



24th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Virtual Conference

October 22-24, 2021

Support • Education • Communication • Research • Hope



Sponsored by
ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 1102, Olney, MD 20830-1102
thyca@thyca.org • (877) 588-7904
www.thyca.org

Welcome!

Dear Friends,

We are honored to welcome you to the 24th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference. Thank you very much for coming.

These three days offer you terrific opportunities to learn and ask questions of numerous experts from a wide array of leading thyroid cancer treatment and research centers.

We invite you to also take part in the many informal roundtable discussions and the other special events during the weekend. These are great places to give and receive support in person from people who understand what you are going through, who want to hear your stories, and who will offer encouragement and support.

We want to express our deep appreciation to all our speakers, session leaders, and roundtable facilitators. You are donating your time because of your deep commitment to the well-being of everyone with thyroid cancer, and their families and friends. We thank you and everyone who has contributed to this weekend.

The conference is the result of more than a year of dedicated work by volunteers coast to coast. You will meet many of them here this weekend. Many others who gave long hours are unable to be here with us.

This event is also made possible through the generosity of numerous individuals and organizations who support our cause through generous financial donations as well as contributions of goods and services.

We invite you to experience all this conference has to offer. Stay in touch with each other and get information through our many free support services in the future. We look forward to getting to know you.

– The Conference Planning Team and Conference Volunteers



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Thank You to Our Members

No one should have to face a diagnosis of thyroid cancer alone. By joining one of our online support groups, or face-to-face support groups, you are a member of the thyroid cancer community.

We invite you to become a dues-paying member as well, and help ThyCa sustain, strengthen, and extend our services and support to survivors, families, and friends around the world, as well as contribute to our research grants.

Your support also makes possible our outreach and awareness campaigns to the public.

- We have members with each type of thyroid cancer— papillary, follicular, medullary, anaplastic, and variants.
- Our members range in age from teens to 80s.
- Our members also include caregivers, health care professionals, and friends supporting our mission.
- Members live in 42 states and the District of Columbia, two Canadian provinces, and numerous other countries.
- We welcome new members at any time.
- Members may join for 1 year, 2 years, or as Lifetime Members.
- Membership forms are available at the online or mail-in on our website's Membership page.
- Thank you very much for your wonderful support!

Conference Information

REGISTRATION - CONFERENCE CENTRAL

www.thyca.org/conference

ThyCa INFORMATION TABLES

Visit our website at www.thyca.org for thyroid cancer publications, plus information about ThyCa local support groups, online groups, the Person-to-Person Network, volunteer opportunities, ThyCa Membership, and the ThyCa Rally for Research and Research Grants.

QUESTIONS and SUGGESTIONS

If you have questions about the Program or ThyCa, please email conference@thyca.org.

FUNDRAISER AUCTION

www.thyca.org/auction

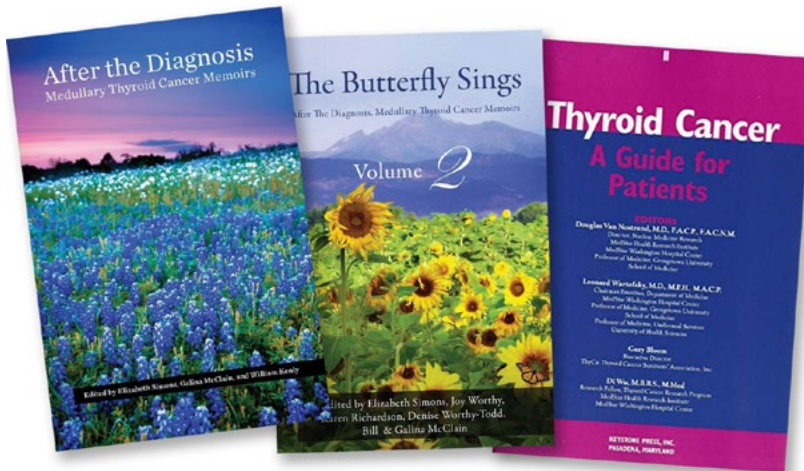
Numerous exciting auction items have been donated. Proceeds will benefit ThyCa's Research Funds and Grants for Thyroid Cancer Research. Help us reach our goal of a future without thyroid cancer!

ThyCa AWARENESS and SPIRIT ITEMS

We have Thyroid Cancer Awareness and Spirit items for sale in our Exhibit Hall Booth – wristbands, pins, ribbon magnets, shirts, note cards, bracelets, and more with the ThyCa logo. Proceeds from these unique items benefit our free support services, outreach, and research funding.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

- ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc., is not necessarily in agreement with or responsible for the statements made by any of the presenters at this conference. The speakers will reflect a variety of perspectives.
- Circumstances may require the cancellation of a session, the substitution of a presenter, or a change in a session time.
- Respect Privacy. People are sharing their personal experiences and sensitive information, and we can all benefit from this. Feel free to take notes for your personal use, but please respect people's privacy. What's said in the room stays in the room.
- No Solicitations. Please, no solicitations, promotions, recruiting, direct or indirect marketing, fundraising for other organizations, or distribution of materials for yourself, your projects or services, your organization, or other organizations' or individuals' services, projects, fundraisers, or products, whether nonprofit or for-profit. This conference is a nonprofit thyroid cancer support and education event sponsored by ThyCa and run by dozens of volunteers. We want to keep our focus on learning, sharing our experiences, hearing others' experiences, and supporting each other.



Visit ThyCa's Information Tables

Talk with our volunteers to learn about...

- Local support groups coast to coast in the U.S. and in The Bahamas, Canada, Costa Rica, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Kenya, The Philippines, and the United Kingdom
- One-to-one support from a ThyCa volunteer, matched by type of thyroid cancer, through our Person-to-Person Network
- FREE downloadable *Low-Iodine Cookbook*, 9th Edition
- FREE downloadable handbooks: *Thyroid Cancer Basics*, *Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer*, *Medullary Thyroid Cancer*, and *Thyroid Nodules: Testing and Follow-Up*
- Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month
- Volunteer opportunities
- ThyCa membership form



Shop for ThyCa Spirit Items at
https://thyca.org/how-to-help/spirit_items/

- All program times are EDT (New York City time)
- Check out our online auction, www.thyca.org/auction
- Your feedback is important! Please fill out the session evaluation survey at the end of each session.

Session Key by Suggested Audience

You are welcome to attend any session. The key indicates sessions of interest to a particular audience.

A: Anaplastic **ADV:** Advanced Disease **AYA:** Adolescent/Young Adult
H: Hurthle Cell **M:** Medullary **N:** Newly Diagnosed
PED: Pediatric **PF:** Papillary/Follicular **SR:** Session to be Recorded

10:00 – 11:10 a.m.

101

Roundtable: If you're new to thyroid cancer – things to know and questions to ask.

Barb Allhoff, ThyCa Volunteer **N**

102

Roundtable: If this is your first conference – things to know and questions to ask.

Abby Melendez, ThyCa Volunteer

103

Get “schooled”: Educational accommodations and advocacy for children diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

Pam Mendenhall, LISW, ThyCa Pediatric Support Moderator **PED**

104

A discussion of novel systemic therapies in thyroid cancer.

Kate Newbold, MB, ChB, MRCP, FRCR, FRCPE. Clinical Oncologist **ADV,M,SR**

105

Caregivers roundtable

Miguel Melendez, ThyCa Volunteer

11:10 – 11:20 a.m.

116

Welcome and announcements

Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director and Howard Solomon, ThyCa Board Chair

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

121

Getting to know each other: Open-microphone roundtables

ThyCa Volunteers

123

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other – Part 1

Bill McClain and Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers **M**

124

Anaplastic thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other

Cheri Lindle, MEd, ThyCa Volunteer **A**

125

Poorly differentiated thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other

Julie Martwick, ThyCa Volunteer

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

131

The ABCs of thyroid cancer: Understanding key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.

Lindsay A. Bischoff, MD,
Endocrinologist **N,SR**

132

Patient decision-making in low-risk papillary thyroid cancer, including active surveillance.

Louise Davies, MD, MS, FACS,
Otolaryngologist; Anna Sawka,
MD, PhD, Endocrinologist; and R.
Michael Tuttle, MD, Endocrinologist

AYA,N,PED,PF,SR

133

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other – Part 2

Bill McClain, Bill Nelson and
Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers **M**

134

Contemporary surgical treatment of differentiated (papillary and follicular) thyroid cancer and recurrent thyroid cancer.

Gary L. Clayman, DMD, MD, FACS, Thyroid Cancer Surgeon

ADV,AYA,H,N,PED,PF,SR

135

A general discussion on radioactive iodine, when to use it, and how much to use.

Erik Mittra, MD, PhD, Nuclear Medicine Physician

ADV,AYA,H,N,PED,PF,SR

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

141

Your mouth, salivary glands, and teeth: Preventing and solving issues caused by treatments, including radioactive iodine or external beam radiation.

Mark S Chambers, DMD, MS,
Oral Medicine Specialist **SR**

142

Roundtable: How do I meditate anyway? Using mindful meditation for stress relief.

Roberta Perry, ThyCa volunteer

143

Medullary thyroid cancer: Medical management at the beginning of the journey.

Naifa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist;
and Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon

M,SR

144

Update on the management of anaplastic thyroid cancer.

Maria E. Cabanillas, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist **A,SR**

145

Haga sus preguntas a la médica en español.

Laura Boucai, MD, Endocrinólogo **SR**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

151

Panel: Am I a candidate for less-invasive treatment?

