline Possible/Expert panel consensus in favor (LoE III).**
- **Guideline statement: No guideline was possible regarding the use of professional oral care for the prevention of OM for patients with hematologic, solid or H&N cancers due to limited and inconsistent data.**
An expert opinion complements this guideline. Although there was insufficient evidence to support the use of professional oral care for OM prevention, the panel is of the opinion that dental evaluation and treatment as indicated prior to cancer therapy is desirable to reduce the patient's risk for local and systemic infections from odontogenic sources.

Multi-agent combination oral care protocols

- **Guideline category: Suggestion (LoE III).**
- **Guideline statement:**
The panel suggests that implementation of multi-agent combination oral care protocols is beneficial for the prevention of OM during CT. (LoE III)

The panel suggests that implementation of multi-agent combination oral care protocols is beneficial for the prevention of OM during H&N RT. (LoE III)
The panel suggests that implementation of multi-agent combination oral care protocols is beneficial for the prevention of OM during HSCT. (LoE III)

Patient education

- **Guideline category: No Guideline Possible/Expert panel consensus in favor (LoE III).**
- **Guideline statement: No guideline was possible regarding the use of patient education for the prevention of OM in hematologic cancer patients during HSCT or CT due to limited and inconsistent data.**

An expert opinion complements this guideline. The panel is of the opinion that educating patients about the benefits of BOC strategies is still appropriate as this may improve patient's self-management and adherence to the recommended oral care protocol during cancer treatment.

Bland mouth rinses

- **Guideline category: No Guideline Possible/Expert panel consensus in favor (LoE III).**
- **Guideline statement: No guideline was possible regarding the use of saline or sodium bicarbonate rinses in the prevention or treatment of OM in patients undergoing cancer therapy due to limited data for each intervention.**

An expert opinion complements this guideline. Despite the limited data available for both saline and sodium bicarbonate, the panel recognizes that these rinses are inert bland rinses that increase oral clearance which may be helpful for maintaining oral hygiene and improving patient comfort.

Chlorhexidine — H&N cancer — RT — prevention

- **Guideline category: Suggestion against (LoE III).**
- **Guideline statement: The panel suggests that CHX not be used in the prevention of OM in patients undergoing H&N RT.**

Chlorhexidine — other cancer patient population — prevention

- **Guideline category: No Guideline Possible (LoE III).**

Chlorhexidine — other cancer patient population — treatment

- **Guideline category: No Guideline Possible (LoE III).**

Abbreviations

BOC — Basic oral care

CHX — Chlorhexidine

CT — Chemotherapy

H&N — Head & neck

HSCT — Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation

LoE — Level of evidence

OM – Oral mucositis
RT — Radiotherapy