





ORIGINAL

## In-depth evaluation of tumor invasion patterns and risk assessment in early oral tongue cancer

### Evaluación en profundidad de los patrones de invasión tumoral y evaluación del riesgo en el cáncer oral temprano de lengua

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#### ABSTRACT

Early oral tongue cancer poses substantial challenges due to its essential invasive nature and the diverse patterns of tumor invasion, which significantly affect diagnosis, treatment options, and prognostic evaluations. Understanding these invasion patterns is critically significant, as they are closely connected to the risks of recurrence and metastasis, factors that complicate clinical outcomes. This research analyzed data from 150 patients with early oral tongue cancer to inspect the impact of tumor invasion patterns on survival outcomes, concentrating on improving risk assessment through developed statistical methods to enhance patient management and decision-making. Logistic regression models integrated with survival analysis, including the Kaplan-Meier method, were working to classify important relationships among tumor invasion characteristics and patient results. The findings exposed that deeper tumor invasion and the residence of lymphovascular invasion were strongly connected with increased risks of recurrence and metastasis. The results highlight the significance of early and thorough evaluation approaches to improve prediction and manage risks. Furthermore, the research emphasizes the importance of vigilant monitoring and timely intervention for high-risk patients, aiming to appease possible difficulties and improve survival rates. By leveraging developed statistical methods, this research offers valuable insights into the clinical consequences of tumor behavior in early oral tongue cancer. These findings contribute to the development of improved diagnostic tools, risk stratification methods, and modified treatment tactics, addressing the particular challenges posed by the invasive nature and varied tumor invasion patterns of this disease. Eventually, the research advances efforts to improve overall patient care and long-term survival outcomes.

**Keywords:** Oral Tongue Cancer; Tumor Invasion; Lymph Node; Statistical Analysis; Survival Rates.

#### RESUMEN

El cáncer oral temprano de lengua plantea retos sustanciales debido a su naturaleza esencialmente invasiva y a los diversos patrones de invasión tumoral, que afectan significativamente al diagnóstico, las opciones de tratamiento y las evaluaciones pronósticas. La comprensión de estos patrones de invasión es de importancia crítica, ya que están estrechamente relacionados con los riesgos de recurrencia y metástasis, factores que

complican los resultados clínicos. En esta investigación se analizaron los datos de 150 pacientes con cáncer oral temprano de lengua para inspeccionar el impacto de los patrones de invasión tumoral en los resultados de supervivencia, concentrándose en mejorar la evaluación del riesgo mediante métodos estadísticos desarrollados para mejorar la gestión de los pacientes y la toma de decisiones. Se trabajó con modelos de regresión logística integrados con análisis de supervivencia, incluido el método de Kaplan-Meier, para clasificar las relaciones importantes entre las características de la invasión tumoral y los resultados de los pacientes. Los hallazgos expusieron que la invasión tumoral más profunda y la residencia de la invasión linfovascular estaban fuertemente conectadas con mayores riesgos de recurrencia y metástasis. Los resultados ponen de relieve la importancia de los enfoques de evaluación temprana y exhaustiva para mejorar la predicción y gestionar los riesgos. Además, la investigación subraya la importancia de la vigilancia y la intervención oportuna en pacientes de alto riesgo, con el fin de apaciguar posibles dificultades y mejorar las tasas de supervivencia. Al aprovechar los métodos estadísticos desarrollados, esta investigación ofrece valiosos conocimientos sobre las consecuencias clínicas del comportamiento tumoral en las fases iniciales del cáncer oral de lengua. Estos hallazgos contribuyen al desarrollo de mejores herramientas de diagnóstico, métodos de estratificación del riesgo y tácticas de tratamiento modificadas, abordando los retos particulares que plantean la naturaleza invasiva y los variados patrones de invasión tumoral de esta enfermedad. En última instancia, la investigación hace avanzar los esfuerzos por mejorar la atención general de los pacientes y los resultados de supervivencia a largo plazo.

**Palabras clave:** Cáncer Oral de Lengua; Invasión Tumoral; Ganglios Linfáticos; Análisis Estadístico; Tasas de Supervivencia.

