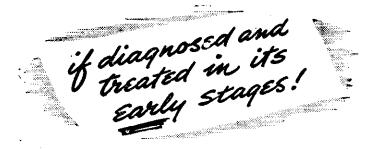
## GANCER

often can be cured!



Skin cancers are fairly common

in New Zealand. Any part of the skin can be affected but the usual places are the face and the back of the hands.

It may appear first as a minute nodule or lump in the skin, which breaks down to form an open sore. This is usually covered by a scab, which occasionally falls off or is knocked off. These cancers are usually slow growing, and can be cured by radiation. But if neglected they spread remorselessly, and cure may require surgical removal and plastic repair.

CANCER OF THE LIP usually appears on the red margin of the lower lip, and is frequently associated with heavy smoking. It develops as a painless crack, or sore which is often covered with a crust. Like cancer of the skin it is readily cured by radiation, unless extensive, when surgery may be required.

CANCER OF THE MOUTH occurs on any part of the mouth, but most commonly on the tongue. It takes the form of an open painless sore or ulcer, which sometimes bleeds. This is a more rapidly growing cancer than those of the skin or lip, and urgency is even more important. Nevertheless there is a high cure rate in

early cases.

## THE SEVEN DANGER SIGNALS

- I. Any sore that does not heal.
- 2. A lump or thickening in the breast or elsewhere.
- 3. Unusual bleeding or discharge.
- 4. Any change in a wart or mole.
- 5. Persistent indigestion or difficulty in swallowing.
- 6. Persistent hoorseness or cough.
- 7. Any change in normal bowel habits.

Any sore which does not heal in two or three weeks may be due to some innocent cause: but on the other hand it may be due to cancer. You cannot tell yourself: but your doctor may be able to make a diagnosis immediately, or if not, can arrange for you to be examined by a specialist or a clinic.

Do not delay — if you have reason to suspect cancer — see your doctor promptly.

Issued by the N.Z.Branch of the British Empire Cancer Campaign Society and the New Zealand Department of Health.



