

An oral nodule examination is a physical examination of the mouth to check for any abnormalities, such as nodules. Differential Diagnosis Oral nodules can result from various causes:

- o Benign Lesions: Fibroma, lipoma, pyogenic granuloma, mucous retention cyst.
- o Triggers: Any trauma, irritants (e.g., ill-fitting dentures), or habits like smoking or chewing tobacco?
- o Medical History: Previous oral lesions, systemic diseases (e.g., diabetes, autoimmune conditions), or medication history.
- o Infectious Causes: Viral (e.g., HPV-related squamous papilloma), bacterial, or fungal.
- o Malignant Lesions: Squamous cell carcinoma, salivary gland tumors.
- o Developmental or Reactive Lesions: Ranula, tori, or irritation fibroma.

Nodules are small, solid lumps that can develop in the soft tissues of the mouth, including the lips, cheeks, tongue, gums, and throat.

Clinical Examination

- o Location: Is it on the tongue, gums, palate, floor of the mouth, or buccal mucosa?

Diagnostic Tests

- o Biopsy: Incisional or excisional biopsy for histopathological analysis.
- o Imaging: X-ray, ultrasound, CT, or MRI to assess deeper structures.

Oral cancer can develop from precancerous lesions, such as oral nodules.

- o Autoimmune Conditions: Lichen planus, pemphigus vulgaris.

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