## INTRODUCTION

Cancer is an inherited infection considered by abnormal cell propagation that can extend to former group measures and genomic or epigenetic fluctuations in the somatic cells. 18 million cases of cancer were reported worldwide, containing above nine million cases in men, 8 million cases in women, and 9.6 fatalities. Prostate, breast, lung, oral, stomach, colonic, and non-melanoma skin cancers are the cancers are the fastest-spreading cancer's worldwide. The effects of cancer are becoming more apparent every day. Cancer is caused by tobacco use, and diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus. (HIV), hepatitis, Epstein-Barrett, poor diet, oral hygiene, sun exposure, chronic irritation, betel nut chewing, and excessive use of alcohol, as shown in figure 1. Earlier analysis of cancer greatly increases the chance of remedy and survival from the disease. Detection of cancer in its early stages depends on several approaches, like frequent screening exams. One important technique for detecting tumor is the use of imaging tests, such as computed tomography and X-rays. Additionally, tissue samples from biopsies are examined to determine the presence of cancer cells.

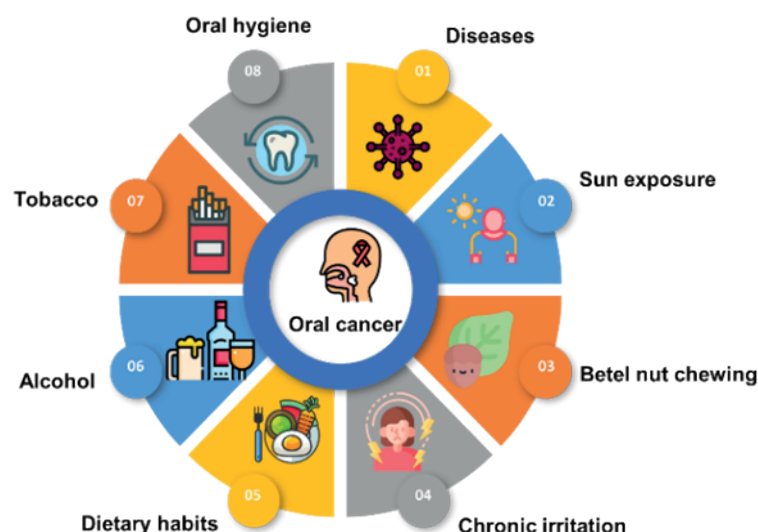


Figure 1. Various causes of cancers

Early cancer diagnosis can significantly improve the chance of recovery, lower the risk of recurrence, and save medical expenses. Photoacoustic tomography (PAT) is an imaging technique that delivers purposeful evidence on early-stage cancer. <sup>(1)</sup> The timely detection and treatment of cancer significantly increase patient

survival rates. The diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer rely on the identification and analysis of tumor cells.<sup>(2)</sup> Unlike conventional diagnosis, optical biosensors are fast, portable, and real-time, and they have a high sensitivity, making them highly promising for the analysis of different kind of cancer.<sup>(3)</sup> Cancer classification, enhanced by artificial intelligence (AI) models makes a valuable tool in women's cancer detection and treatment.<sup>(4)</sup> Personalities with early-stage oral tongue squamous cell carcinoma (OTSCC) have an improved prediction than those with cutting-edge illness and enhance the staging systems with early risk assessment.<sup>(5)</sup> In several regions, oral cancer is comparatively common. Oral cancer may be the most prevalent cancer in males and the third most common in females. Oral cancer incidence is predominantly linked to the chewing of betel quid.<sup>(6)</sup> Estimation of cancer risk and timely identification for too long trusted biased means practical in the variability of non-consistent and ungraceful approaches.<sup>(7)</sup> In the research<sup>(8)</sup> pointed to the need for clear definitions of the terms tumor depth of invasion (DOI) and tumor thickness in OTSCC. It emphasized the importance of guidelines for measuring and reporting the parameters to ensure meaningful clinical decision-making outcomes. The research found that the five-millimeter invasion changed facts and was more effective in predicting patient prognosis. The threshold also played a critical role in informing elective nodal treatment decisions. Overall, it was essential for improving patient management in OTSCC.

