

# headandneck 5000

## Experiencing a diagnosis of Head & Neck Cancer

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### Scientific Outline

Although there is a wide-ranging literature exploring Quality of Life (QoL) in Head & Neck cancer (HNC) uncertainties related to the role of clinical and socio-demographic factors in QoL still exist. There is also a paucity of longitudinal studies that prevents an understanding of how QoL changes over time.

I aim to examine QoL over time using mixed methods analyses in a sub-sample of participants in the Head and Neck 5000 study. In this study, in-depth qualitative interviews were carried out concurrently with quantitative data collection at baseline and four and 12 months after diagnosis.

My research questions are:

What is QoL like for people with head and neck cancer in the 12 months after diagnosis?

Which clinical and socio-demographic factors are associated with short- (0-4 months) and long-term (0-12 months) change in QoL?

Following methodologically specific analysis, these qualitative and quantitative data will be integrated to provide a richer understanding about what it is like to be diagnosed with HNC, and the mechanisms and factors associated with transitions over the subsequent 12 months.

Key words: quality of life, longitudinal, mixed methods, qualitative, change