A discussion about percutaneous alcohol ablation, radiofrequency ablation, and scarless surgery.

Moderator: Mark L. Urken, MD, FACS,
FACE, Otolaryngologist

Panelists: Victor J. Bernet, MD,
Endocrinologist; Jennifer L. Holkem,
Patient Advocate; and Jonathon
O. Russell, MD, Thyroid Surgeon

ADV,AYA,H,M,N,PF,SR

152

Radioiodine refractory (non-avid, RAI resistant) thyroid cancer. Novel redifferentiation therapies.

Laura Boucai, MD, Endocrinologist

ADV,AYA,H,PF,SR

153

Somatostatin receptor based therapy in medullary thyroid cancer.

Herbert Chen, MD, FACS,
Endocrine Surgeon

M,SR

154

Monitoring of low and intermediate risk papillary and follicular thyroid cancer patients in the first five years after initial treatment(s).

Stephanie Fish, MD, Endocrinologist **AYA,PED,PF,SR**

155

Patient-reported outcomes after thyroid surgery. What others report about complications, side effects, and worry.

Megan R. Haymart, MD, Endocrinologist **SR**

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

161

Redifferentiation: An ongoing trial.

Alan L. Ho, MD, Oncologist

ADV, AYA, H, PF, SR

162

An individualized approach to thyroid hormone replacement for thyroid cancer patients.

Kaniksha Desai, MD, ECNU, Endocrinologist **SR**

163

Medullary thyroid cancer: Targeted therapy before and/or after surgery.

Mark E. Zafereo, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon **M, SR**

164

A discussion about the updated anaplastic thyroid cancer guidelines.

Electron Kebebew, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon

A, SR

165

Navigating health insurance; Trying to figure out how to pick a health insurance plan that actually covers your medical expenses?

This session will explain your health insurance options, current laws regarding pre-existing conditions and other consumer protections, how to pick a plan that works for you, and how to get financial assistance to help you pay for health insurance.

Monica Fawzy Bryant, Esq, Attorney **SR**

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

171

Young adults virtual meet-up

For people ages 18 to 40.

Aime T. Franco, PhD, AYA Cancer Survivor **AYA**

172

Virtual anaplastic thyroid cancer meet-up

Patti Turner, ThyCa Volunteer **A**

173

“Meddie” (medullary thyroid cancer) virtual meet-up

Bill McClain, ThyCa Volunteer **M**

174

Thyroid cancer and the importance of first-person narratives.

The filmmaker will walk participants through her creative process of producing a documentary film about her treatment for papillary thyroid cancer. The session will center the patients’ perspective and how it is represented or excluded from film and TV. Participants will be invited to share their own experiences and thoughts on the subject. *What would representation in TV/film look like for you? How have you maintained/discovered/rewritten your own personal narrative since your diagnosis?*

Bryn Silverman, Filmmaker and Thyroid Cancer Survivor

7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

185

Update on trials for thyroid cancer in Australia

Bruce Robinson, MD, Endocrinologist

A, ADV, AYA, M, PF, SR

9:00 – 10:00 p.m.

191

Radioactive iodine use in the management of patients with thyroid cancer

Monica Rossleigh, MD, Nuclear Medicine Physician

ADV, AYA, H, PED, PF, SR

RECORDINGS

501

Panel: Discussione sul cancro alla tiroide in italiano. La diagnosi preoperatoria del nodulo tiroideo maligno.

Cosimo Durante, MD, Endocrinologo **SR**

502

Panel: Discussione sul cancro alla tiroide in italiano. La terapia e il follow-up del cancro della tiroide.

Laura Fugazzola, MD, Endocrinologo **SR**

511

日本における甲状腺癌マネジメントのオーバービュー。

Part 1: Thyroid nodules

甲状腺に結節が見つかったら」(20分) 杉谷 巖、MD、PHD、内分泌外科医 **SR**

512

日本における甲状腺癌マネジメントのオーバービュー。

Part 2: Benign/follicular tumor

良性/濾胞性腫瘍の場合」(12分) 杉谷 巖、MD、PHD、内分泌外科医 **SR**

513

日本における甲状腺癌マネジメントのオーバービュー。

Part 3: Papillary thyroid carcinoma

乳頭癌と診断された場合」(30分) 杉谷 巖、MD、PHD、内分泌外科医 **SR**

514

日本における甲状腺癌マネジメントのオーバービュー。

Part 4: Anaplastic/ medullary thyroid carcinoma

未分化癌、髄様癌と診断された場合」(20分) 杉谷 巖、MD、PHD、内分泌外科医 **SR**

521

Câncer de tireoide no Brasil Incidência e Tratamento

Ana O. Hoff, MD, Endocrinologista **SR**

- All program times are EDT (New York City time)
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PED: Pediatric **PF:** Papillary/Follicular **SR:** Session to be Recorded

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

201

Discussion about thyroid nodules and pathological diagnosis, and types of thyroid tumors and pathological features

Zubair W. Baloch, MD, PhD, Pathologist
ADV, AYA, H, PED, PF, SR

202

Improving communication between doctors and thyroid cancer patients: Would a decision aid help?

Vaninder K. Dhillon, MD, FACS, Otolaryngologist **SR**

203

Navigating access to systemic therapy for advanced thyroid cancer in Canada

Monika K. Krzyzanowska, MD, MPH, FRCPC, FASCO, Medical Oncologist
ADV, AYA, H, M, PED, PF, SR

204

International Thyroid Oncology Group: An introduction

This session will begin at 9 a.m.

Gregory W. Randolph, MD, FACS, FACE **SR**

205

Thyroid cancer survivorship and what it means to you

Anjali Kapoor-Davis and Brandee Rockett, ThyCa Volunteers

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

211

Genetic testing for inherited syndromes in newly diagnosed non-medullary thyroid cancer in young patients including PTEN and DICER1 related syndromes.

Yuri E. Nikiforov, MD, PhD, Pathologist
ADV, AYA, N, PED, PF, SR

212

Roundtable: Let's talk about receiving a thyroid cancer diagnosis.

Batya Reckson, LCSW-R, Oncology Social Worker

213

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Including MEN2

Michelle Perkins, LCSW **M**

214

HypoPara: An unexpected complication after thyroid cancer surgery.

This session is for patients who suffer from hypoPARathyroidism and have difficulty maintaining their serum calcium level after having their thyroid removed.

Ryan Polly, PhD, MEd; Chrissy Bonatch and Cece Donoghue, ThyCa Volunteers

215

Discussion with a doctor about anaplastic thyroid cancer and Hurthle cell thyroid cancer. What's new?

Jochen J. Lorch, MD, MSc, Medical Oncologist **A, ADV, H, SR**

11:10 – 11:20 a.m.

226

Welcome and announcements

Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director and Anita Hubbard, ThyCa Board Member

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

231

The ABCs of thyroid cancer: Explaining key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps

Sarika N. Rao, DO, Endocrinologist

SR

232

Thyroid cancer imaging update: Ultrasound, CT, MRI, whole body scan, or PET/CT

Robert Flavell, MD, PhD, Nuclear Medicine Physician **SR**

233

Medullary thyroid cancer: How to monitor it with lab results and imaging; the location of the most common metastases, and how to find them.

Whitney S. Goldner, MD, Endocrinologist **M,SR**

234

Pediatric thyroid cancer roundtable: Coping, treatment options, and being part of a community of survivors

Carol DiFelice and Pam Mendenhall, LISW, ThyCa Volunteers

PED

235

Overview and discussion about thyroid cancer and pregnancy.

Elizabeth N. Pearce, MD, MSc, Endocrinologist **SR**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

241

Controversies in thyroglobulin and thyroglobulin antibodies lab results.

Jonathan S. LoPresti, MD, PhD, Endocrinologist; and Carole A. Spencer, PhD, FACB, Professor of Medicine

ADV,AYA,H,N,PED,PF,SR

242

Discuss the low-iodine diet with a dietitian

Ashley Kratovil, RDN, Dietitian

ADV,AYA,N,PED,PF,SR

243

Panel discussion: Updates from the Medullary Thyroid Cancer and MEN2 Registry

Ruth A. Amaku, MPH, Senior Research Coordinator; Jessica Foft, Clinical Research Coordinator; Chelsea Herholdt, Clinical Research Coordinator; and Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, Surgeon

M,SR

244

Panel discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 1

What tumor genetics tells us, and doesn't tell us, and how it relates to the patient.

Aime T. Franco, PhD, AYA Cancer Survivor

When should families worry about an inheritable risk for developing thyroid cancer?

Jonathan Wasserman, MD, PhD, Pediatric Endocrinologist

PED,SR

245

Update on AYA thyroid cancer and discussion on friendships, dating, relationships, and how thyroid cancer affects them

For people ages 18 to 40.

Melanie Goldfarb, MD, Endocrine Surgeon

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

251

The treatment(s) is/are over, what's next?

Johnny L. Rollins, APRN, ANP-C, Advanced Practice Provider

252

A dietitian talks about diet and healthy eating

Ashley Kratovil, RDN, Dietitian **SR**

253

Medullary thyroid cancer: An open forum for discussion and questions and answers with a surgeon.

Gary L. Clayman, DMD, MD, FACS, Thyroid Cancer Surgeon **M**

254

Panel discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 2

Children are not just small adults: An update on pediatric thyroid cancer and recurrent and persistent thyroid cancer: A surgeon's perspective.

Peter Angelos, MD, PhD, Endocrine Surgeon

Care in the community: Information you need to know to try to optimize care for your child as well as being a knowledgeable advocate for the next pediatric patient diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

Andrew J. Bauer, MD, FAAP, Pediatric Endocrinologist **PED,SR**

255

Tratamiento quirúrgico del cáncer de tiroides en español.

