

## Advice for Understanding Your Thyroid Cancer Care Plan

- Ask questions. Don't be shy - doctors want to hear your questions.
- Write down your concerns in advance, especially questions that are hard for you to ask.
- Consider a second opinion.
- Ask if you have had essential molecular testing.
- Bring along a family member or friend to your appointments.

### Thyroid Cancer Genetic Mutations

- BRAF (V600E)
- Neurotrophic Tyrosine Receptor Kinase (NTRK1 and NTRK3)
- RET fusions and RET mutations

### Types of Thyroid Cancer

- Anaplastic
- Follicular
- High-grade
- Oncocytic
- Papillary
- Parafollicular C cell

## Clinical Trial Phases

**Phase I:** The goal is to test the safety of the drug, finding the appropriate dose that produces the fewest side effects.

**Phase II:** Further assesses the safety of the drug and the effectiveness of the treatment.

**Phase III:** Compares the efficacy of the new treatment to the standard-of-care treatment.

**Phase IV:** Study that looks at drugs that have already been approved to get additional safety information and to learn more about long-term benefits and side effects.

## Glossary

**Biomarker testing (molecular testing):** Laboratory testing that identifies certain genes, proteins, or other molecules in a sample of tissue, blood, or other body fluid. In cancer, it may also be used to evaluate treatment or to make a prognosis.

**Multikinase inhibitors:** A type of targeted therapy that help to block tumors from forming new blood vessels and by targeting proteins made by cancer cells that normally help them grow.

**Radioactive iodine (RAI, radioiodine also called I-131):** 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 other parts of the body.

**Radioactive iodine (RAI)-refractory thyroid cancer (RAI-R TC):** A type of thyroid cancer that does not respond to iodine treatment.

**Somatic mutation:** Mutations that can occur in any of the cells of the body but are not hereditary. These mutations may, in some cases, cause cancer or other diseases.



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