23rd International Thyroid Cancer Survivors’ Virtual Conference
October 23-25, 2020

Support • Education • Communication • Research • Hope

Sponsored by
ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors’ Association, Inc.
PO. 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 23rd 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!
REGISTRATION - CONFERENCE CENTRAL
www.thyca.org/conference

BOOKLET MESSAGES
The messages in this booklet are sponsored by friends and members of ThyCa. We thank you for your support.

ThyCa INFORMATION TABLES
Visit our tables 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.

Purchase our 25th anniversary tee at https://www.bonfire.com/thycas-25th-anniversary/ (multiple shirt styles available!)

Purchase a ThyCa mask at https://www.bonfire.com/thyca-mask/
### 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
- **C**: Caregivers
- **ESP**: Spanish
- **H**: Hypoparathyroidism
- **M**: Medullary
- **N**: Newly Diagnosed
- **PED**: Pediatric
- **PF**: Papillary/Follicular

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#### 10:00 – 11:10 a.m.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Roundtable: If you’re new to thyroid cancer – things to know and questions to ask.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Barb Allhoff, ThyCa Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Roundtable: If this is your first conference – things to know and questions to ask.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ThyCa Volunteer</td>
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<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Get “Schooled”: Educational accommodations and advocacy for children diagnosed with thyroid cancer.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pam Mendenhall, LiSW, ThyCa Pediatric Support Moderator</td>
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#### 11:30 – 11:40 a.m.

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<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Welcome and announcements</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Howard Solomon, ThyCa Volunteer</td>
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#### 11:45 – 12:45 p.m.

**Getting to know each other. Open microphone roundtables.** ThyCa Volunteers

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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>If the first letter of your last name starts with A through D.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>If the first letter of your last name starts with E through K.</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>If the first letter of your last name starts with L through Q.</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>If the first letter of your last name starts with R through Z.</td>
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#### 1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

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<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>The ABCs of thyroid cancer: Understanding key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kaniksha Desai, MD, ECNU, Endocrinologist</td>
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<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>Thyroid surgery</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Allen S. Ho, MD, Surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. When is active surveillance the right decision? Reconciling divergent opinions on treatment.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Surgical complications after thyroidectomy, including voice issues and hypoparathyroidism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>133</td>
<td>Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other – MTC survivors and caregivers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bill McClain and Kathryn Wall, ThyCa Volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>134</td>
<td>Lifestyle and cancer: Managing stress and anxiety</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Scott A. Irwin, MD, PhD, Psychiatrist</td>
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<tr>
<td>135</td>
<td>Updates on the management of anaplastic thyroid cancer</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Maria E. Cabanillas, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist</td>
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</table>
### 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

**Panel Discussion: About thyroid hormone therapy, testing, and dosing including T4, T3, and desiccated thyroid. Can my thyroid hormone preparation and dosing affect how I feel?**

*Room 1 A,ADV,M,PF*

Thyroxine replacement preparation, testing, targets and monitoring topic, and the new consensus statement on T4/T3 preparations.

Gregory Brent, MD, Endocrinologist, and Jerome M. Hershman, MD, Endocrinologist

*Understanding thyroid hormone metabolism.*

Jonathan S. LoPresti, MD, PhD, Endocrinologist

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<th>Panel Discussion: Thyroxine replacement preparation, testing, targets and monitoring topic, and the new consensus statement on T4/T3 preparations.</th>
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#### Novel chemotherapies for patients with metastatic papillary, follicular, or Hurthle cell thyroid cancer.

*Room 2 ADV*

Maria E. Cabanillas, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist

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<th>Novel chemotherapies for patients with metastatic papillary, follicular, or Hurthle cell thyroid cancer.</th>
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#### Medullary thyroid cancer: Medical management at the beginning of the journey.

*Room 3 M*

Naïfa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist, and Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon

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<th>Medullary thyroid cancer: Medical management at the beginning of the journey.</th>
<th>Naïfa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist, and Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon</th>
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<td>Room 3 M</td>
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### 4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

**Panel Discussion: Lifestyle and cancer**

*Room 4 PF*

Diet, and healthy eating.