Carlos S. Duque, MD, Cirujano de Cabeza y Cuello **SR**

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

261

Targeted therapies for advanced thyroid cancers; patient expectations. *An overview of thyroid cancer care as it has evolved to today's new approved therapies, therapies in clinical trials and on the horizon as well as future therapies in development.*
Bryan R. Haugen, MD, Endocrinologist

A,ADV,AYA,H,M,PF,SR

262

Ultrasound in the management of thyroid cancer
Salem Noureldine, MD, Endocrine Surgeon

263

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Breakout rooms by disease status to talk after hearing from some of the doctors
Karen Geisenberger, Bill Nelson, Kelley Pratt, and Florence Zysman, ThyCa Volunteers **M**

264

Pediatric thyroid cancer session 3
Ask a doctor your questions about pediatric thyroid cancer, from minimally invasive to advanced disease.
Andrew J. Bauer, MD, FAAP, Pediatric Endocrinologist

PED,SR

265

Roundtable: Discussion among adolescents and young adults
For people ages 18 to 40.
Aime T. Franco, PhD, AYA Cancer Survivor **AYA**

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

271

Is there a role for immunotherapy in thyroid cancer?
Bryan R. Haugen, MD, Endocrinologist

A,ADV,AYA,H,M,PF,SR

272

Yoga for cultivating ease and self-compassion
Alison Christiansen, LCSW, Kripalu Yoga teacher

273

Importance of tumor testing
Three patient stories involving rare papillary thyroid cancer mutations (nTRK, RET-PTC and ALK).
Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD, Oncologist and Susan Spinosa, ThyCa Volunteer

A,ADV,AYA,M,N,PF

274

AYA roundtable: Self-care and thyroid cancer
Bev McLaughlin, MA, Patient Navigator **AYA**

275

Roundtable: Anaplastic thyroid cancer
Cheri Lindle, MEd, ThyCa Volunteer **A**

Support the 20th ThyCa Auction
Go to www.thyca.org/auction and help us raise much-needed funds for thyroid cancer research.
The auction ends at 9 p.m. EDT tonight.

- All program times are EDT (New York City time)
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10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

301

Thyroid cancer management during COVID-19

Toni Beninato, MD, Endocrine Surgeon; Claire E. Graves, MD, Endocrine Surgeon; and Carrie C. Lubitz, MD, MPH, Endocrine Surgeon **SR**

302

The many mutations of papillary thyroid cancer and why they need to be identified

Eric J. Sherman, MD, Oncologist
ADV,AYA,PF,SR

303

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Questions as we begin day 3

Karen Geisenberger, ThyCa Volunteer **M**

304

ThyCa support group facilitators: current and prospective

Abby Melendez, Director of Support Groups and Theresa Wickerham, ThyCa Program Coordinator

305

Roundtable on health promotion: Sharing experiences with diet, exercise, and other complementary approaches to well-being.

Aime T. Franco, PhD, AYA Cancer Survivor and Cal Pierce, ThyCa Volunteer

11:10 – 11:20 a.m.

316

Welcome and announcements

Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director and Howard Solomon, ThyCa Board Chair

11:35 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

321

Panel discussion: Thyroid hormone

Antonio Bianco, MD, PhD, Endocrinologist; Francesco S. Celi, MD, Endocrinologist; Jacqueline Jonklaas, MD, PhD, MPH, Endocrinologist; and Lizzy McAninch, MD, Endocrinologist **SR**

322

Test your cancer: Genomic cancer testing overview

Shari Bates, BSN, RN, OCN, CCM; Catherine Shappley, MSN, RN; and Valentina D. Tarasova, MD, Endocrinologist
A,ADV,AYA,H,M,N,PF,SR

323

Medullary thyroid cancer: Update on medical management

Ramona Dadu, MD, Endocrinologist
M,SR

324

Hurthle cell thyroid cancers – these are NOT papillary or follicular thyroid cancers.

Where is the research going in this disease and what has been done so far?

David G. McFadden, MD, Endocrinologist **ADV,AYA,H,SR**

325

Roundtable: Conquer the fear of cancer recurrence

Theresa Wickerham, ThyCa Program Coordinator

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

331
What's on the horizon in thyroid cancer research
John A. Copland, III, PhD, Biologist
A,ADV,AYA,H,M,PF,SR

332
Approaches for RAI therapy and RAI refractory (non-avid, RAI resistant) disease
Mabel Ryder, MD, Endocrinologist
ADV,H,PF,SR

333
Medullary thyroid cancer: Does anyone have any more questions? What are you confused about?
Harlan Perrins, ThyCa Volunteer **M**

334
Surgical complications: Voice issues and other problems
David Myssiorek, MD, FACS, Otolaryngologist **SR**

335
Helping families communicate better with each other and with their medical team, including the value of emotional intelligence and the role of behavioral styles
Cheri Lindle, MEd, ThyCa Volunteer

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

341
Panel discussion: Final question and answer session. We will address whatever questions have come up as the meeting has progressed.
Moderator: R. Michael Tuttle, MD, Endocrinologist
Panelists: Carrie C. Lubitz, MD, MPH, Endocrine Surgeon; Mabel Ryder, MD, Endocrinologist; and Lori J. Wirth, MD, Medical Oncologist **SR**

3:35 – 4:00 p.m.

356
Conference wrap-up: Resources and next steps after the conference, your feedback on the conference, and suggestions for next year.
Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director and Theresa Wickerham, ThyCa Program Coordinator

Thank you for attending! We hope to see you in person next year in Los Angeles, California!



The ThyCa Memorial Quilts and Video

The ThyCa memorial quilts and video slide show were created by two longtime ThyCa volunteers.

Through these tributes, we honor and remember our loved ones who have lost their lives to thyroid cancer.

The quilts are the creation of Leah Guljord of Florida. Cheri Lindle of Oklahoma developed the video slide show. Jessica Weese of Washington is now managing the video slide show.

We will show the video at different times during the Conference.

If you would like for your loved one to be remembered in future tributes, please contact Jessica at jweese@thyca.org.

Speakers & Presenters – Thank You!

Barb Allhoff, ThyCa Volunteer, Ballwin, Missouri.

Ruth A. Amaku, MPH is a senior research coordinator at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Missouri City, Texas.

Peter Angelos, MD, PhD, FACS is the Linda Kohler Anderson Professor of Surgery and Surgical Ethics, chief of endocrine surgery, and associate director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. He completed his undergraduate degree, medical school, and a PhD in Philosophy at Boston University. He completed his residency in general surgery at Northwestern University and went on to complete fellowships in clinical ethics at the University of Chicago and in endocrine surgery at the University of Michigan. Dr. Angelos has written widely on improving outcomes of thyroid and parathyroid surgery, minimally invasive endocrine surgery, and ethical aspects in the care of surgical patients. Dr. Angelos is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Zubair W. Baloch, MD, PhD is professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He earned his medical degree from Liaquat Medical College in Jamshoro, Pakistan and his PhD from Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. Dr. Baloch's research expertise is in molecular and immunopathology of thyroid neoplasia and is clinical expertise is in endocrine pathology (cytology and histopathology).

Shari Bates, BSN, RN, OCN, CCM is an oncology nurse educator on the precision medicine team at Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals based out of the state of Washington. Prior to transitioning to a nurse educator role in 2017, she held the position of Oncology Nurse Navigator at UW Medicine Valley Medical Center in Renton, Washington. Her clinical background encompasses experience in neuro-oncology, community practice, and specialty case management. She holds certifications in Oncology Nursing, Case Management, and Care Coordination and Transition Management.

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Toni Beninato, MD, MS, FACS an endocrine surgeon at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Dr. Beninato is also an assistant professor of surgery at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She earned her medical degree from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School where she was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honors Society and completed her internship and residency at New York Presbyterian - Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Beninato's research focus is on healthcare disparities and access to care in patients with endocrine malignancies, with a special interest in studying the behavior of rare subtypes of endocrine cancers.

Victor Bernet, MD is an endocrinologist and chair of the Division of Endocrinology at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. He is also an associate professor in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. He has a special interest in thyroid disorders, thyroid nodules, ultrasound and biopsy, thyroid cancer, pituitary tumors, and endocrine tumors. Dr. Bernet received his medical degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine from Tripler Army Medical Center, United States Army followed by a fellowship in endocrinology from Walter Reed Army Medical Center, United States Army. Currently Dr. Bernet is an active member of the Endocrinology Specialty Council, Mayo Clinic Specialty Council, Mayo Clinic Clinical Practice Committee; member of Mayo Clinic Florida Department and Division Chairs; and coordinator of Thyroid Tumor Board MCF, Mayo Clinic Florida Committees. Dr. Bernet is the president of the ATA.

Antonio Bianco, MD, PhD is an endocrinologist at the University of Chicago Department of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Bianco received his MD from Santa Casa Medical School and a PhD in human physiology at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. In 1998, he was recruited to the Brigham and Women's Hospital as a physician scientist and associate professor of medicine, where he later became chief of the thyroid section. In 2008, he went on to become chief of the Division of Endocrinology at the University of Miami. Dr. Bianco's work focuses on iodothyronine deiodinases, which play a key role in thyroid hormone metabolism and action. Over 35 years, his continued work on these enzymes has increased understanding of their molecular and cellular biology and provided mechanistic insight into the variable responses to hormone replacement therapy. He joined the American Thyroid Association in 1987 and since then has served on seven committees, as a member of the board of directors, and as president in 2015-2016.

