

Friday, October 2, 2026

Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	7:45 am – 5:00 pm EDT			
	In-person registration opens in Conference Central.		Kitty Hawk Boardroom	All
	8:00 – 8:50 am EDT			
101	How to navigate the conference in-person.	Dana Freedman, ThyCa Volunteer	Reynolds	All, IP
102	How to navigate the conference virtually.	ThyCa Volunteer	Cameron	All, VO
103	Caregivers roundtable.	Miguel Melendez, ThyCa Volunteer	Smith	All
104	Anaplastic thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other.	Jean Baker; and Patti Turner, ThyCa Volunteers	Biltmore	A
	8:55 – 9:05 am EDT			
111	Welcome and announcements.	Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director	Reynolds	All
	9:15 – 10:15 am EDT			
121	Thyroid cancer survivorship: What comes next.	Megan R. Haymart, MD, Endocrinologist	Reynolds	All, SR, VP
122	Getting comfortable at the conference.	Abby Melendez, ThyCa Volunteer	Cameron	All
123	Targeted therapy medications for all types of thyroid cancer.	Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD, FASCO, Oncologist	Smith	A, Adv, AYA, M, PF, SR
	10:45 – 11:45 am EDT			
131	Open-microphone roundtable: Getting to know each other for people in-person.	Carol DiFelice, ThyCa Volunteer	Reynolds	All, IP
132	Open-microphone roundtable: Getting to know each other for people in-person.	Tim Lau, ThyCa Volunteer	Cameron	All, IP
133	Managing toxicity for multikinase inhibitors in advanced differentiated thyroid cancer.	Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD, FASCO, Oncologist	Smith	A, Adv, AYA, M, PF, SR
134	Aspectos clave de la cirugía para el cáncer de tiroides, incluyendo el monitoreo intraoperatorio del nervio.	Carlos S. Duque, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon	Biltmore	All, VP, SR

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
12:15 – 1:15 pm EDT				
141	The ABCs of papillary and follicular thyroid cancer and variants: Understanding key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.	Matthew A. Gorris, MD, Endocrinologist	Reynolds	AYA, H, N, PF, SR
142	Integrative medicine in thyroid cancer care: Bridging evidence-based therapies with whole-person healing.	Beena Patel, MSc, PA-C	Cameron	All, VP
143	Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other – Part 1.	Eliot Ephraim; Karen Geisenberger; Bill Nelson; and Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers	Smith	M
144	Yoga for the nervous system & letting go.	Catalina Ovalle, ThyCa Volunteer	Biltmore	All
1:45 – 2:45 pm EDT				
151	The stories we carry: Cancer, identity, and the work of making meaning.	C. Alessandra Colaianne, MD, MPhil, Head and Neck Surgeon	Reynolds	All, SR
152	Roundtable: Discussion on healthy activities and challenges during survivorship including diet, exercise and nutrition.	Aime T. Franco, PhD, Researcher	Cameron	All
153	Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Getting to know each other – Part 2.	Eliot Ephraim; Karen Geisenberger; Bill Nelson; and Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers	Smith	M
154	Open-microphone roundtable: Getting to know each other for people attending the conference virtually.	ThyCa Volunteer	Biltmore	VO
3:15 – 4:15 pm EDT				
161	My doctor wants to leave the cancer in my body alone! Is she/he crazy?	Lawrence T. Kim, MD, FACS, FACE, Endocrine Surgeon	Reynolds	All, SR
162	Anaplastic thyroid cancer: Designing the next generation of clinical trials.	Siddharth Sheth, DO, MPH, Medical Oncologist	Cameron	A, SR
163	Protecting your finances while you're fighting your cancer.	Mark Martinez, CPA, MBA, Certified Forensic Accountant	Smith	All, SR

