

ADVANCES IN THYROID CANCER THERAPY WHAT PATIENTS NEED TO KNOW



Program Resource Guide

What Is Shared Decision-Making?

Process of communication by which patients and clinicians collaborate to make healthcare decisions. The process encourages patients to take a more active role in their care and treatment.

Types of Thyroid Cancer

- Papillary thyroid cancer
- Follicular thyroid cancer
 - Oncocytic thyroid cancer
- Poorly differentiated thyroid cancer (PDTTC)
- Anaplastic thyroid cancer
- Medullary thyroid cancer

Thyroid Cancer Treatments

Common treatment options:

- Surgery
- Targeted therapy
- Radioactive iodine (I-131 therapy)

Less common or rare treatment options:

- Clinical trials
- Standard chemotherapy
- External beam radiation therapy

Glossary Terms

Biomarker: Measurable substances found in the blood, urine, or tissues of some people with cancer. Biomarkers may also refer to mutations, changes, or patterns in a tumor's DNA.

Biopsy: Removal of tissue from a specific area of the body for further examination.

BRAF V600E mutation: The most common BRAF mutation in thyroid cancer.

Molecular driver: A genetic or molecular change that directly promotes tumor development and growth by giving cancer cells a survival or growth advantage.

Molecular testing (genetic profiling or biomarker testing): Laboratory testing that identifies certain gene mutations, proteins, chromosomal abnormalities, and/or other molecular changes that are unique to an individual's disease. In cancer, it may be used to evaluate treatment or to make a prognosis.

Radioactive iodine (RAI): Also called I-131, is a type of iodine that emits radiation to destroy any thyroid tissue not removed by surgery or to treat some types of thyroid cancer that have spread to lymph nodes and to other parts of the body.

Standard of care: An established guideline that is consensus among experts as the most appropriate and/or effective treatment for a specific type and stage of cancer.

Targeted therapy: A type of personalized medicine that works by blocking specific mutations and by preventing cancer cells from growing and dividing, without affecting normal cells.

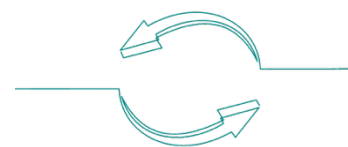
Thyroid Cancer Educational Resources

Thyroid Head and Neck Cancer (THANC) Foundation:
thancfoundation.org

Patient Empowerment Network: [\[ACT\]IVATED](#)

Patient Empowerment Network: [Evolve](#)

Patient Empowerment Network: [Inspire](#)



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