The possibility of microribonucleic acid (miRNA) as a biomarker was noteworthy for initial cancer detection by the research.<sup>(9)</sup> By simplifying former discoveries and modified treatments, the submissions might progress correct medicine-compressed patients and have a healthier life expectation and worth of a lifetime as a consequence of the research. To exploit miRNA quantification in clinical repetition, improvements must be implemented to enhance the procedure.

The investigation<sup>(10)</sup> established that as a tumor rises, cancer cells could modify their traveling arrangements to suit their microenvironments. The elasticity made to more problematic to an extent and made anti-metastasis handling a smaller amount effective. To lessen invasion and metastasis, the research used satisfying methodologies directed at the varied association patterns.

The circulating tumor cells (CTCs)<sup>(11)</sup> could be sensed at the preliminary stages of destructive cancers and noteworthy progressions have been accomplished in cancer propagation and metastasis processes. The probable for CTCs permitted for cancer exposure simplifies the identification of clinically major tumors while reducing the risk of over diagnosing lethargic diseases.

Chromosomal instability (CIN)<sup>(12)</sup> compressed cell association over appliances related to polyploidy and aneuploidy, along with gene combination and amplification. Modifications in genes could promote or inhibit cancer cell dissemination by affecting critical processes, such as maintenance, cell lifetime, and actin cytoskeleton remodeling. The genetic drivers were valuable as possible predictive markers. The present objects for emerging anti-metastatic therapies and highlight their significance in cancer treatment strategies.

The depth of invasion<sup>(13)</sup> was a critical criterion when determining the severity of early-stage malignancies, particularly when cutaneous cancer is present. The chance of surviving without developing any disease is impacted by deeper tumors, which were linked to a poorer prognosis. It also had a significant impact on cancer staging, influencing how tumors were categorized. The lymph node status was so important that total staging might not change between systems.

The research<sup>(14)</sup> highlighted the prognostic significance of in predicted outcomes in OTSCC. A retrospective analysis of 200 patients assessed the presence and subtypes of PNI (uni-/multifocal, intra-/peritumoral) and their association with survival outcomes. It is identified in 40,5 % of cases and correlated, particularly in multifocal intra-/peritumoral cases. Incorporating PNI into the AJCC 8<sup>th</sup> staging system enhanced prognostic stratification.

The research<sup>(15)</sup> exhibited that forecasting the performance of tongue squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) could be upgraded by consuming numerous histopathological parameters. Features like DOI, tumor budding (TB), perineural invasion, and sarcolemmal extent were recognized as analysts in oral tongue SCC. The influences could support initiating treatment procedures for high-risk, violent belongings related to medical performance, increasing treatment preparation and diagnosis determination.

An emphasized numerous cause that subsidized oral tongue cancer and underscored the implication of thoughtful risk components for operational hindrance and management in the research.<sup>(16)</sup> It acknowledged the serious suppliers, such as tobacco use, betel nut chewing, and occupational disclosures that increase cancer risk. By discovering the interaction between the features and scientific outcomes, the research pin-pointed the prominence of analysis in refining patient prognosis. The discoveries fostered heightened awareness and facilitated timely involvement in cancer detection.

The research<sup>(17)</sup> examined and established three anatomic constraints that were inspected and constructed on OTSCC. The significant cancer growth is advocated for a greater unplanned nodal metastasis, and the poorest pattern of invasion (POI) originated to be a self-governing poor predictive feature for survival. The conclusions underscored typical pathologic reports. It might advance the correctness of forecasts and support patients made healthier treatment choices. Using these aspects could develop patient consequences while

dealing with OTSCC.

The investigation<sup>(18)</sup> was to identify risk factors for occult lymph node metastases (ONM) and skip metastasis in early-stage OTSCC consumers, and evaluate their experience affects survival outcomes. Data from 544 T1-T2N0 individuals were analyzed using logistic and Kaplan-Meier analyses. Tumor thickness predicted ONM, with tumor growth behavior influencing metastatic patterns. ONM significantly reduced disease-free-survival, though skip metastasis showed no survival difference.

