

## Department Of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Tzafon Medical Center

**Background** – Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department in the Baruch Padeh Medical Center was established in 1972 and was one of the first OMFS departments in Israel. Today, it's a well-established department that deals with diagnosis, treatment and surgery of diseases in the oral cavity, the face and head and neck area. It provides a unique service to the north-east of Israel – an area with 900,000 inhabitants.

Clinical Expansion – In recent years there was a major development in the department – making it one of the best in Israel and a hub for patients from all over the country. The department is the center of a division of oral and dental health – that employs 18 attending specialists, among the best in the country, 9 residents and another 8 staff physicians. The division provided 20,000 patient–physician meetings in 2021, with 10 active OR per week in all the different services and disciplines.

Clinical Innovation – In the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery, the department provides the full range of services and treatments including treatment of malignant and benign neoplasms, treatment of complex facial trauma, orthognathic surgery, treatment of facial clefts and syndromes, treatment of salivary gland diseases, treatment of temporo-mandibular joint disorders, treatment of severe head and neck infections and pre-prosthetic surgery. One of the highlights is the micro-vascular reconstruction service, providing top of the line service for oncologic and other patients. Also, innovative technology is used in minimally invasive (endoscopic) treatment of salivary gland and temporo-mandibular joint disorders as well as usage of three-dimensional planning and printing in surgery.

Academic Innovation – Another important field of innovation is the academic activity. Recently, a brand new head and neck cancer basic research laboratory was established – lead by clinicians leading practical implication of scientific findings into clinical setup. Besides that, there is a vast ongoing clinical research in collaboration with many academic institutions including Johns Hopkins Medicine, Harvard Medical School (MGH and Boston Children's), Technion – Israeli institution of technology, Tel Aviv University (Microbiology lab, Nanotechnology lab, Dentistry school) and many Israeli Medical Centers.