Stephen J. Freedland, MD, Integrative Medicine

*Benefits of therapeutic exercise.*

Philip Chang, DO, Oncology Rehabilitation Medicine

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<td>Room 4 PF</td>
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#### Panel Discussion: Managing thyroid nodules: Determining if they are malignant or benign, and potential surgical planning.

*Room 1 A,ADV,M,PF*

Molecular testing of indeterminate thyroid nodules.

Erik K. Alexander, MD, Endocrinologist

Ultrasound imaging for lymph-node mapping and fine needle aspiration for surgical planning in thyroid cancer.

Julia E. Noel, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon

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<tr>
<th>Panel Discussion: Managing thyroid nodules: Determining if they are malignant or benign, and potential surgical planning.</th>
<th>Erik K. Alexander, MD, Endocrinologist, and Julia E. Noel, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon</th>
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#### Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Roundtable: Coping, Treatment Options, and Being Part of a Community of Survivors.

*Room 4 PED*

Carol DiFelice, and Pam Mendenhall, LISW, ThyCa Volunteers

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<th>Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Roundtable: Coping, Treatment Options, and Being Part of a Community of Survivors.</th>
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<td>Room 4 PED</td>
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#### Roundtable on health promotion: Sharing experiences with diet, exercise, and other complementary approaches to well-being.

*Room 5 M*

Cal Pierce, ThyCa Volunteer
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020 continued | All times listed as Eastern Daylight Time

5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

161 Roundtable: Percutaneous Alcohol Ablation for Treatment of Thyroid Cancer Nodules
   Room 1
   Daria Jerauld, ThyCa Volunteer

162 Roundtable: “How do you meditate anyway?”
   Room 2
   Roberta Perry, ThyCa Volunteer

163 Roundtable: You’re new to thyroid cancer and you want to talk about your journey.
   Room 3
   Roselle Kovitz, ThyCa Volunteer

164 Roundtable: Craft and Connect
   Room 4
   Alexa Jett, ThyCa Volunteer

165 AYA Roundtable: Let’s talk about keeping a job while dealing with thyroid cancer.
   Room 5
   Samantha Weese, ThyCa Volunteer

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

171 Young adults virtual meet-up. For people ages 18 – 40
   Room 1 AYA
   Samantha Weese, ThyCa Volunteer

172 Virtual anaplastic thyroid cancer meet-up
   Room 2
   Patti Turner, ThyCa Volunteer

173 “Meddie” (medullary thyroid cancer) virtual meet-up
   Room 3
   Bill McClain, ThyCa Volunteer

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.

Visit ThyCa’s Information Tables

Visit Our Virtual Exhibit Hall
Genetic testing for inherited syndromes in newly diagnosed non-medullary thyroid cancer in young patients including PTEN and DICER1 related syndromes.  
Room 1 ADV, AYA, PED, PF  
Yuri E. Nikiforov, MD, PhD, Pathologist

Roundtable: NTRK gene fusion-positive thyroid cancer. Patient stories.  
Room 2 ADV, PF  
Laura Perkins and Susan Spinosa, ThyCa Volunteers

Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Including MEN2 and familial MTC.  
Room 3 M  
Bill McClain and Kathryn Wall, ThyCa Volunteers

Racial disparities in thyroid cancer.  
Room 4  
Debbie Chen, MD, Endocrinologist

Anaplastic thyroid cancer roundtable: Discussion with a doctor.  
Room 5 A  
Jochen J. Lorch, MD, MSc, Medical Oncologist

Biomarker testing: Advanced cancer that needs testing to look for NTRK, RET and other therapeutic targets.  
Room 1 ADV, PF  
Naifa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist

The ABCs of thyroid cancer: Explaining key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.  
Room 2  
Angela M. Leung, MD, Endocrinologist

Panel Discussion: Updates from the MTC & MEN2 registry  
Room 3 M  
Ruth A. Amaku, MPH, Senior Research Coordinator, Jessica Foit, Clinical Research Coordinator, Jessica E. Gosnell, MD, Endocrine Surgeon, Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon, Mimi I. Hu, MD, Endocrinologist, Maya Lodish, MD, MHS.c, Endocrinologist, and Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, Surgeon