Lindsay Bischoff, MD is an associate professor of diabetes, endocrinology and metabolism, and medical director of the Thyroid Center at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Bischoff has a particular interest in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid nodules, thyroid cancer, and thyroid dysfunction. She is the medical director of the Vanderbilt Thyroid Center, active member of the American Thyroid Association, and is on both the thyroid cancer guidelines committee of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and the ATA. Dr. Bischoff completed her residency in internal medicine and an endocrine fellowship at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Before joining the Vanderbilt University Medical Center, she was an active member of the teaching faculty as an assistant professor at Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University.

Laura Boucai, MD is an endocrinologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and an associate professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City, New York. She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles and authored chapter books on thyroid cancer. Dr. Boucai serves on the editorial board of the Journal of the Endocrine Society and is an associate editor of Frontiers in Endocrinology. She is also an active member of The Endocrine Society and the American Thyroid Association where she chairs a committee. Her research interests are focused on achieving a better understanding of the pathogenesis of thyroid cancer and improving targeted therapeutic strategies for this disease.

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Mark S. Chambers, DMD, MS is chief of the section of Oral Oncology and Maxillofacial Prosthodontics in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He is the vice chair of Research Compliance and Regulatory Affairs. His clinical research efforts include studying the effects of stimulants, antibiotics, and enhancing the body’s immune system to manage dry mouth and injuries to the mouth caused by radiation and/or chemotherapy. Dr. Chambers earned his DMD and an MS in Biological Sciences at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Dr. Chambers is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Herbert Chen, MD, FACS is an endocrine surgeon at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Chen serves as the chair of the Department of Surgery, and the surgeon-in-chief of UAB Hospital and Health System. He is a professor of surgery and biomedical engineering and holds the Fay Fletcher Kerner Endowed Chair. His clinical interests include endocrine surgery, and he is a pioneer in radio-guided parathyroid surgery. Dr. Chen’s lab has been continuously funded for over 20 years and studies the role of Notch signaling in thyroid and neuroendocrine cancers. He is the American Cancer Society MEN2 Thyroid Cancer Professor. Dr. Chen is the editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Surgery* and serves on many other editorial boards. He is the president of the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons Foundation.

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Dr. Gary Clayman, DMD, MD, FACS is the founder and director of Clayman Thyroid Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida, an interdisciplinary program in partnership with Tampa General Hospital. Prior to founding Clayman Thyroid Cancer Center, Dr. Clayman spent 27 years as a head and neck endocrine surgeon at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. There, he served as the Distinguished Chair of Head and Neck Surgery and chief of Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery for 13 years. He remains a lifelong Professor Emeritus at The University of Texas MD Anderson for his career contributions to the field of thyroid surgery. Dr. Clayman is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Head and Neck Society. Dr. Clayman is a ThyCa medical advisor.

John A. Copland, III, PhD is a biologist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Copland leads the Cancer Biology and Translational Research Laboratory. His research is aimed at better understanding the mechanisms and pathways of carcinogenesis and tumor progression in order to develop novel, synergistic cancer therapies. He is focused on cancer, individualized medicine, and new drug development.

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Louise Davies, MD, MS is an associate professor of surgery at the Dartmouth Institute, Veterans Affairs Medical Center in White River Junction, Vermont. She also serves as Chief of Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery. She spent the 2017-2018 academic year as a Fulbright Global Scholar grantee, traveling to Japan and England to do research on thyroid cancer and gain expertise in surgical clinical trial design and implementation. She is best known for her work to define and mitigate the problem of overdiagnosis in thyroid cancer. She is a subject matter expert reviewer for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force on thyroid cancer screening, on a task force for the International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France to make recommendations about thyroid monitoring after nuclear accidents, and as an advisor to the state of North Carolina on thyroid cancer cluster evaluation.

Kaniksha Desai, MD, ECNU is an endocrinologist and clinical assistant professor of endocrinology at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. She completed her endocrinology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida, with an emphasis on the management of patients with thyroid cancer. Dr. Desai’s clinical practice, located in the Endocrinology Clinic Hoover Pavilion, Palo Alto, California, focuses on the management of patients with thyroid diseases, including thyroid nodules and thyroid cancers, and the management of patients with pituitary disorders. She also maintains board certification in neck ultrasonography and internal medicine.

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Stephanie Fish, MD is an endocrinologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York. Dr. Fish earned her medical degree from NYU School of Medicine. She completed her training in internal medicine and endocrinology at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Fish is currently running a clinical trial through Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center titled, *Study of Resistance to Thyroid Hormone After Long-term Exposure in People With Thyroid Cancer*.

Robert Flavell, MD, PhD is an associate professor in the section of Molecular Imaging in the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging at the University of California in San Francisco, California. Dr. Flavell is the chief of the Division of Molecular Imaging and Therapeutics (formerly nuclear medicine), in the Department of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging. Dr. Flavell's laboratory focuses on the development of new molecular imaging and therapeutic tools for better understanding of disease progression in patients with prostate and other cancers.

Jessica Foft is a clinical research coordinator and licensed phlebotomist with 10+ years of clinical research experience at University of California San Francisco in San Francisco, California. She works in the Neuro-Oncology/Neuro-Epidemiology Adult Glioma Study and UCSF Airway Clinical Research Center SPIROMICS study. She will coordinate the adult and pediatric arms of the MTC/MEN2 registry at UCSF.

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Laura Fugazzola, MD is an associate professor of endocrinology and the head of the Center of Excellence in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer at the Istituto Auxologico Italiano IRCCS, Milan, Italy. Dr. Fugazzola concentrated her clinical and translational studies on differentiated and medullary thyroid cancer, and on thyroid dysmorphogenesis. She is the associate editor of the *European Journal of Endocrinology* and the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*. She is also an investigator or principal investigator for phase 3 protocols on TKIs for advanced thyroid cancer. Dr. Fugazzola has been one of the coauthors of the Italian consensus on thyroid cancer published in 2018 and the coordinator of the group which produced the 2019 European Thyroid Association Guidelines on advanced thyroid cancer. She is also the leader of the European Thyroid Association Cancer Group (ETA-CG).

Melanie Goldfarb, MD is an endocrine surgeon at Providence St. John's Health Center in Santa Monica, California. After graduating from Brown University and the University of Illinois College of Medicine, she completed her general surgery residency at Harvard Medical School and endocrine surgery fellowship at the University of Miami. She has been exclusively practicing endocrine surgery in Los Angeles since 2011. Her expertise is minimally invasive surgery for thyroid cancer and disorders, hyperparathyroidism, and adrenal tumors, including pheochromocytoma, Cushing's, Conns, and adrenal cancer.

Whitney Goldner, MD is professor of medicine, Dept of Internal Medicine, Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. She is the medical director of the Thyroid and Endocrine Tumor Program at UNMC/Nebraska Medicine. Dr. Goldner has a clinical and research interest in thyroid nodules and thyroid cancer. She started the Thyroid Cancer Collaborative Registry (TCCR) at the University of Nebraska, and now is the principal investigator of the ICARe2, a multicenter bioinformatics and biospecimen registry for all types of cancer which originated at the Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center/University of Nebraska Medical Center. She has served on multiple committees of the Endocrine Society, including the Scientific Education committee, CEU committee, Clinical Endocrine Education committee, Trainee committee, and most recently on the board of directors.

Claire E. Graves, MD, is an endocrine surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at the University of California Davis in Sacramento, California. After graduating from Yale University and Mount Sinai School of Medicine, she completed her general surgery residency at New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center. During her residency, she also completed a postgraduate research fellowship with the Surgical Innovations group at the University of California, San Francisco, where she returned after residency for endocrine surgery fellowship. Her research interests include surgical outcomes and patient quality of life, as well as surgical innovation and device development.

Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD is a surgeon and associate professor in the Department of Surgical Oncology at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She earned her medical degree at Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, North Carolina, followed by postgraduate training at Duke and at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She is author of numerous peer-reviewed original research articles, as well as book chapters. Dr. Grubbs is a recipient of a ThyCa thyroid cancer research grant and has spoken at many ThyCa conferences. Dr. Grubbs is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Bryan R. Haugen, MD is an endocrinologist at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Haugen is professor of medicine and pathology, as well as head, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Diabetes, and chair of Endocrine Neoplasms Research. Dr. Haugen's clinical and research interests focus on thyroid cancer, including molecular therapeutic targets. Specific areas of research include nuclear hormone receptors (RXR, TR, PPAR) and kinase signaling pathways as therapeutic targets in thyroid cancer, as well as proteomic approaches to molecular markers in thyroid neoplasms. He presented a ThyCa webinar on Thyrogen in September 2012, available on ThyCa's web site. Dr. Haugen is a past president of the American Thyroid Association and a ThyCa medical advisor.

Megan R. Haymart, MD is an endocrinologist at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Dr. Haymart's research focuses on variation in the management of thyroid cancer with an emphasis on the role of patients, providers, and health systems in thyroid cancer diagnosis and treatment. She also studies thyroid cancer outcomes and the rise in thyroid cancer incidence. She is principal investigator of the NCI-funded R01 grant "Treatment Decision Making in Low-Risk Thyroid Cancer" and the AHRQ-funded R01 grant "Imaging Practices and Overdiagnosis of Thyroid Cancer." Dr. Haymart received her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, completed internal medicine residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and completed a fellowship in endocrinology, diabetes, and metabolism at the University of Wisconsin. She participates in creating the National Comprehensive Cancer Network thyroid carcinoma guidelines.

