

Table 1: Demographics of the 105 patients included in the study.

Demographic	Number (n)	Percentage (%)
Sex		
Male	54	49
Female	51	51
Age		
Min	25	
Max	91	
Average	65	
Median	65	
Ethnicity		
NZ European	77	73
Māori	19	18
Asian	4	4
Other European	2	2
Cook Island	1	1
Indian	1	1
Latin American	1	1
Smoking		
Never	45	43
Ex	43	41
Current	17	16
Alcohol		
Never	35	33
Ex	9	9
Current	61	58

Table 2: Diagnosis of the 105 patients included in the study.

Diagnosis	Number (n)	Percentage (%)
Squamous cell carcinoma	89	85
Ameloblastoma	3	3
Osteoradionecrosis	2	2
Osteomyelitis	2	2
Sarcoma	1	1
Small cell neuroendocrine tumour	1	1
Oncocytoma	1	1
Mucoepidermoid carcinoma	1	1
Metastatic adenocarcinoma	1	1
Melanoma	1	1
Brachial cleft cyst	1	1
Adenoid cystic carcinoma	1	1
Adenocarcinoma	1	1

Table 3: Primary site of the 105 patients included in the study.

Primary site	Number (n)	Percentage (%)
Tongue	38	36
Alveolar mucosa of mandible	21	20
Alveolar mucosa of maxilla	14	13
Buccal mucosa	11	11
Floor of mouth	9	9
Unknown primary	4	4
Soft palate	2	2
Parotid	2	2
Lip	2	2
Tonsil	1	1
Cheek	1	1

Table 4: The total number/percentage of clinical N0, N1 and N2 patients that had either pathological negative or positive nodal disease on histological examination.

Clinical	Number	Pathological	Number
cN0	58	pN0	48 (83%)
		pN+	10 (17%)
cN1	11	pN0	7 (64%)
		pN+	4 (36%)
cN2	15	pN0	4 (27%)
		pN+	11 (73%)

Table 5: The number dissected, average nodal yield, number and percentage of positive nodes of each neck dissection level.

Neck dissection level	Number dissected	Number of levels with pN+	% of positive levels	Average nodal yield	Literature review of average nodal yield per level
Ia	99	3	3	2.7	4-5.7
Ib	106	17	16	3.6	
IIa	114	15	13	5.6	11.2-12.6
IIb	101	0	0	5.7	
III	110	9	8	5.7	7.2-7.6
IV	72	2	3	4.7	6.9-8.7
V	3	1	33	3	9.7