Panel Discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 1  
Room 4 PED  
Building a National Consortium to advance the care of pediatric patients with thyroid cancer.  
Andrew J. Bauer, MD, FAAP, Pediatric Endocrinologist, Aime T. Franco, PhD, Researcher, Amber R. Isaza, BA, Clinical Research Coordinator, and Ken Kazahaya, MD, MBA, FACS, Otolaryngologist  
When should families worry about an inheritable risk for developing thyroid cancer.  
Jonathan Wasserman, MD, PhD, Pediatric Endocrinologist

En Español: Una mesa redonda entre nosotros.  
Habitación 5 ESP  
Damaris Fernández, Claudia Figueroa, Mayte Sánchez, MD, y Socorro Vélez
1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

241 Controversies in the management of differentiated thyroid cancer/papillary thyroid cancer.

*Room 1 N, PF*

Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, Surgeon

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

*Room 2*

Mark S Chambers, DMD, MS, Oral Medicine Specialist

243 Panel Discussion: Locoregionally advanced, recurrent, and distant metastatic medullary thyroid cancer

*Room 3 M*

Douglas W. Ball, MD, Endocrinologist, Ralph P. Tufano, MD, Otolaryngologist, and Mark E. Zafereo, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon

244 Panel Discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 2

*Room 4 PED*

Surgical management of pediatric thyroid cancer; how to reduce complications.

Ken Kazahaya, MD, MBA, FACS, Otolaryngologist

What are the lifetime risks associated with the use of RAI therapy during childhood and adolescence.

Adina L. Alazraki, MD, Pediatric Radiologist

245 Panel discusión quirúrgica

*Habitación 5 ESP*

Seguimiento activo en cáncer bien diferenciado de tiroides, en lesiones pequeñas.

Hernan Tala, MD, Endocrinólogo

Tratamiento quirúrgico del cáncer de tiroides.

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

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

251 Post-operative issues: Incidence, causes, prevention, and solutions

*Room 1 M, PF*

David Myssiorek, MD, FACS, Otolaryngologist

252 Reclaiming Your Sexual Self After Cancer

*Room 2*

Marloe Esch, RN, OCN, Oncology Nurse

253 Radioactive iodine (RAI) therapy for RAI-refractory disease: “redifferentiation”

*Room 3*

Ezra E.W. Cohen, MD, Oncologist, and Steven I. Sherman, MD, Endocrinologist

254 Panel Discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 3

*Room 4 PED*

Monitoring for and treating thyroid cancer in survivors of non-thyroid malignancies.

Sogol Mostoufi-Moab, MD, MSCE, Pediatric Endocrinologist and Oncologist

Transitions: Helping young survivors understand and begin to manage their thyroid cancer.

Catherine Dinauer, MD, Pediatric Endocrinologist, and Aime T. Franco, PhD, AYA Survivor

255 Panel de discusión: Tratamiento después de la cirugía

*Habitación 5 ESP*

¿Cuáles son las indicaciones del yodo radioactivo?

Juan Antonio Vallejo, MD, Jefe de servicio de Medicina Nuclear

¿Cómo es el seguimiento del cáncer de tiroides luego de ser tratado?

Jaydira Del Rivero, MD, Oncólogo, Endocrinologo
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2020  continued  |  All times listed as Eastern Daylight Time

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

261  Targeted Therapies for Advanced Differentiated 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.
Room 1  A,ADV,M,PF
Andrew G. Gianoukakis, MD, Endocrinologist

262  How palliative care can be your ‘pal’ after a cancer diagnosis.
Room 2
Reanne Booker, NP, MN, BSN, Nurse Practitioner

263  A Patient’s Progress on Curing MTC with Cell Therapy: CAR-T and TCR-Transduced T cells That Recognize and Lyse MTC Cells.
Room 3  M
Timothy Erickson, PhD, Patient Researcher

264  Panel Discussion: Pediatric thyroid cancer session 4
Room 4  PED
Differences in clinical behavior and genetics between pediatric and adult patients with papillary thyroid cancer.
Aime T. Franco, PhD, Researcher
When should systemic therapy be considered for pediatric patients with thyroid cancer.
Steven G. Waguespack, MD, Adult and Pediatric Oncologic Endocrinologist