Chelsea Herholdt is a clinical research coordinator at the University of California, San Francisco. Chelsea joined the UCSF team as Clinical Research Coordinator and Site Data Manager for the Medullary Thyroid Cancer Registry in early 2021. She began her work in the sciences publishing in *Acta Crystallography* in 2015, moving to clinical research in outpatient oncology shortly after. After a brief hiatus in the hospitality industry, Chelsea returned to UCSF and is working closely with the Endocrine Surgery team on multiple trials

Alan L. Ho, MD, PhD is a medical oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City, New York. He specializes in the treatment of head and neck malignancies, specifically cancers of the salivary glands and thyroid. Dr. Ho earned his medical degree at Stanford University where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He did his residency at Weill Cornell-NY Presbyterian and Fellowship at MSKCC. He specializes in the management of head and neck squamous cell carcinomas, thyroid cancers, salivary cancers, and non-melanoma skin cancers. His research is focused upon the translational science of developing novel therapeutics for these malignancies. He is the Principal Investigator of two NIH R01s and a co-PI in the MSKCC Thyroid Cancer Spore program. His research interest lies in translating emerging scientific knowledge of these diseases into new drug therapies.

Ana O. Hoff, MD is an endocrinologist at the University of Sao Paulo Medical School, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Dr. Hoff graduated from the Universidade De Brasilia (Unb) Faculdade De Medicina. She is an associate physician at the Onco Star Clinic Full Member of D'Or Oncology doctor of the clinical staff of Hospital São Luiz Itaim – Rede D'Or. She is also head of the Endocrinology Service of the Cancer Institute of the State of São Paulo/ faculty of medicine at the University of São Paulo. Dr. Hoff completed her residency in endocrinology and metabolism in the combined program of Baylor College of Medicine and University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She received her doctorate in endocrinology from the Federal University of São Paulo. Dr. Hoff's research focus has included the various types of thyroid cancer, multiple endocrine neoplasia, adrenal carcinoma, osteoporosis, and bone loss in cancer patients.

Jennifer Holkem is a thyroid patient advocate and freelancer from Madison, Alabama. In 2014, I was suffering with thyroid nodules. Multiple doctors advised me to have my functional thyroid removed. I fought for 5 years to avoid this surgery, potential complications, and a lifetime of thyroid medication. After doing my own research and advocating for myself, I was able to save my thyroid through a procedure called thyroid RFA. Amazed by the lack of available information on and limited access to this procedure, I became a passionate educator and advocate for patients. These nonsurgical procedures are not easily accessible or universally covered by insurance, yet they are supported by a tremendous amount of research as viable and preferred treatments for thyroid nodules, cysts, and some cancers. I am committed to helping other patients avoid unnecessary surgery and preserve their quality of life.

Jacqueline Jonklaas, MD, PhD, MPH is an endocrinologist at MedStar Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Jonklaas obtained her MD, residency, and fellowship training at Georgetown University. Dr. Jonklaas is the director of the Georgetown Clinical Research Unit and has published research regarding treatment and outcomes in patients with thyroid cancer. She is the chief operating officer of the American Thyroid Association. She has been a member of the Endocrine Society since 1997 and serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism* and as a member of the Endocrine Society Self-Assessment Committee.

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Ashley Kratovil, RD, CDN is a registered dietitian at The Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. She received her bachelor's degree in nutrition and completed her dietetic internship at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is currently completing her master of science in clinical nutrition at Rutgers University. Ashley started her career working at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota with the inpatient blood and marrow transplant program and oncology units. She currently works with the inpatient oncology population at Mount Sinai providing nutrition therapy for many different diseases including thyroid cancer.

Monika K. Krzyzanowska, MD, MPH, FRCPC, FASCO is a medical oncologist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University of Toronto in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Her research program aims improve the quality of care received by cancer patients. She combines patient-level studies focusing on specific quality issues in the oncology population such as drug safety and toxicity with population-based research. Dr. Krzyzanowska obtained her medical degree and clinical training at the University of Toronto and completed a research fellowship at the Centre for Outcomes and Policy Research at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. She earned her Master of Public Health from Harvard University.

Jonathan S. LoPresti, MD, PhD is an endocrinologist at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California. Dr. LoPresti received both his medical degree and his PhD in physiology from the University of Southern California. He completed his residency at the LAC and USC Medical Center. Dr. LoPresti has contributed to over fifty presentations, recently lecturing on a case of an aggressive papillary thyroid cancer arising in the third trimester of pregnancy. In addition, he has had leadership roles in the American Thyroid Association and has been published in numerous journals, abstracts, and book chapters.

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Carrie C. Lubitz, MD, MPH is an endocrine surgeon at Harvard Medical School in Newton, Massachusetts. Dr. Lubitz is an associate professor of surgery and section head of the Massachusetts General Hospital Endocrine Surgery Unit, and a senior scientist at the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute for Technology Assessment. Her research focus is to improve the health and well-being of patients with benign and malignant endocrine-related diseases. She is the principal investigator of an NIH/NCI R-37 (R01-type merit award) award to examine the potential impact of new diagnostic technologies and personalized management strategies in patients with thyroid cancer using mathematical disease simulation modeling and an American Cancer Society Research Scholar Award to develop a patient-reported instrument to assess thyroid-cancer specific quality of life.

Lizzy McAninch, MD is an endocrinologist and clinical associate professor at Stanford Hospital and Clinics in Stanford, California. She received her medical degree from University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Her research focuses on understanding aspects of thyroid hormone metabolism and genetic differences that impact these pathways.

David G. McFadden, MD is an endocrinologist at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. Dr. McFadden is an assistant professor of internal medicine and biochemistry. His clinical interest is in the treatment of tumors arising from endocrine glands, including thyroid cancer. He is a member of the American Thyroid Association and the International Thyroid Oncology Group and has been awarded research grants from the National Institutes of Health, American Thyroid Association, the Disease Oriented Clinical Scholars (DOCS) program at UT Southwestern, and the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT). His current research focuses on using genetic engineering and chemical screens to discover new treatments for cancer.

Bev McLaughlin, MA is a patient navigator at the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora, Colorado. Ms. McLaughlin is a member of the administrative staff in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism.

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David Myssiorek, MD, FACS is an otolaryngologist at Bronxcare Health System in Bronx, New York. He is the author of numerous articles on thyroid cancer surgery and other head and neck surgery. A graduate of New York University School of Medicine, Dr. Myssiorek did his internship at Lenox Hill Hospital and was Chief Resident at New York University/Bellevue. He is the author of numerous articles on thyroid cancer surgery and other head and neck surgery. Dr. Myssiorek is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Kate Newbold, MB, ChB, MRCP, FRCR, FRCPE is a clinical oncologist at The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, Chelsea, Sutton, United Kingdom. Dr Newbold received her MB in 2007 from The Royal Marsden. She completed her specialist training at The Royal Marsden and Guy's and St Thomas' in London. Her research interests include functional imaging applied to the oncological management of head and neck cancer, dosimetric delivery of radioisotopes and novel systemic therapies in thyroid cancer.

Yuri E. Nikiforov, MD, PhD, is vice-chair for molecular pathology and director of the Division of Molecular and Genomic Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Nikiforov oversees the operations of the molecular and genomic pathology laboratory in the Clinical Lab Building. He also serves as co-director of the Multidisciplinary Thyroid Center at UPMC. His clinical expertise is in surgical pathology of the thyroid gland and in molecular testing of thyroid tumors. His research is focused on thyroid cancer genetics and mechanisms of chromosomal rearrangements and other mutations induced by ionizing radiation in thyroid cells and other cell types. Dr. Nikiforov is a ThyCa medical advisor.

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Elizabeth N. Pearce, MD, MSc is an endocrinologist at Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Pearce received her undergraduate and medical degrees from Harvard University and a masters' degree in epidemiology from the Boston University School of Public Health. She completed her residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and her fellowship in endocrinology at Boston University. She is a professor of medicine at Boston University School of Medicine in the section of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Nutrition. She is a past president of the American Thyroid Association. She also serves as the regional coordinator for North America for the Iodine Global Network. She recently co-chaired the American Thyroid Association's Thyroid in Pregnancy Guidelines Task Force. Her research interests include the sufficiency of dietary iodine in the U.S., thyroid function in pregnancy, the thyroid effects of environmental perchlorate exposure, and the cardiovascular effects of subclinical thyroid dysfunction.

Michelle Perkins, LCSW is a medical social worker for Beacon Hospice, an Amedisys Company located in Bangor, Maine. In 1993 Ms. Perkins earned her master's degree in social work from the University of Maine. She was diagnosed with multiple endocrine neoplasia Type 2B at the age of 15.

Roberta S. Perry, ThyCa Volunteer, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania.

Ryan Polly, PhD, MEd is founder and president, HypoPara Support & Advocacy, Inc. located in Boston, Massachusetts. Ryan is a vice president for diversity, equity, and inclusion for a major healthcare system. As a fellow hypopara traveler (status post-thyroidectomy due to Graves' disease in 2011), Ryan understands the challenges of living with this chronic illness while struggling to maintain a professional career and raise children (he has 5). Ryan's goal is to bring the HypoPara community together to not only support one another but to lift our collective voices so that our needs are met. Ryan believes that community is critical for wellbeing and wants to ensure that our community has a chance to truly thrive.

