

## REVIEW

### Role of ERM Proteins in Oral carcinogenesis – An Insight

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**Running title** – ERM Proteins in Oral carcinogenesis

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**Abstract**

The ERM proteins are a group of three related proteins (ezrin, radixin and moesin) which play a major role in maintaining structural stability and integrity of the cell cortex by coupling transmembrane proteins to the actin cytoskeleton. They also aid in signal transduction between the intracellular and extracellular compartments of the cell. These proteins determine the cell survival, cell migration, cellular adhesion and regulation of membrane protrusion thereby playing a key role in pathological events such as cancer cell invasion and metastasis. Altered expression of ERM proteins contributes to carcinogenesis and metastasis. This article provides an insight on the role of ERM proteins in oral carcinogenesis.

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