



29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Virtual Conference

October 2-4, 2026

Attendance in-person: Cary, North Carolina or Virtually

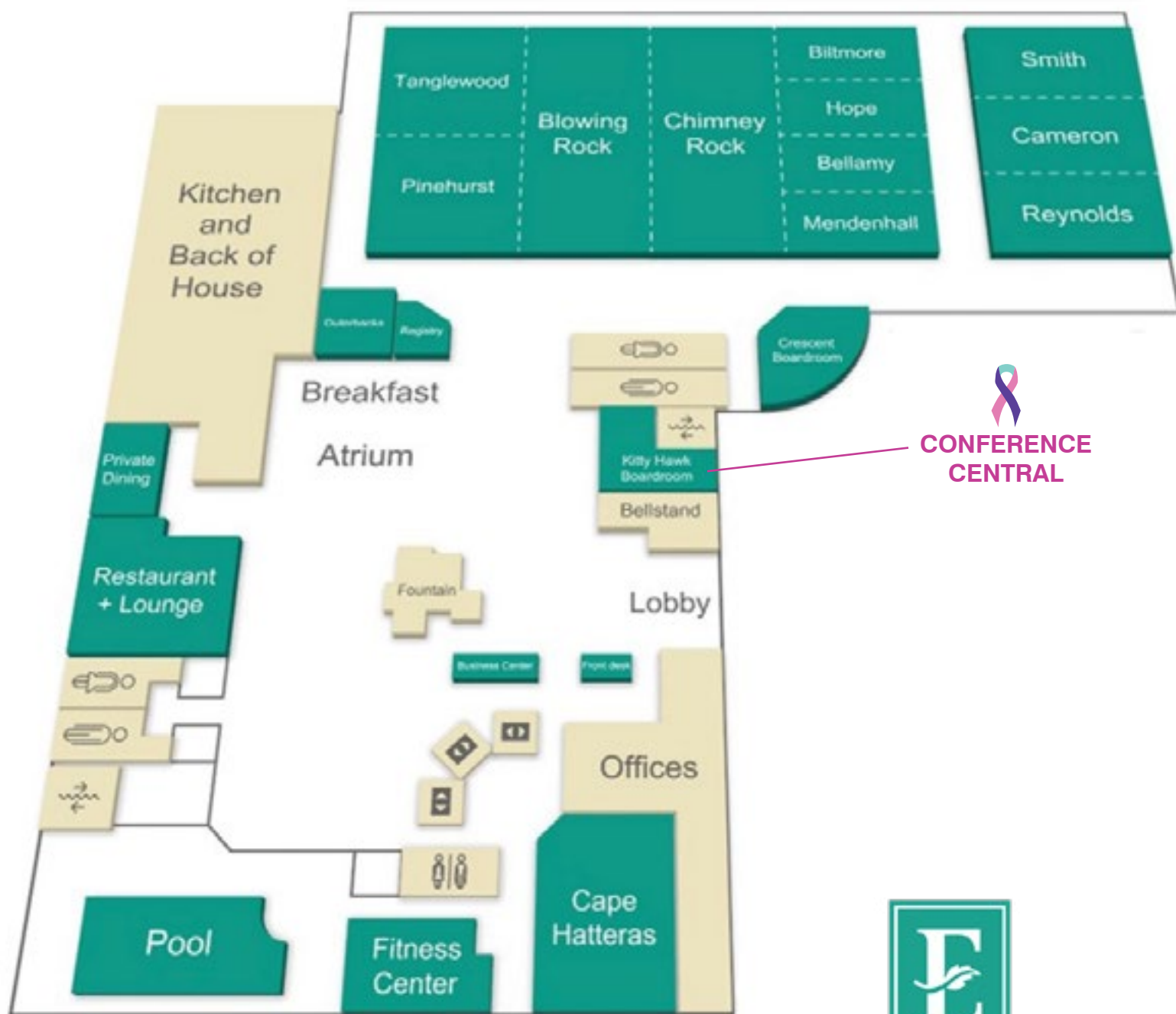
Support • Education • Communication • Research • Hope



Sponsored by
ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.
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www.thyca.org

29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference

October 2-4, 2026



**CONFERENCE
CENTRAL**



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SUITES**
by Hilton™

Welcome!

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Cary for the 29th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference. We're so glad you're here.

Over the next three days, you'll have many opportunities to learn from and ask questions of experts from leading thyroid cancer treatment and research centers.

We also invite you to join the informal roundtable discussions and other special events throughout the weekend. They're welcoming spaces to connect with people who understand, share your experiences, and find encouragement and support.

We're deeply grateful to our speakers, session leaders, and roundtable facilitators, who generously give their time in support of everyone affected by a thyroid cancer diagnosis. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this weekend possible.

This conference reflects more than a year of dedicated work by volunteers across the country. You'll meet many of them this weekend, while others who contributed countless hours could not join us.

This event is also possible thanks to the generosity of individuals and organizations that support our cause with financial gifts, goods, and services.