Gregory W. Randolph, MD FACS FACE FEBS is a professor of otolaryngology head and neck surgery and the Claire and John Bertucci endowed chair in thyroid surgical oncology at Harvard Medical School in the Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Randolph has a thyroid and parathyroid surgical practice focused on thyroid cancer, benign thyroid surgery and hyperparathyroidism. Dr. Randolph has focused the bulk of his research on recurrent laryngeal nerve anatomy, preservation and monitoring during thyroid cancer surgery with focus on importance of laryngeal exam, recognition of lymph node metastasis and revision cancer surgery. He founded and directs the Harvard Thyroid and Parathyroid Surgery Course for surgeons and has directed international surgical courses in Italy, Germany, Switzerland and Russia.

Sarika N. Rao, DO is an endocrinologist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Rao received her medical degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She completed a residency in internal medicine at the University of Massachusetts and stayed for a fellowship with the school's Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes. Dr. Rao went on to earn the sole annual oncologic endocrinology fellowship at the University of Texas' prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center. There, she focused on the treatment of conditions such as advanced thyroid and adrenal cancers, as well as endocrinopathies that arise from other cancers or chemotherapy.

Batya Reckson, LCSW-R is an oncology social worker with over 10 years' experience with head, neck and thyroid cancers at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, New York. She has a B.A. in social work and M.Sc.s. in clinical social work from the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Prior to her immigration to the USA, she worked in trauma and crisis counseling. She is a certified EMDR therapist with a private practice in Brooklyn, New York.

Bruce Robinson, MD is an endocrinologist and professor at the University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. He has been the head of the Cancer Genetics Unit at the Kolling Institute of Medical Research, Royal North Shore Hospital, since 1989. He has been chairman Hoc Mai Foundation, a major program in medical and health education and exchange with Vietnam since 2001. In 2015 Dr. Robinson was appointed as chair of Australia's peak advisory and funding body for medical research, National Health and Medical Research Council. His research has focused on identifying genetic changes which either predispose or directly cause endocrine tumors, and among other highlights has been the formation of an international consortium of families from around the world to study medullary thyroid carcinoma and pheochromocytoma.

Johnny L. Rollins, APRN, ANP-C is an advanced practice provider at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He works in the Department of Endocrine and Hormonal Disorders with a focus on thyroid disorders, including thyroid cancer.

Monica Rossleigh, MD practices nuclear medicine at The Prince of Wales and Sydney Children's Hospitals in Sydney, Rose Bay, NSW, Australia. After undertaking her training in nuclear medicine in Australia in Sydney and in Perth, she undertook further training at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. She is the author of 90 scientific papers and six book chapters. She has served on the national committee of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine (ANZSNM) on two separate occasions for a total of 10 years culminating in the role of vice president which she undertook twice. Dr. Rossleigh was the scientific program director of the AANMS Masterclass in Thyroid and Parathyroid Diseases in 2014 and the AANMS Thyroid Cancer Symposium in 2015.

Jonathon O. Russell, MD is a thyroid surgeon at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Russell is the director of endoscopic and robotic thyroid and parathyroid surgery and an associate professor of otolaryngology, head and neck surgery. He earned his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and completed his residency in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Russell specializes in scarless transoral thyroidectomy, radiofrequency ablation of thyroid nodules, and parathyroidectomy. Dr. Russell is also the director of the Johns Hopkins Multi-Disciplinary Thyroid Tumor Center.

Mabel Ryder, MD is an endocrinologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. She earned her medical degree from the University of Texas and completed her fellowship and residency at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Dr. Ryder specializes in head and neck cancer and nuclear medicine therapy. She has contributed to many publications on thyroid cancer.

Anna Sawka, MD, PhD is a clinician scientist and endocrinologist at Toronto General Hospital Research Institute in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Sawka was recently promoted to professor in the Division of Endocrinology, Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto. She holds a PhD in Health Research Methodology/Biostatistics and Epidemiology from McMaster University. Her research focus is primarily in thyroid cancer.

Catherine Shappley, MSN, RN is an oncology nurse educator on the precision medicine team at Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals located in the southwest region. Catherine educates healthcare professionals in the adult and pediatric settings on adverse event management and oncology disease states. She spent the majority of her clinical career in an outpatient Adult Oncology/Hematology practice in Northern Mississippi. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and recently earned a master's degree in Nursing Administration and Leadership from South University in Savannah, Georgia.

Eric J. Sherman, MD is an oncologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York. Dr. Sherman received his medical training at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and did his residencies at New York University/Bellevue Medical Center. After a fellowship at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, he joined the head and neck oncology service where he specializes in thyroid cancer and head and neck cancers. Much of his research focuses on targeted therapy in the treatment of thyroid cancers (differentiated thyroid cancer, medullary thyroid cancer, and anaplastic thyroid cancer). Dr. Sherman is board certified in internal medicine and medical oncology. Dr. Sherman is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Bryn Silverman is a writer and producer for film/TV based in Louisville, Kentucky. She graduated from the USC School of Cinematic Arts, and is an Associate Programmer, Tribeca Film Festival.

Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA is an endocrine and oncologic surgeon at the University of California, San Francisco in San Francisco, California. Her previous position was at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. She is a principal investigator or co-principal investigator of studies of new drug treatments for differentiated thyroid cancer (papillary/follicular), medullary thyroid cancer, and anaplastic thyroid cancer. Following undergraduate education at Princeton University, she received an MA in Human Sciences at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. She received postgraduate training at Johns Hopkins Hospital as well as John Radcliffe and Churchill Hospitals in Oxford, England. Dr. Sosa is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Carole A. Spencer, PhD, FACB is a professor of research medicine at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine in Pasadena, California. Dr. Spencer earned her PhD from Glasgow University in Scotland. She then went on to complete two fellowships, one in clinical biochemistry at Glasgow, and the other at the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry. Dr. Spencer's major areas of research interest are thyroid physiology and pathology, thyroglobulin and thyroid cancer, immunoassay techniques, thyroid hormone metabolism, and the cost-effective use of thyroid tests. Her current research includes clinical significance of Tg and TgAb in patients with thyroid cancers, parameters for optimizing thyroid hormone suppression of TSH for DTC. Studies on hypothalamic/pituitary mechanisms for regulating TSH and testing for thyroid dysfunction during pregnancy. Dr. Spencer is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Susan Spinosa, ThyCa Volunteer.

Iwao Sugitani, MD, PhD is an endocrine surgeon at the Nippon Medical School, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Sugitani received his MD from the University of Tokyo in 1989 and worked at the Division of Head and Neck, Cancer Institute Hospital, Japanese Foundation for Cancer Research from 1994 to 2013. He is currently a graduate school professor and chairman of the Department of Endocrine Surgery, Nippon Medical School. He is an active member of the International Association of Endocrine Surgeons, the Endocrine Society, the advisory committee of the Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons, and of the board of directors for the Japan Thyroid Association. He is also a representative organizer of the Anaplastic Thyroid Carcinoma Research Consortium of Japan. His research is focused on clinical studies for thyroid cancer including active surveillance of low-risk papillary microcarcinoma, risk stratification of papillary thyroid carcinoma, and clinical trials for anaplastic thyroid carcinoma.

Valentina D. Tarasova, MD is an endocrinologist at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Tarasova received her MD at Kubansky State Medical University. She completed an internal medicine residency at Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT and an endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism fellowship at the University of Omaha, NE. Most recently, Dr. Tarasova has completed a thyroid cancer fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Tarasova's clinical interests include thyroid neoplasm, particularly diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of thyroid carcinoma (from low risk to advanced progressive forms of thyroid cancer). Her research interests include the role of molecular markers in diagnosing and determining the prognosis of thyroid neoplasm, risk stratification of patients with thyroid cancer and developing tools to estimate the prognosis and determine the management of patients with thyroid cancer.

R. Michael Tuttle, MD is an endocrinologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York. Dr. Tuttle is also a professor of medicine at the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University. Dr. Tuttle's research projects in radiation-induced thyroid cancer have taken him from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands to the Hanford Nuclear power-plant in Washington State to regions in Russia that were exposed to fallout from the Chernobyl accident. He served on the American Thyroid Association committee that produced the current guidelines for the management of benign and malignant thyroid nodules. He also chaired the National Comprehensive Cancer Network Thyroid Cancer panel and served on the Endocrinologic and Metabolic Drugs advisory committee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Tuttle is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Mark L. Urken, MD is the founder and medical advisor of the THANC Foundation in New York, New York. Dr. Urken received his medical degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine and then completed two years of general surgery training on the Tufts surgical service in Boston and three years of surgical specialty training in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery at Mount Sinai Medical Center. He completed his fellowship at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh where he trained in microvascular reconstructive surgery of the head and neck. Following his training, Dr. Urken served as the chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the Mount Sinai Medical Center. In 2004, he was recruited to join the Continuum Cancer Centers of New York as the director of head and neck surgical oncology of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery of Mount Sinai Downtown.

Jonathan Wasserman, MD, PhD is a pediatric endocrinologist and associate professor at The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He also serves as a project investigator of genetics and genome biology at the Research Institute. Dr. Wasserman's research focuses primarily on pediatric thyroid cancer and spans both clinical and translational domains. His research includes genetics and genomics of pediatric papillary thyroid cancer, health care utilization patterns among young patients with thyroid cancer at diagnosis and during follow-up and the identification of prediction models to improve assessment of thyroid nodules in children and to gauge malignant potential. He received his medical training at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and subsequently pursued an internship and residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital in Boston. He previously earned a PhD and completed postdoctoral training in genetics at the University of Cambridge, England. Dr. Wasserman serves as co-chair of the American Thyroid Association's (ATA) Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Guidelines.