#### Aim of this study

- To analyze the effect of tumor invasion patterns on risk factors of cancer.
- To improve the risk monitoring approach, statistical analysis methods are used based on the depth of the tumor.
- To offer beneficial information that helps medical professionals to create plans for patients with initial oral tongue cancer.

## METHOD

#### Study design

Study concentrations on patients spotted with early-stage oral tongue cancer. The research would comprise a well-defined trial size, choosing patients founded on explicit attachment norms, such as early-stage analysis and common medicinal records. Data collection would cover histopathological parameters, DOI, and clinical data, such as patient demographics, tumor staging, and tumor size. The inquiry would comprise hazard valuation by associating histopathological structures through clinical outcomes, and co-variable examination would be performed to distinguish predictive factors. The ultimate goal is to appraise the part of DOI and linked aspects in forecasting patient diagnosis and advising treatment decisions.

#### Data collection

The research involved gathering clinical and pathological evidence from 150 participants. The variables encompassed demographic data (co-variables) such as age, gender and clinical features, like tumor size and invasion depth. Supplementary statistics were composed on lymph node status, treatment types, and tumor grade are shown in table 1. The regulated method guaranteed complete data on the aspects manipulating the diagnosis and administration of primary oral tongue cancer.

Characteristics	Frequency
Age	Less than 30
	20
	30 to 50
Gender	70
	Above 50
	60
Tumour size (cm)	Male
	80
	Female
Invasion depth (mm)	70
	T1
	40
Lymph Node Status	T2
	70
	T3
Tumor grade	40
	Superficial
	50
Treatment type	Moderate
	60
	Deep
	40
	N0
	100
	N1
	50
	G1
	40
	G2
	50
	G3
	60
	L1
	80
	L2
	50
	L3
	20

There are three levels for the age group that are considered. Less than 2 cm, 2 to 4 cm, and more than 4 cm are the tumor sizes indicated by the T1, T2, and T3 values, respectively, which are shown in figure 2. The three stages of 0 to 5 mm, 6 to 15 mm, and greater than 15 mm superficial, moderate, and deep are indicated by the invasion depth, respectively. Not involved lymph nodes are shown by N0, while involved lymph nodes

are indicated by N1. The low, intermediate, and high-grade tumors are represented by the G1, G2, and G3 cells. L1, L2, and L3 stand for radiation therapy, chemotherapy, and surgery, respectively, for the forecast and management of timely oral tongue cancer.

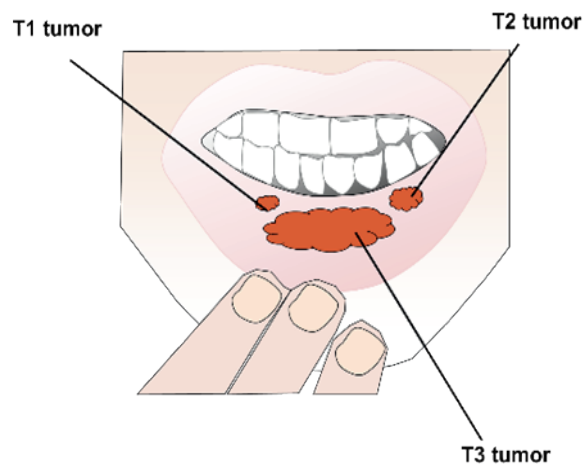


Figure 2. Sizes of tumor

Figure 3 illustrates a cell covering various organelles, containing clusters of ribosomes and vesicles. It highlights the complications of cellular configurations and their functions within the cytoplasm during cancer.