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	4:45 – 5:45 pm EDT			
171	Discussion about the low iodine diet.	Becky Johnson, ThyCa Volunteer	Reynolds	Adv, AYA, H, N, Ped, PF, SR, VP
172	The use of Thyroglobulin (Tg) and Tg antibody (TgAb) lab tests to monitor patients with differentiated thyroid cancers (DTC).	Shireen Fatemi, MD, FACE, FACP, Endocrinologist; Ivana Petrovic, MSc, CLS, Licensed Clinical Laboratory Scientist; and Carole A. Spencer, PhD, FACB, Professor of Research Medicine	Cameron	Adv, AYA, H, N, Ped, PF, SR
173	Mental health: Talking with a mental health professional to cope with your cancer diagnosis and journey.	Kristi D. Graves, PhD, Clinical Psychologist	Smith	All, SR
174	Building a child and adolescent thyroid cancer registry. Join a discussion to get input and ideas of questions that are important to patients for researchers to answer.	Aime T. Franco, PhD, Researcher	Biltmore	Ped
	6:00 – 7:00 pm EDT			
180	Reception: Informal social time with refreshments. Door prizes and raffle drawing to raise funds for thyroid cancer research.	Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director	Hope, Bellamy, Mendenhall	All, IP
	Honoree: Steven G. Waguespack, MD			
	7:00 – 10:00 pm EDT			
190	“Meddie” (medullary thyroid cancer) meet-up. Join in the fun.	Eliot Ephraim; Karen Geisenberger; Bill Nelson; and Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers	Hope, Bellamy, Mendenhall	M
192	Anaplastic thyroid cancer virtual meet-up.	Catherine Keiser; and Scott Wiese, ThyCa Volunteers	Cameron	A
195	Dinner on your own or with groups. Look for the sign-up lists for various groups on the message board in Conference Central.		Kitty Hawk Boardroom	All, IP

29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference Schedule

Saturday, October 3, 2026

Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	7:45 am-5:00 pm EDT			
	In-person registration opens in Conference Central.		Kitty Hawk Boardroom	All
	8:00 – 8:50 am EDT			
201	Oncocytic thyroid cancers (formerly Hurthle cell) – these are NOT papillary or follicular thyroid cancers. Where is the research going in this disease and what has been done so far?	Naifa L. Busaidy, MD, Endocrinologist; and Hadiza Kazaure, MD, MMCI, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Reynolds	H, N, Ped, SR
202	GLP-1 receptor agonists and thyroid cancer.	Sonya Khan, MD, Endocrinologist	Cameron	All, SR
203	Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Welcoming people who weren't able to join us yesterday, and clarifying any confusion from day 1.	Eliot Ephraim; Karen Geisenberger; Bill Nelson; and Kelley Pratt, ThyCa Volunteers	Smith	M
204	Anaplastic and poorly differentiated thyroid cancers open-microphone roundtable: Getting to know each other.	Alanoud A. Alaasmi, MD, Oncologic Endocrinology Fellow; Jean Baker; Priyanka C. Iyer, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist; and Patti Turner, ThyCa Volunteers	Biltmore	A
	8:55 – 9:05 am EDT			
211	Welcome and announcements.	Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director	Reynolds	All
	9:15 – 10:15 am EDT			
221	Thyroid hormone therapy 101: Supplementation to full replacement, the basics, challenges, and goals.	Jennifer A. Morrison, MD, PhD, Endocrinologist	Reynolds	All, SR
222	The ABCs of papillary and follicular thyroid cancer and variants: Understanding key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.	Trevor E. Angell, MD, Endocrinologist; and Randol J. Kennedy, MD, FACP, Endocrinologist	Cameron	PF, SR
223	Medullary thyroid cancer research highlights from the past year: What the science means for patients.	Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon	Smith	M, SR
224	Discussion about thyroid cancer surgery and calcium management in children.	Steven G. Waguespack, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist	Biltmore	Ped, SR

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	10:45 – 11:45 am EDT			
231	A discussion about anaplastic thyroid cancer from a surgical perspective and when neoadjuvant care is possible.	Jeffrey M. Blumberg, MD, FACS, Head & Neck Surgeon; and Trisha D. Cubb, MD, FACE, Endocrine Oncologist	Reynolds	A, Adv, SR
232	The role of endocrine disruptors in thyroid cancer and how to reduce your exposure.	Aarti Mathur, MD, PhD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Cameron	All, SR
233	Review of the medullary thyroid cancer registry.	Elizabeth G. Grubbs, MD, Surgeon	Smith	M, SR
234	Preguntas con el doctor. Lo que usted quiere conocer del cáncer de tiroides en su idioma, español.	Carlos S. Duque, MD, Head and Neck Surgeon	Biltmore	All, VP
	12:15 – 1:15 pm EDT			
241	Long term management of papillary and follicular thyroid cancer after surgery. The use of Thyrogen® versus T4 withdrawal to prepare for radioactive iodine treatment or scans and/or for stimulated thyroglobulin testing, with or without scans. How should I be followed and for how long?	Trevor E. Angell, MD, Endocrinologist; and Randol J. Kennedy, MD, FACP, Endocrinologist	Reynolds	Adv, AYA, H, N, Ped, PF, SR
242	Discuss how MAP kinases target therapies in differentiated thyroid cancer (papillary or follicular) and what that means to us as patients.	Alan L. Ho, MD, Oncologist.	Cameron	A, Adv, H, PF, SR
243	The ABCs of medullary thyroid cancer and variants: Understanding key terms, concepts, and initial diagnostic and treatment steps.	Sualeha Khalid, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist; and Theodora Pappa, MD, PhD, Onco-Endocrinologist	Smith	M, SR
244	Am I a candidate for a non-surgical treatment option? A discussion about thermal ablation procedures.	Jennifer Holkem, SYT Founder, and Salem I. Noureldine, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Biltmore	All, VP, SR
	1:00 – 2:30 pm EDT			
245	Dogs with a Purpose, Canines for Service, and Pet Pals	Khloe, Sarj, and Kosmo	Mendenhall	All