5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

271  Roundtable: Radioactive iodine (RAI) resistant thyroid cancer.
Room 1
Elizabeth Holliday, ThyCa Volunteer

272  Roundtable: Craft and Connect
Room 2
Alexa Jett, ThyCa Volunteer

273  Roundtable: Long-term survivors talk about their journeys
Room 3
ThyCa Volunteer

274  AYA Roundtable: Selfcare and thyroid cancer
Room 4  AYA
Samantha Weese, ThyCa Volunteer

275  Roundtable: Anaplastic thyroid cancer
Room 5
Cheri Lindle, MEd., ThyCa Volunteer

Support the 19th ThyCa Auction
Go to www.thyca.org/auction and help us raise much needed funds for thyroid cancer research.
The auction ends at 8 p.m. EDT tonight.
**A quick look into the impact of COVID-19 on thyroid cancer care, and an overview into research into outcomes**

Room 1

C. Lubitz, MD, MPH, Surgeon

**Approaches for RAI therapy and RAI refractory (RAI resistant) disease**

Room 2

Mabel Ryder, MD, Endocrinologist

**Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Questions as we begin day 3**

Room 3

Karen Geisenberger, ThyCa Volunteer

**ThyCa support group facilitators: current and prospective**

Room 4

Kathryn Wall, Director of Support Groups, and Theresa Wickerham, ThyCa Program Coordinator

**Welcome and announcements**

Room 1

Howard Solomon, ThyCa Volunteer

**Panel Discussion: Treatment options to learn about as we pursue care for papillary and follicular thyroid cancer.**

Moderator: R. Michael Tuttle, MD, Endocrinologist

*Room 1 P,F*

Active surveillance as a treatment option. Megan R. Haymart, MD, Endocrinologist

Percutaneous alcohol ablation of nodules. Mabel Ryder, MD, Endocrinologist

The role of Radio Frequency Ablation, and other thermal ablation techniques, in the management of thyroid cancer. Jennifer H. Kuo, MD, MS, Endocrine Surgeon.

**Before radioactive iodine.**

(1) Imaging and how it impacts radioactive iodine dose selection.

(2) Determining dose selection when not using dosimetry.

*Room 2 ADV,P,F*

Erik Mittra, M.D., Ph.D., Nuclear Medicine Physician

**Medullary thyroid cancer: Update on medical management, including discussing RET inhibitors.**

*Room 3*

Bryan McIver, MD, ChB, PhD, Endocrinologist

**Low-Iodine diet roundtable discussion**

*Room 4*

Daria Jerauld, BE, MS, ThyCa Volunteer
### 1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

**Panel Discussion: A patient-focused tumor board.**
What goes on “behind the scenes” when physicians discuss cases in a multidisciplinary session.

*Room 1*

Angela M. Leung, MD, Endocrinologist, Masha J. Livhits, MD, Endocrine Surgeon, and Michael W. Yeh, MD, Endocrine Surgeon

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**Panel Discussion: Is there a difference in how we are treated at different radiology facilities? What about between medical centers and community offices?**

*Room 2* ADV, PF

Crispin A. Chinn, MD, Nuclear Medicine Physician, and Erik Mittra, M.D., Ph.D., Nuclear Medicine Physician

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**Thyroid cancer: Everything I want to know in a discussion with a medical oncologist and a survivor but have been afraid to ask.**

*Room 3* ADV, M, PF

George Labonte, MTC Survivor, and Lori J. Wirth, MD, Medical Oncologist

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**Panel Discussion: Final question and answer session. We will address whatever questions have come up as the meeting has progressed.**

*Room 1*

Moderator: R. Michael Tuttle, MD, Endocrinologist
Panelists: Avital Harari, MD, MSc, Endocrine Surgeon, Mabel Ryder, MD, Endocrinologist, and Lori J. Wirth, MD, Medical Oncologist

### 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

**Panel Discussion: Is there a difference in how we are treated at different radiology facilities? What about between medical centers and community offices?**

*Room 2* ADV, PF

Crispin A. Chinn, MD, Nuclear Medicine Physician, and Erik Mittra, M.D., Ph.D., Nuclear Medicine Physician