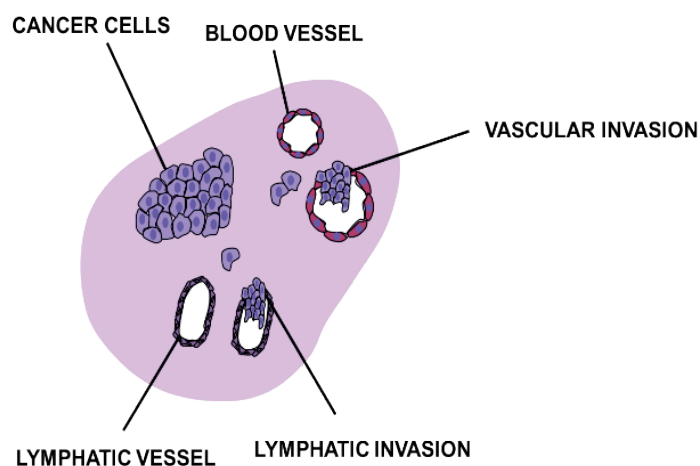


Figure 3. Lymphatic invasion for cancer cells

### Statistical Analysis

The above statistical analysis methods are tested by Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), which helps to improve the significant identification of predictors. Primary oral tongue cancer and tumor invasion can be achieved through advanced statistical analysis, which helps improve the accuracy of possible predictions. Regression analysis and survival analysis allow for the evaluation of multiple variables simultaneously, identifying the most significant predictors of outcomes, like recurrence and survival.

### Regression analysis

One of the most popular and well-understood statistical techniques for diagnosis in pathology is regression analysis. Logistic regression analysis is a statistical approach used to model and examine the relationship between a set of variables. The process is widely used to examine time series models, determine the cause-and-effect relationships between variables, and create forecasts and estimations based on empirical data. It delivers an outline for risk assessment, develops sympathetic tumor performance, and notifies clinical decision-making by pinpointing important forecasters and stratifying patients established on their risk profiles.

### Survival analysis

Survival Analysis is a statistical method used to measure the time until an event occurs. As the designation implies, the occasion could be the expiry of people with a specific disease process under definite circumstances



could be a slight number of substitutions, like the disappointment of an assembly or the reoccurrence of a disease process. Survival analysis is used to label or forecast the existence or let-down features of an exact population. It is used in clinical decision-making and personalized treatment strategies based on factors. Research contributors who are unhelpful and decline to stay may have an impact. Additionally, some subjects would not be familiar with the occurrence or expire before the research's conclusion; nevertheless, they would have if surveillance had been nonstop, or misplaced contact.

The Kaplan-Meier assessment is the supreme upfront technique for scheming existence over a period despite all of these subjects or situational challenges. Several circumstances can be used to generate the existence curve. Computing the odds of an occasion happening at an accurate instant entail multiplying the subsequent probability by any previously calculated probabilities to be obtained. Another name for the Kaplan-Meier prediction is the product-limiting prediction. It comprises scheming the probability that an event will occur at a precise moment. The following equation 1 is used to determine the survival probability at any given time.

$$Y_t = \frac{\text{no.of.factors living at beginning} - \text{no.of.factors died}}{\text{no.of.factors living at beginning}} \quad (1)$$

The number of elements that survive is separated by the number of patients who are at risk, in order to regulate the survival probability for each time interval. The term at risk does not apply to factors who have passed away, dropped out; or moved out in other words, lost subjects are viewed as changed and are not included in the denominator. Multiplying the survival probabilities at each time interval before that time using the duplication law of possibility to calculate the collective chance, yields the overall possibility of surviving up to that point in the period. For instance, the chance that a patient will survive two days following cancer therapy can be calculated by multiplying the likelihood that the patient will survive the day. To refer to the second possibility as a conditional probability. The overall possibility of surviving to each point becomes more accurate, even when the probability computed at every given interval is not very accurate because of the minor number of events.

## RESULTS

The research on timely-phase oral tongue cancer exposed the importance of variables that have a major influence on clinical results and prognosis. The best indicators of survival and recurrence were shown to be lymph node involvement, tumor size, and DOI. Lower survival rates were indicative of worse outcomes for patients with larger tumors (T2, T3) and deeper invasion (moderate and deep). Furthermore, compared to node-negative patients (N0), lymph node-positive patients (N1) had a lower survival rate and a higher chance of recurrence. These results were supported by the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis, which showed that tumor features have a direct impact on long-term survival odds. These findings demonstrate how important DOI, tumor size, and lymph node status are in directing therapeutic choices and forecasting patient outcomes. It emphasizes the necessity of individualized treatment plans. The outcome of logistic regression with the association of clinical traits is shown in table 2.