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
1:45 – 2:45 pm EDT				
251	Neoadjuvant therapy in thyroid cancer. What does this mean to me as the patient?	Sarah Hamidi, MD, FRCPC, Oncologic Endocrinologist; and Anastasios Maniakas, MD, PhD, FRCSC, Otolaryngologist	Reynolds	All, SR, VP
252	Systemic therapies in advanced radioactive iodine refractory (non-avid, RAI-R) differentiated thyroid cancer.	Priyanka C. Iyer, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist; and Theodora Pappa, MD, PhD, Onco-Endocrinologist	Cameron	Adv, AYA, H, Ped, PF, SR
253	Medullary thyroid cancer 2026: Targeted therapy, surgery, and clinical trials.	Mark E. Zafereo, MD, Head & Neck Surgeon	Smith	M, SR
254	Thyroid cancer, fertility, and pregnancy: Updates from the 2026 ATA guidelines.	Trevor E. Angell, MD, Endocrinologist; and Lilah F. Morris-Wiseman, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Biltmore	All, SR
2:00 – 3:30 pm EDT				
255	Dogs with a Purpose, and Love on a Leash	Archie, Bailey, and Roci	Mendenhall	All
3:15 – 4:15 pm EDT				
261	An overview of the new American Thyroid Association guidelines for differentiated thyroid cancer (papillary, follicular, and oncocytic [formerly Hurthle Cell] thyroid cancer).	Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, FACS, FSSO, Surgeon	Reynolds	Adv, H, N, PF, SR
262	The different types of tests: genetic, genomic, next gen, etc., and what they mean, and when they are important.	Jochen H. Lorch, MD, MSc, Medical Oncologist	Cameron	All, SR, VP
263	A discussion about Medullary Thyroid Cancer including what options are available if the disease advances.	Sarimar N. Agosto Salgado, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist; and Trisha D. Cubb, MD, FACE, Endocrine Oncologist	Smith	M, SR, VP
264	Update on treatment of anaplastic thyroid cancer.	Maria E. Cabanillas, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist	Biltmore	A, Adv, SR

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	4:45 – 5:45 pm EDT			
271	Thyroid cancer Tumor Board: Challenging cases and collaborative decision-making. (a joint session with the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons)	Moderator: Lilah F. Morris-Wiseman, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon. Panelists: Aarti Mathur, MD, PhD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon; Alberto J. Monreal, MD, Endocrine Surgeon and Theodora Pappa, MD, PhD, Onco-Endocrinologist.	Reynolds	All, SR
272	What's next in treatment for advanced disease.	Alanoud A. Alaasmi, MD, Oncologic Endocrinology Fellow; and Sarah Hamidi, MD, FRCPC, Oncologic Endocrinologist	Cameron	A, Adv, H, M. PF, SR
273	Simultaneously targeting three distinct antigens as a potential path to cure medullary thyroid cancer.	Timothy A. Erickson, PhD, Cancer Immunologist	Smith	M, SR
274	Preguntas con la doctora. Lo que usted quiere conocer del cáncer de tiroides en su idioma, español.	Sarimar N. Agosto Salgado, MD, Oncologic Endocrinologist	Biltmore	All, VP
	5:45 – 9:00 pm EDT			
280	ThyCa Dinner/Auction to Raise Funds for Thyroid Cancer Research.	Gary Bloom, Executive Director		IP
	Silent Auction, begins at 5:45 pm EDT		Hope, Bellamy, Mendenhall	
	Dinner, seating begins at 7:00 pm EDT		Chimney Rock	
	• Tickets required			
	• Speaker: Aime T. Franco, PhD, Researcher			
	• Honorees: Naifa L. Busaidy, MD, Alan L. Ho, MD			
	• Cash bar			
	9:00 – 12:00 am EDT			
290	Music and dancing for all conference attendees.	DJ Outlet	Chimney Rock	IP