### 3:50 – 4:00 p.m.

**Conference wrap-up: Resources and next steps after the conference, your feedback on the conference, and suggestions for next year**

*Room 1*

Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director, Theresa Wickerham, ThyCa Program Coordinator, and Conference Team

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Thank you for coming! We hope to see you next year in Los Angeles, California October 15-17, 2021!
Adina L. Alazraki, MD is a Pediatric Radiologist at Emory University School of Medicine and Children’s Hospital Healthcare of Atlanta, both in Atlanta, Georgia. She attended and graduated from Emory University School of Medicine and completed a residency in pediatrics. After 5 years in practice in a busy emergency room, she returned to Emory to complete a radiology residency and pediatric radiology fellowship. Her expertise spans from pediatric body MRI to nuclear medicine including treatments and all facets of Oncologic imaging. She serves as a member of the ATA pediatric guidelines task force, the chair for the oncology committee of the Society for Pediatric Radiology and executive board member for the Pediatric Imaging council to the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging and the section of radiology for the AAP. She currently is the Director for MRI and Nuclear Medicine at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

Erik K. Alexander, MD is an endocrinologist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Alexander has published over 150 peer-reviewed articles, mostly focused on the optimal evaluation of thyroid nodules and prevention of unnecessary thyroid surgery. Seminal articles have published in the New England Journal of Medicine, and the Annals of Internal Medicine. Dr. Alexander is a member of the 2016 American Thyroid Association (ATA) Guidelines Committee on the Care of Patients with Thyroid Nodules and Thyroid Cancer, and was co-chairman of a separate 2017 ATA Guidelines Committee on the Care of Patients with Thyroid Disease During Pregnancy. Dr. Alexander frequently speaks at National and International conferences on thyroid disease. He is an active clinician, caring for over 40 patients each week. He serves as a ThyCa medical advisor.

Ruth A. Amaku, MPH is the lead research coordinator for the MTC and MEN2 Registry at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Prior to joining the MTC & MEN2 Registry team, she spent three years serving at MD Anderson in various roles focused on patient-centric care, quality improvement, and patient-reported outcomes while pursuing a Master’s in Public Health from the University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston. Outside of work, she enjoys morning runs and creating scrapbooks for family and friends.

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Tim Erickson, PhD is a patient researcher who holds advanced degrees in Biomedical Engineering (UT-Austin) and Electrical Engineering (Colorado State). He was diagnosed with incurable Stage IV medullary thyroid cancer in 2014, while working at a biotech startup, a few months after graduating. Over the last six years, he has collaborated with great minds in MTC research and made it his personal mission to develop novel immunotherapies to treat and potentially cure MTC, initially setting up a lab in a research and made it his personal mission to develop novel immunotherapies to treat and potentially cure MTC, initially setting up a lab in a

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Ralph R. Tufano, MD, MBA, FACS is an otolaryngologist at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Tufano is the Charles W. Cummings MD Endowed Professor in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and the Director of the Division of Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. From 2009-2015, he directed the Johns Hopkins Hospital Multidisciplinary Thyroid Tumor Center. His practice focuses exclusively on the surgical management of thyroid and parathyroid diseases. He has authored numerous articles and book chapters and is a national and international speaker on the management of thyroid cancer. His areas of research include novel therapies for thyroid cancer, clinical application of molecular markers, and improving surgical outcomes for patients with thyroid and parathyroid diseases. Dr. Tufano is a ThyCa medical advisor.

R. Michael Tuttle, MD is an endocrinologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, New York, and a Professor of Medicine at the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is an active clinician and researcher specializing in the management of advanced thyroid cancer. He travels extensively both within the U.S. and abroad lecturing on the difficult management issues in thyroid cancer. 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.


Steven G. Waguespack, MD is an adult and pediatric endocrinologist and Professor of internal medicine and pediatrics at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. A native of Louisiana, Dr. Waguespack graduated summa cum laude from Loyola University in New Orleans, where he also participated in the presidential scholars honor program. He graduated from The University of Texas Medical School at Houston with honors and pursued training in internal medicine/pediatrics at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. He completed a combined adult and pediatric endocrinology fellowship at Indiana University and is board certified in both subspecialties. Dr. Waguespack’s major clinical and research interests are thyroid cancer, pituitary tumors, and hereditary syndromes of endocrine neoplasia. He enjoys providing endocrine care to patients of all ages. He is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.