Lori J. Wirth, MD is a medical oncologist and associate professor of medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, and Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. Her research focuses on new treatments for RET-driven cancers, correlates of treatment responses for aggressive differentiated thyroid cancer that is resistant to radioactive iodine, and related areas. She is past president of the International Thyroid Oncology Group. She is a ThyCa medical advisor.

Mark E. Zafereo, MD is a head and neck surgeon and associate professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He is section chief of head and neck endocrine surgery and associate medical director of the Endocrine Center. He holds national committee appointments for professional associations and is past president of the Houston Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. His clinical practice focuses on patients with thyroid cancer and parathyroid neoplasms. Dr. Zafereo is a ThyCa medical advisor.

THANK YOU to all of ThyCa's Volunteers

who give so many hours of your time and talents.

Our heartfelt Thank You to our more than 400 volunteers, who:

- Answer emails to thyca@thyca.org and our other ThyCa emails, and calls to our Toll-Free Number
- Lead Local Support Groups throughout the United States and in Ireland
- Oversee our Online Communities: 11 Email Support Groups, Facebook, Inspire, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Snapchat, Twitter, & YouTube
- Give one-to-one support, matched by type of thyroid cancer, in our Person-to-Person Network
- Expand and update our website and develop our publications in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish
- Organize our Conferences, Workshops, Seminars, plus our online Webinars
- Give and post materials in community locations and health care settings
- Represent ThyCa at medical meetings, cancer awareness events, community health fairs, television broadcasts, health and human services conferences, and other events.
- Raise awareness of thyroid cancer and the importance of neck checks and early detection, treatment, and lifelong follow-up
- Build and strengthen relationships with medical professionals, associations, other cancer survivorship organizations, and community groups
- Raise funds and in-kind donations to support our services and thyroid cancer research
- Get involved in Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month in person, online, and by mail
- Reach out throughout the year in community groups and the media to support survivors and families locally, regionally, and worldwide and to educate the public about thyroid cancer
- Serve in many key roles: Team Leadership, Volunteer Training and Encouragement, Mailings, Recordkeeping, Financial Transactions, Filing, and more

We welcome new volunteers, for one-time projects and for ongoing volunteering. Learn more in the How To Help section of www.thyca.org

In Honor of Our Caregivers

We honor the families and friends of thyroid cancer survivors. You give us your support and love in countless ways. As patients, struggling through our thyroid cancer journey, we realize how difficult it is for you, too. It takes courage to stare down cancer, both as a patient and as the one standing by.

Thank you for facing it with us.

Helpful Links

Papillary/Follicular Thyroid Cancer

www.thyca.org/pap-fol

Medullary Thyroid Cancer

www.thyca.org/mtc

Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer

www.thyca.org/atc


Pediatric Thyroid Cancer


www.thyca.org/pediatric


 **Inspire**™ together we're better™
– 88,476 Members

 ThyCaInc – Over 27,700 Likes


 @ThyCaInc – Over 5,200 Followers


 ThyCaInc – Over 5,000 Followers

 Over 200 Likes

 ThyCaInc – Over 200 Friends

 ThyCaInc – Over 370 Followers

 ThyCaInc – Over 370 Connections

 4,000+ Subscribers, 110+ Videos

ThyCa's Research Fundraising and Grants

ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc., and our community have joined together to raise funds for thyroid cancer research. Together, we are able to make a tremendous difference!

Our goal is cures for all thyroid cancer. We support research on all types of thyroid cancer — papillary, follicular, medullary, and anaplastic. Our Research Funds welcome all contributions, of any size.

Our Research Grants are open to all researchers and institutions, worldwide. Independent expert panels of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AAES) and the American Thyroid Association (ATA) evaluate the grant proposals and select projects to be funded.

In 2003, ThyCa proudly awarded our first thyroid cancer research grant. We award grants each year. In 2021 we awarded 6 grants. One grant is named the Ric Blake Memorial Thyroid Cancer Research Grant, in memory and honor of ThyCa Co-Founder Rick Blake. Our grant recipients are from these institutions:

- Cancer Center Karolinska, Sweden
- Cochin Institut, France
- Columbia University, New York, New York
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Massachusetts
- Duesseldorf University Hospital, Germany
- Duke University, North Carolina
- Gustave Roussy, France
- Harvard Medical School & Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Massachusetts
- Harvard Medical School & Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
- Johns Hopkins Medical School, Maryland
- Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts
- MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, District of Columbia
- Medstar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC
- MedStar Washington Hospital Center/MedStar Georgetown University, District of Columbia
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York
- National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health, Maryland
- National University of Cordoba, Argentina
- New York University Langone Medical Center, New York
- Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
- Ohio State University, Ohio, and Medical University of Gdansk, Poland
- Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute, Pennsylvania
- Phoenix VA Health Care System, Arizona
- Providence Portland Cancer Center, Oregon
- Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, Illinois
- Tulane University School of Medicine, Louisiana
- University Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland
- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Arkansas
- University of California, Los Angeles, and Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Health Care System, California
- University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
- University of Colorado, Aurora, Colorado
- University of Texas Southwestern, Texas
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Tennessee
- Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri

Realizing that every mighty tree begins with a single seed, and that every seed planted by human hands begins with elements of both hope and faith, ThyCa planted this seed in the hope that it will grow strong and tall, and with the faith that others will answer the call and help nurture its growth.

We invite you to join us in our quest to find cures for Thyroid Cancer. Our heartfelt thanks!



Medical Advisory Council

ThyCa is fortunate to have a distinguished Medical Advisory Council of 57 members with expertise in thyroid cancer. This board provides valuable counsel and supports our goals in education, treatment, and research. More than 50 distinguished specialists provide ongoing review and input for our website and materials. Thank you.

Erik K. Alexander, MD, Endocrinologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital, MA

Peter Angelos, MD, PhD, Endocrine Surgeon, University of Chicago, IL

Douglas W. Ball, MD, Endocrinologist, Johns Hopkins Medicine, MD

Andrew J. Bauer, MD, Pediatric Endocrinologist, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PA

Keith C. Bible, MD, PhD, Oncologist, Mayo Clinic, MN

Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD, Oncologist, Thomas Jefferson University, PA

Kenneth D. Burman, MD, Endocrinologist, MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C.

Naifa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX

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Gary L. Francis, MD, PhD, Endocrinologist, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, TX

Robert F. Gagel, MD, Endocrinologist, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX

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Lori J. Wirth, MD, Medical Oncologist, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, MA

Mark Zafereo, MD, Head & Neck Surgeon, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX

In Memory and Gratitude
Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD
Jeffrey F. Moley, MD
Yolanda C. Oertel, MD
Arturo R. Rolla, MD

Our Mission

ThyCa is an international nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization of thyroid cancer survivors, family members, and health care professionals, dedicated to education, communication, support, awareness for early detection, and thyroid cancer research fundraising and research grants. Our mission is:

- To Educate, so we and our families better understand our disease
- To Participate, so others learn from our experience
- To Communicate, so we and our health care professionals better understand each others' needs.
- To Support Research, for a future free of thyroid cancer.

Since 1995 we have been developing a unique support network to link survivors and healthcare professionals around the world. Volunteers donate their time and effort to make our dreams a reality.

People in 115 countries receive our free services. Our free services and materials are available to everyone whose life has been touched by thyroid cancer.

Your organization is invited to partner with ThyCa in Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month (September) and year-round campaigns

Raise awareness with brochures, flyers, and wallet cards

- Free AACE Neck Check Cards
- Free flyers in English and Spanish: "Find It Early," "Know the Signs," "Thyroid cancer is NOT a good cancer," "About Thyroid Cancer," and more
- Free Thyroid Cancer Awareness brochures
- Free wallet cards and patient services brochures

Our Services

2 Online Support Communities

Linked through the website. These include the ThyCa Inspire Thyroid Cancer Support Community, plus Groups.io discussion community.

Person-To-Person Support

One-to-one support with ThyCa volunteers, matched by thyroid cancer type and situation.

Local Support Groups

Around the United States and in Ireland.

Conferences, Workshops, Seminars

Our Conferences bring thyroid cancer experts, survivors, and families together to learn the latest about thyroid cancer and give and receive support. We also hold many free one day regional workshops and local seminars.

Comprehensive Website

Thyroid cancer information in 11 languages: English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish. Dozens of free downloadable publications, videos, plus events calendar, support group connections, Facebook and Twitter connections, and more. All medical information receives review and input from more than 50 thyroid cancer experts, including members of ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council plus more specialists. ThyCa adheres to the HONCode Principles for health information on the internet.

Research Fundraising & Thyroid Cancer Research Grants

ThyCa has proudly awarded 98 thyroid cancer research grants totaling more than \$2.5 million, to researchers in 7 countries.

Survivors' Toll-Free Telephone Number

(877) 588-7904

Free Tools for Education, Support, & Awareness

For these and more, visit www.thyca.org

Handbooks

Thyroid Cancer Basics

- About all types of thyroid cancer
- Download or by mail
- Free in bulk to healthcare professionals
- In English, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, and Spanish

Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer

- In English, Chinese, and Spanish

Medullary Thyroid Cancer

- In English, Chinese, and Spanish

Thyroid Nodules: Testing and Follow-Up

- In English and Arabic

Online Monthly Newsletter

Subscribe at www.thyca.org/guestbook

Patient Information Packets by Mail

Request at www.thyca.org/guestbook, or (877) 588-7904

Free Pediatric Sportpacks

With information plus helpful tips for children and teens with thyroid cancer, and their parents

Low-Iodine Cookbook 9th Edition

- Downloadable from www.thyca.org
- In English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish

FNA Booklets

for Patients and Physicians

- *Fine Needle Aspiration of the Thyroid: The Guide for Patients* (in English and Spanish)
- *Fine Needle Aspiration of the Thyroid: A Procedural Guide for the Physician*

Guestbook and Free Monthly Newsletter

Use our website's convenient Guestbook to sign up for our free online newsletters and special announcements, to request a free Patient Information Packet, and to add or update your contact information.