Chrematistics	OR	CI of 95 %	P value
Age	1,02	1,01 - 1,05	0,01
Gender	1,25	0,85 - 1,85	0,28
Tumour size	1,15	1,08 - 1,25	0,001
Invasion depth	1,45	1,25 - 1,65	0,001
Lymph Node Status	2,10	1,50 - 2,90	0,001
Tumour grade	1,30	1,05 - 1,60	0,02
Treatment type	0,95	0,70 - 1,30	0,75

The odd ratio (OR) appraises the odds of an occasion that seems in one assembly qualified to another. It designates the alteration with the chances of the product for one-unit growth in the forecaster variable. The 95 % confidence interval (CI) provides a range within which the true odds ratio is likely to fall. The P-value (<0.05) calculates the inference of the forecaster variable in the regression model. It specifies that the connection between the forecaster and the consequence is statistically significant. Its assistance in deciding whether to discard the worthless effect. These findings showed strong risk statistics when dealing with the timely detection of cancer.

Figure 4 displays the Kaplan-Meier survival curve for early tongue cancer. Tumor invasions that are apparent, mild, and extensive are displayed by the green, red, and blue outlines, respectively.

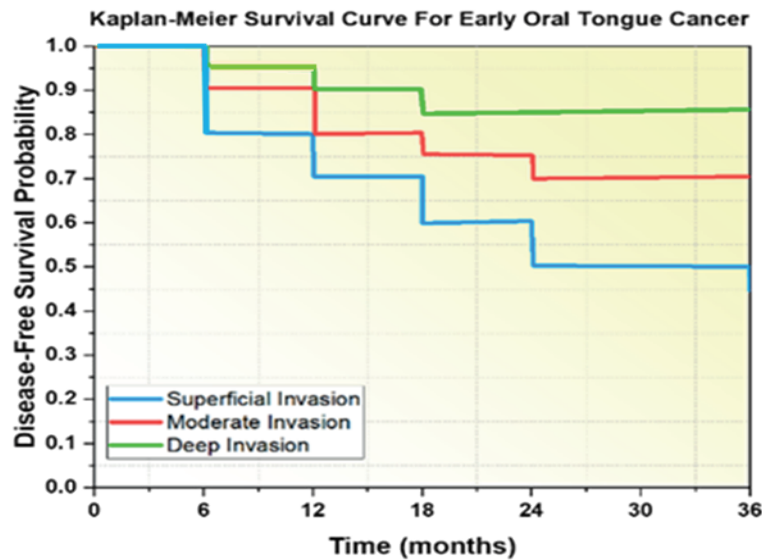


Figure 4. Early oral tongue cancer Kaplan-Meier diagram

In figure 4, different colored lines relate tolerant collections founded on the depth of tumor invasion. These curves display how each collection's existence possibility deviates over time. A sudden decay in the curve, as grasped in the superficial cluster, advocated a greater risk or poorer existence rate. In contrast, an added constant curve, as realized in the deep invasion cluster, submitted developed existence possibilities.

## DISCUSSION

Research engaged a complete approach, employing clinical and pathological data from patients to pinpoint substantial predictive factors. Variables, including tumor size, depth of DOI, and lymph node involvement, were examined by employing logistic regression, illuminating their robust impact on recurrence and persistence outcomes. Furthermore, by compelling thought disturbed data and patient injury to follow-up, the Kaplan-Meier survival analysis formed suitable time-reliant survival estimates. Superior tumors, deeper invasion, and lymph node involvement were connected to compact survival prospects, equivalent to the data, demonstrating the necessity for early management. The prominence of these clinical and pathological characteristics in calculating patient prognosis, prompting therapy choices, and generating personalized care strategies is underscored by the approach.

## CONCLUSION

The analysis of early oral tongue cancer has delivered life-threatening visions into the relationship between tumor invasion patterns and patient outcomes. For the purpose, 150 individuals' expressive measurements are considered. The application of progressive statistical methods, principally logistic regression and survival analysis, verified the contribution in descriptive enactment, thereby improving risk assessment and clinical decision-making. The research identified that tumor DOI, lymph node involvement, and tumor size are noteworthy predictors of survival rates. Specifically, deeper invasion and lymph node positivity were linked with inferior prognoses, featuring the requirement for meticulous observing and custom-made dealing policies for high-risk patients.

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