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 undertook 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 Boston. He previously earned a PhD and completed post-doctoral training in genetics at the University of Cambridge, England.

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.

Michael W. Yeh, MD is an endocrine surgeon at the University of California Los Angeles Health in Los Angeles, California. After pursuing his studies at Stanford University and Harvard Medical School, Dr. Yeh trained in general surgery at UC San Francisco. He then completed the prestigious T.S. Reeve International Fellowship in endocrine surgery at the Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney, Australia. Dr. Yeh is an expert in minimally invasive parathyroid surgery, thyroid cancer, and adrenal tumors, including pheochromocytoma and adrenocortical carcinoma. He has published more than 100 scholarly articles and book chapters on these topics.

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. He is a ThyCa medical advisor.
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 2019, we awarded 10 grants. One grant is now named the Ric Blake Memorial Thyroid Cancer Research Grant, in memory and honor of ThyCa Co-Founder Ric 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
- 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
- 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!
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 thycagothyca.org and our other ThyCa emails, and calls to our Toll-Free Number
• Lead Local Support Groups throughout the United States and in The Bahamas, Canada, Costa Rica, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Kenya, The Philippines, and the United Kingdom
• 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

ThyCaInc – Over 280 Followers

– 71,426 Members

ThyCalnc – Over 370 Connections

3,050+ Subscribers, 110+ Videos

ThyCalnc – Over 4,310 Followers

ThyCainc – Over 200 Friends

ThyCalnc – Over 26,870 Likes

@ThyCalnc – Over 5,080 Followers

– 71,426 Members

ThyCalnc – Over 280 Followers

– 71,426 Members

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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, M.D., Endocrinologist, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, MA
Peter Angelos, M.D., Ph.D., Endocrine Surgeon, University of Chicago, IL
Douglas W. Ball, M.D., Endocrinologist, Johns Hopkins Medicine, MD
Andrew J. Bauer, M.D., Pediatric Endocrinologist, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, PA
Keith C. Bible, M.D., Ph.D., Oncologist, Mayo Clinic, MN
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Samuel A. Wells, M.D., Surgeon, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, MD
Lori J. Wirth, M.D., Medical Oncologist, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, MA
Mark Zafereo, M.D., Head & Neck Surgeon, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, TX

In Memory and Gratitude
Ernest L. Mazzaferrri, M.D.
Jeffrey F. Moley, M.D.
Yolanda C. Oertel, M.D.
Arturo R. Rolla, M.D.
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.

**Our Services**

**12 Online Support Groups**
Linked through the website. These include the ThyCa Inspire Thyroid Cancer Support Community, plus groups for Papillary/ Follicular (Thyca), Anaplastic, Medullary, Pediatric, Advanced Thyroid Cancer, Caregivers, Childbearing, Long-Term Survivors, Love, Loss, & Legacy, Young Adults, and Mental Challenges.

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

**Local Support Groups**

**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 84 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 Weekly Newsletter**
Subscribe at www.thyca.org/guestbook

**Patient Information Packets by Mail**
Request at www.thyca.org/guestbook, or (877) 588-7904

**Free Pediatric Backpacks**
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 Weekly 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 Local Support Groups

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

ALABAMA
Mobile
Opelika

ARIZONA
Chandler
Phoenix
Tucson

ARKANSAS
Benton

THE BAHAMAS
Freeport

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

CANADA
Brockville, Ontario

COLORADO
Colorado Springs
Denver
Glenwood Springs

CONNECTICUT
New Haven
Stratford
Waterbury

COSTA RICA
San Jose

DELAWARE
Dover
Newark

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Washington

FLORIDA
Cocoa
Fort Myers
Hollywood
Melbourne
Miami
North Miami Beach
Orlando
Sarasota-Manatee
South Florida
Tampa
Titusville