29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference Schedule
Sunday, October 4, 2026

Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	7:45 am-2:30 pm EDT			
	In-person registration opens in Conference Central.		Kitty Hawk Boardroom	All
	8:00 – 9:00 am EDT			
301	Roundtable: Discussion for for people with radioactive iodine resistant (RAI-R) thyroid cancer.	Valronica Scales, PhD, ThyCa Volunteer	Reynolds	Adv, PF
302	Preguntas con el doctor. Lo que usted quiere conocer del cáncer de tiroides en su idioma, español.	Alberto J. Monreal, MD, Endocrine Surgeon	Cameron	All
303	Medullary thyroid cancer roundtable: Questions as we begin day 3.	Karen Geisenberger, ThyCa Volunteer	Smith	M
	9:10 – 9:20 am EDT			
311	Welcome and announcements.	Gary Bloom, ThyCa Executive Director	Reynolds	All
	9:30 – 10:30 am EDT			
321	Managing risk in thyroid cancer surgery, including when observation is the best decision for either first surgery or repeat surgery.	Herbert Chen, MD, FACS, FRACS, Endocrine Surgeon; Jennifer Rosen, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon; and Randall P. Scheri, MD, Endocrine Surgeon	Reynolds	All, SR, VP
322	How we approach thyroid cancer management in pediatric thyroid cancer.	Luz E. Castellanos, MD, Pediatric Endocrinologist	Cameron	Ped, VP
323	Long term management of medullary thyroid cancer after surgery – how should I be followed and for how long? What is high grade MTC versus low grade MTC?	Douglas W. Ball, MD, Endocrinologist	Smith	M, SR, VP

29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference Schedule

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
11:00 am – 12:00 pm EDT				
331	Ask a doctor your questions about papillary and follicular thyroid cancer: Creating clarity before you go home.	Jennifer Rosen, MD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Reynolds	Adv, AYA, H, N, Ped, PF, SR
332	Living with hypoparathyroidism.	Ruchi Gaba, MD, FACE, FEAA, Endocrinologist; Matthew A. Gorris, MD, Endocrinologist; and Sarah C. Oltmann, MD, Endocrine Surgeon	Cameron	All, SR, VP
333	Tumor heterogeneity in medullary thyroid cancer. Tumor heterogeneity describes the variations found in cancer cells at multiple levels. This includes differences within a single tumor, between tumors of the same type in different patients, and between a primary tumor and its metastatic sites.	Priya H. Dedhia, MD, PhD, FACS, Endocrine Surgeon	Smith	M, SR, VP
12:30 – 1:30 pm EDT				
341	Being your own patient advocate. Do I have the right medical team for my situation? Should I consider getting a second opinion? Do I need an oncologist for my care?	Trisha D. Cubb, MD, FACE, Endocrine Oncologist; and Alberto J. Monreal, MD, Endocrine Surgeon	Reynolds	All, SR
342	Trusts and wills 101: What to know and how to get started.	Mark Martinez, CPA, MBA, Certified Forensic Accountant	Cameron	All, SR
343	Answering any last questions about medullary thyroid cancer.	Karen Geisenberger, ThyCa Volunteer	Smith	M
2:00 – 3:00 pm EDT				
351	Clinical trials overview - what, why, and how. Moving science together with trials.	Douglas W. Ball, MD, Endocrinologist; and Siddharth Sheth, DO, MPH, Medical Oncologist	Reynolds	All, SR, VP
352	Roundtable: Pediatric thyroid cancer survivor stories including ThyCa's sport pack project.	Pam Mendenhall, LISW, ThyCa Pediatric Support Moderator	Cameron	Ped, VP
353	The awesome challenges of caregiving.	Michael Johnson; and Miguel Melendez, ThyCa Volunteers	Smith	All

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Session #	Session Title	Speaker(s)	Location(s)	Session Codes
	3:15 – 3:45 pm EDT			
361	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 Colleen Dolinish, ThyCa Program Coordinator	Reynolds	All
	Thank you for attending! We hope to see you again next year!			