Thyroid Cancer Support Groups

Affiliated with ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc. | www.thyca.org

ALABAMA

Mobile
Opelika

ARIZONA

Chandler
Phoenix
Tucson

ARKANSAS

Benton

CALIFORNIA

Benecia
Foster City
Fresno
Los Angeles
Modesto
Mountain View
Newport Beach
Redondo Beach
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego
San Luis Obispo
Santa Cruz

COLORADO

Colorado Springs
Denver
Glenwood Springs

CONNECTICUT

Stratford
Waterbury

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington

FLORIDA

Fort Myers
Hollywood
Jacksonville
Melbourne
Miami
Orlando
Sarasota-Manatee
South Florida
Tampa

GEORGIA

Atlanta
Columbus

IDAHO

Hayden

ILLINOIS

Chicago

INDIANA

Evansville
Lawrenceburg

IOWA

Cedar Rapids

KANSAS

Coffeyville

KENTUCKY

Latonia
Lexington
Louisville
Pikeville

MAINE

Falmouth
Scarborough

MARYLAND

Baltimore
Silver Spring

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor
Troy

MINNESOTA

St. Paul

MISSISSIPPI

Tupelo

MISSOURI

Kansas City
N. Kansas City
St. Louis

NEBRASKA

Lincoln

NEW JERSEY

Neptune
Trenton
Vineland
Wood-Ridge

NEW YORK

Bronx
Buffalo
Latham
Liverpool
Manhasset
Manhattan
Rochester
Troy

NORTH CAROLINA

Concord
Greensboro
Raleigh
Wilmington

OHIO

Canton
Cincinnati
Columbus
Strongsville
Toledo

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City
Tulsa

OREGON

Bend
Portland

PENNSYLVANIA

Bethlehem
Hershey
NW Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Southampton

SOUTH CAROLINA

Myrtle Beach

TENNESSEE

Memphis
Nashville

TEXAS

Amarillo
Dallas

UTAH

Salt Lake City

VERMONT

Northern Vermont

VIRGINIA

Arlington
Williamsburg

WASHINGTON

Hayden, ID
Seattle
Vancouver

WISCONSIN

Fox Cities
Madison
Manitowoc

International Support Groups

IRELAND

Dublin

— *In Loving Memory* —

We join together in remembering these wonderful men and women who fought thyroid cancer with courage, strength, and grace.

We dedicate this page to them and to all those who have gone before us.

Sheryl Andreasen	Shawn Friedkin	Nace
Denise Angus	William Furlong, Jr.	James (Jim) Parmenter
Mark Barbour	Todd Goetz	Frank Jeffrey Persing
William Bassett	Chuck Gordon	David Reynolds
Kazim Bayus	Nanci Griffith	Sarah Schaleger
Linda Bell-Powell	Janice Haines	Charles Slane
Joan Bennett	Terry Hall	Mke Sloan
Gene Bishop	Paul Hanly, Jr.	Michael Stewart
Luisa Blahetka	Harold Johnson	Wanda Tritt
Joseph Cancelino	George Keely, Jr.	Eudine West
Carlos Castillo	Kitty	Adrienne Whitman
Paula Clayton	Rita Knight	Janet Winkelman
Margaret Contreras	Brock Kuntz	William Wood
Ralph Cooper	Burdett Loomis	Charlotte Wunderlich
Mahaut de la Mare	Maritza	Ashley Wyss
Dwayne Eller	Belinda Matthews	Steve Zielonka
Jeanty father of Crystal Jeanty	Mike Mellema	
Betty Fleshman	Misty Moore	

"Life has been shared, the joys and the sorrows. This has been as real and strong as anything in life. The love that once was born can never die, for it has become part of us, of our life, woven into the very texture of our being."

—John Lovejoy Elliott

Executive Director and Board of Directors

ThyCa's Board of Directors leads policy, planning, oversight, and service coordination. ThyCa's full-time Executive Director leads general management, operational planning, and day-to-day management. In collaboration with the Board and Committees, our Executive Director also furthers ThyCa's vision and strategic plan to strengthen and extend our support services, education, and outreach, especially for underserved populations, and to foster research advocacy and alliances with professionals and community organizations worldwide.

Kurt E. Alexander, Esq., *General Counsel*

Kurt has served as ThyCa's General Counsel since 1997, after his ex-wife was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. He is Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by The Florida Bar and The National Board of Trial Advocacy. He is also AV Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating possible, and reflecting the confidential assessments of the Bar and the judiciary. He is a member of ABOTA, the American Board of Trial Advocates, at the Advocate level. Kurt currently serves as a member of the Executive Council of The Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar, and he is its Liaison to the Rules of Civil Procedure Committee of The Florida Bar. He has served as Chair of The Florida Bar Grievance Committee for his part of Florida. Mr. Alexander lives in Central Florida, where he has practiced law for over 30 years.

Gary Bloom, *Executive Director*

Gary manages ThyCa's programs and services, leads the Conference planning, is liaison to ThyCa's Medical Advisory Council, and represents ThyCa at meetings and events. He co-founded ThyCa with 16 others and was ThyCa's Founding Board Chair. He has facilitated the ThyCa Washington, DC, Support Group since 1999. With 3 physicians, he co-edited *Thyroid Cancer: A Guide for Patients*. Gary was diagnosed with papillary thyroid cancer with tall cells in 1995, received numerous treatments, and has participated in clinical trials. He lives in Olney, Maryland, with his wife, Hilary.

Bridget Corcoran, *Treasurer*

After being diagnosed at 21 in 2008, Bridget became passionate about helping fellow survivors as well as educating others about thyroid cancer. She has been the co-facilitator of the ThyCa Chicago, Illinois, Support Group since 2011; has represented ThyCa at medical professionals' meetings; and has led sessions at ThyCa Conferences. When she's not working as business manager at her family's electrical construction company, she enjoys cooking, photography, spending time with family and friends, travel, practicing mindfulness meditation, knitting and driving her BMW. She holds a BSBA in management from Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Karen Ferguson

Karen is one of ThyCa's 17 Co-Founders. Diagnosed with thyroid cancer in 1994, she began bringing thyroid cancer survivors together over the Internet in 1995. She coordinates ThyCa's Person-To-Person Network. Karen lives in Lake Wylie, South Carolina, with her husband and several retired racing greyhounds. She has been involved for many years with greyhound rescue and animal-assisted therapy as a Tester/Observer for The Alliance of Therapy Dogs.

Anita Hubbard, *Recording Secretary*

Anita is a thyroid cancer survivor, diagnosed on Valentine's Day in 2013. Through her experience, Anita was inspired to help others through her own nonprofit focused on raising awareness and funds for thyroid cancer research. Anita is a former corporate executive, now focused on strategic business consulting and raising her young family in Texas.

Bill McClain

Bill is an author and businessman who lives with his wife in Milford, CT. He consults on Strategic Planning and published the book "Strategic Planning In This Age Of Disruption". Writing under the pen name William Kenly, he has published three books, including "The Dogs of Cancer: Dancing with Medullary Thyroid Cancer", and is an editor and contributing author to "After the Diagnosis: Medullary Thyroid Cancer Memoirs", and the new MTC book, "The Butterfly Sings". He has co-facilitated past conference roundtables with his wife Galina, and he is also on the Board of Directors of the Cornel Scott Hill Health Center in New Haven, CT. He was diagnosed with sporadic medullary thyroid cancer in 2008.

Denise Rivera

Denise joined the ThyCa Board in 2019 and is an 18-year survivor of thyroid cancer. Throughout her cancer journey, Denise had found that education, support, and fundraising for research are key ingredients in the fight against cancer. This experience led Denise to become a volunteer for ThyCa as a co-facilitator for the Denver ThyCa Support Group and committee member for ThyCa's Annual conference. A native Denverite with over 30 years of IT experience, Denise is a graduate of Regis College where she earned, cum laude, B.S. degrees in Computer Information Systems, Professional Accounting, and Business Administration-Management. For over 25 years, Denise has been a volunteer and fundraiser for numerous conservation organizations and children's cancer non-profits. In her free time, Denise enjoys needle craft work, reading, fly fishing, the shooting sports, hunting, snowshoeing, and hiking.

Howard Solomon, *Board Chair*

Howard is a thyroid cancer survivor and has a lifelong interest in endurance sports, including running and swimming. A graduate of the University of Michigan, he lives in Mill Valley, California with his wife and two children. Howard is Managing Partner for Finn Partners West. Finn Partners is a global group of strategists who develop communications programs across sectors and media platforms.

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ThyCa's services and resources are all made possible by the dedicated volunteer efforts of more than 400 individuals and by the generous financial and in-kind donations from individuals and organizations.

These contributions support our free year-round support services, outreach, *Low-Iodine Cookbook*, patient information packets, *Thyroid Cancer Basics*, *Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer*, *Medullary Thyroid Cancer*, and *Thyroid Nodules: Testing and Follow-Up Handbooks*, many more free publications, the webinar series, seminars, workshops, and this conference. The grants from organizations are unrestricted educational grants. Thank you very much to all our donors.

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