GEORGIA
Atlanta
Columbus

GREECE
Athens
Patras

HAWAII
Waikiki

HONDURAS
Tegucigalpa

IDAHO
Boise
Hayden

ILLINOIS
Belleville
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INDIANA
Evansville
Lawrenceburg
South Bend

IOWA
Cedar Rapids
Des Moines
Waterloo

IRELAND

KANSAS
 Coffeyville

KENTUCKY
Latonia
Lexington
Louisville
Pikeville

KENYA
Nairobi

MAINE
Falmouth
Scarborough

MARYLAND
Baltimore
Silver Spring

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Brockton
New Bedford

MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor
Charlevoix
Troy

MINNESOTA
St. Paul

MISSISSIPPI
Tupelo

MISSOURI
Kansas City
St. Louis

NEBRASKA
Lincoln

NEVADA
Reno

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nashua

NEW JERSEY
Neptune
Trenton
Vineland
Wood-Ridge

NEW YORK
Bronx
Buffalo
Latham
Manhasset
Manhattan
Rochester
Syracuse
Troy

NORTH CAROLINA
Concord
Greensboro
Raleigh
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OHIO
Canton
Cincinnati
Columbus
Strongsville
Toledo

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Tulsa

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Portland

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Harrisburg
Hershey
NW Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Southampton

THE PHILIPPINES
Cebu City

SOUTH CAROLINA
Myrtle Beach

TENNESSEE
Memphis
Nashville

TEXAS
Brownsville
Dallas
Houston

THE UNITED KINGDOM
Brentwood

UTAH
Salt Lake City

VERMONT
Northern Vermont

VIRGINIA
Arlington
Norfolk
Richmond
Roanoke

WASHINGTON
Seattle
Vancouver

WISCONSIN
Fox Cities
LaCrosse
Madison
Manitowoc
Milwaukee
Year-Round Teams and Coordinators
Our teams welcome new volunteers. Many Coordinators are here at the Conference. We have training sessions and “Get Involved” sessions for volunteers this weekend. If you’d like to volunteer for ThyCa, or talk with a coordinator, email thyca@thyca.org, or visit our website’s Volunteer page.

SUPPORT SERVICES
Online Support Groups: Gary Bloom, Theresa Wickerham  
E-Mail Response Team: Pat Paillard, Theresa Wickerham  
Local Support Groups: Kathryn Wall, Theresa Wickerham  
Memorial Quilts: Leah Guljord  
Memorial Video: Jessica Weese  
ThyCa Person-to-Person Network: Karen Ferguson  
Toll-Free Number Team: Karen Ferguson, Daria Jerauld

EDUCATION
Conference and Workshops: Gary Bloom, Theresa Wickerham, Cherry Wunderlich  
Medical Advisors: Gary Bloom  
Publications: Gary Bloom, Daria Jerauld, Roberta Perry  
Website: Joel Amromin, Betty Solbjor

OUTREACH, AWARENESS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Social Media: Cristina Bindschatel, Bridget Corcoran, Matt Faraca, Haley Geosits, Nadia Grauman, Chris Kidwell, Cheri Lindle, Kathryn Wall, Jessica Weese, Samantha Weese  
Facebook: Haley Geosits, Chris Kidwell, Kathryn Wall, Samantha Weese  
Inspire: Carol Brown, Bridget Corcoran, Kathryn Wall, Samantha Weese  
LinkedIn: Chris Kidwell, Cheri Lindle  
Mailings: Theresa Wickerham  
Outreach: Chris Kidwell, Daria Jerauld, Roberta Perry  
Pinterest: Chris Kidwell, Ashley Madee-Gill, Mary Catherine Petermann, Kathryn Wall  
Professional Relations and Associations: Gary Bloom  
Snapchat: Haley Geosits, Ashley Madee-Gill  
Twitter: Victoria Ballesteros, Chris Kidwell, Cheri Lindle  
YouTube: Chris Kidwell

RESEARCH, RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, VOLUNTEERS
Finance: Gary Bloom, Bridget Corcoran, Colleen Dolinish, Ron Grafman, Suzann Tom  
Fundraising Programs: Gary Bloom, Anita Hubbard, Howard Solomon, Theresa Wickerham  
Membership: Theresa Wickerham  
Research Advocacy and Grants: Gary Bloom  
Technology: Gary Bloom, Matt Faraca, Chris Kidwell  
Volunteers: Theresa Wickerham

2020 Conference Team
Special thanks to the following people for contributing your time and talents toward making this conference a success!

