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## General Dermatology

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## ORAL FIBROMA

An oral fibroma is a common, harmless, benign growth. It usually occurs in the mouth, therefore, the name oral which refers to inside the mouth. Fibroma means like a fiber, and the connective tissue that the growth is composed of looks like fibers under the microscope.

These growths tend to occur on areas of the mouth that get easily irritated, such as the lips and the inside of the cheeks. When areas of the mouth get irritated, the cells react and divide. Sometimes they divide too much and cause the bump. Oral fibromas range in size from very small (millimeters) to several centimeters. They can be the same color as the surrounding skin or more pale. This is due to the fact that they sometimes have less blood supply than the surrounding area. They can be flush with the skin or hang off on a little stalk.

In most cases the treatment for an oral fibroma is to remove the lesion. This is done for your comfort. There are various ways to accomplish this. I will determine the best way to treat the lesion based on your individual case.

Again, these growths are not cancer, and you should not expect this growth to recur. If you have any further problems with the area please let me know. If you have any other questions please ask before you leave the office.