Conference Co-Coordinators: Gary Bloom, Theresa Wickerham  
Conference Program: Gary Bloom, Chris Kidwell, Cal Pierce, Kathryn Wall, Cherry Wunderlich  
Conference Central: Denise Rivera  
Auction: Laura Villmer  
Finance: Colleen Dolinish, Suzann Tom  
Onsite Volunteers: Theresa Wickerham  
Outreach: Gary Bloom, Daria Jerauld, Chris Kidwell, Roberta Perry, Kathryn Wall  
Publications, Daily Bulletin: Gary Bloom, Theresa Wickerham  
Registration: Colleen Dolinish, Suzann Tom

2020 Conference Volunteers

Barb Alhoff  
Joel Amromin  
Gwynne Bambach  
Ray Bartlett  
Shilo Bartlett  
David Bloom  
Hilary Bloom  
Lynsey Bloom  
Miranda Bowman  
JoMarie Bushell  
Lisa Callihan  
Angel Conicelli  
Bridget Corcoran  
Peter Crane  
Candy Crimin  
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Daria Jerauld  
Alexa Jett  
Anjali Kapoor-Davis  
Chris Kidwell  
Roselle Kovitz  
George Labonte  
Tim Lau  
Kayley Leedes  
Cheri Lindle  
Julie Marinez  
Vanda Marsh  
Bill McClain  
Abby Melendez  
Miguel Melendez  
Kathy Mellilo  
Pam Mendenhall  
Jodi Novotny  
Pat Paliard  
Laura Perkins  
Roberta Perry  
Wayne Petri  
Cal Pierce  
Doris Prioni  
Denise Rivera  
Valronica Scales  
Howard Solomon  
Susan Spinosa  
Patti Turner  
Sharon Veingrad  
Laura Villmer  
Kathryn Wall  
Jessica Weese  
Samantha Weese  
Rachel Wilkinson

...Plus more programs and projects.  
We welcome volunteers!
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dave Arian</th>
<th>Paul Ilana’s husband</th>
<th>Husband of Barbara Parks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Ashby</td>
<td>Chad Michael Jefferson</td>
<td>Henry Omino</td>
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<td>Joe Calfe</td>
<td>Jennifer Jeske</td>
<td>Dan Percifield</td>
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<td>Beverly J. Collins</td>
<td>Gurmeet Kaur</td>
<td>Brian Pfeuffer</td>
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<td>Sara Ann Coolidge</td>
<td>Fernando Kelly’s brother</td>
<td>David Benjamin “Pops” Rivera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tina Cordova</td>
<td>Richard Dean Knight</td>
<td>Timothy Mark Roche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherry Creasey</td>
<td>Kelly Ann (Toscano) Lane</td>
<td>David Earl Roseth</td>
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<td>Monica DeLeon’s husband</td>
<td>Todd Linda’s husband</td>
<td>Bill Rowand</td>
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<td>Paul Charles Desaulniers</td>
<td>Michael Lum</td>
<td>Mike Sloan</td>
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<td>Carmen Duncan</td>
<td>Stuart Mackenzie</td>
<td>Jean Vanier</td>
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<td>Larry Eckhardt</td>
<td>Cesar Madera</td>
<td>John Waden</td>
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<td>Melina Rayna Farley-Barratt</td>
<td>Laura McCarty</td>
<td>Emma White</td>
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<td>Todd R. Frank</td>
<td>Kathleen McLean</td>
<td>Becca Ann, wife of Alex Richard</td>
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<td>Luis Gonzalez</td>
<td>Rosita Milk</td>
<td>Bob Willis</td>
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<td>Terri Hendrickson</td>
<td>Gina Norris</td>
<td>Ryan Zimmerman</td>
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“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
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 medical professionals’ meetings. 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 co-coordinates ThyCa’s Toll-Free Number Team, and the 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 shooing 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.
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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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.

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