We hope you'll experience all the conference has to offer, stay connected, and continue using our free support services long after this meeting ends. We look forward to getting to know you.

– The Conference Planning Team and Conference Volunteers



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ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.

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, oncocytic, medullary, poorly differentiated, 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 all over the world.
- We welcome new members at any time.
- Members may join for 1 year, 2 years, or as lifetime members.
- Membership forms are available online, or mail-in on our website's Membership page.
- Thank you very much for your wonderful support!

Conference Information

CONFERENCE HOTEL

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Raleigh Durham Research Triangle
201 Harrison Oaks Blvd.
Cary, NC 27513

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

Complimentary Shuttle

REGISTRATION - CONFERENCE CENTRAL

Crescent

The registration table is in "Conference Central." Hours are 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. on Thursday, 7:45 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 8:15 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on Sunday. If you have questions about registrations, meeting rooms, dinner/auction tickets, or signs, please ask in Conference Central.

NAMETAGS AND RIBBONS

Please wear your conference nametag to help us get to know each other. Please add the appropriate ribbon as a caregiver or for your type(s) of thyroid cancer. If you have been diagnosed with a variant, you can write the variant on a blank white ribbon available next to the other ribbons.

LUNCH, OTHER MEALS

Beverages, snacks, and other onsite meal options are available at the hotel. We suggest that you pick up your lunch early or late, to avoid long lines during the lunch period. You may bring your lunch or snacks to sessions at any time.

DAILY UPDATE BULLETIN and SIGNS

Our Daily Update Bulletin provides details about any changes in the schedule, rooms, or presenters, plus other announcements. To suggest an item to include in the Bulletin, please leave a note in Conference Central. Signs in or near Conference Central will also post program updates.

SESSION CHOICES

Choose whatever sessions you would like to attend. It's not necessary to sign in. There are several choices during each time slot. You are welcome to move quietly between sessions. Please respect others' needs to hear the speaker.

NOTE-TAKERS NEEDED

Please share your session notes with us in the box in Conference Central. We will photocopy them and return the originals to you. Or email them to conference@thyca.org.

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.

LOST and FOUND

Check in at the hotel's registration desk or post a note in Conference Central.

CONFERENCE VOLUNTEER TEAM

When you see one of the many volunteers who made this event possible, please take a moment to say thank you! And our thanks to their families for sharing their loved ones with the conference.

QUESTIONS and SUGGESTIONS

If you have questions about the Program or ThyCa, please go to Conference Central (*Crescent*) or ask a volunteer. If you have a suggestion, please leave a note in the Suggestion Box in Conference Central. For information or questions about the hotel and nearby attractions, ask at the hotel's front desk.

IMPORTANT NOTE about Privacy and Confidentiality

- 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.

PRESS, PROGRAM, MATERIALS for DISPLAY

Please contact Gary Bloom by leaving word in Conference Central if you have questions or interview requests, suggestions for the program, or about materials for display or distribution.

BOOKLET MESSAGES

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

FRIDAY AT 6:00 p.m. – FREE SPECIAL EVENT *Biltmore, Hope, Bellamy, Mendenhall*

Refreshments and more. Our gathering is a great opportunity to chat with others before your evening dinner plans, and to meet new friends to join you for dinner.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Refreshments and informal socializing

6:45 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation, Door Prize and 50/50 Drawing

FUNDRAISER DINNER/AUCTION TICKETS FOR SATURDAY EVENING

Chimney Rock, Biltmore, Hope, Bellamy, Mendenhall

A limited number of tickets are available at the Registration Table in Conference Central for Saturday evening's Dinner/Auction. We invite added donations for our Research Funds.

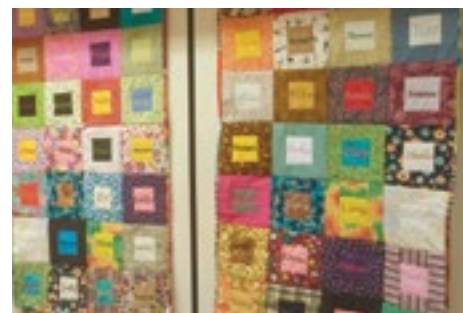
Numerous exciting auction items have been donated. Proceeds will benefit ThyCa's Research Funds and Grants for Thyroid Cancer Research. Even if you don't attend, you can support this event. To join the Auction and Raffle go to 2026THYCA.givesmart.com or text 2026THYCA to 76278. Please review the list of exciting auction items in Conference Central. Before the dinner on Saturday evening, give your payment information with your bid to a friend who is attending or to one of our auction volunteers. Help us reach our goal of a future without thyroid cancer!



Visit ThyCa's Information Tables

Talk with our volunteers to learn about...

- Local support groups coast to coast in the U.S., Honduras, and Ireland
- 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*, *Pediatric Thyroid Cancer*, and *Thyroid Nodules: Testing and Follow-Up*
- Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month
- Volunteer opportunities
- ThyCa membership form



The ThyCa Memorial Quilts and Video

The ThyCa memorial quilts and video slide show were created by two longtime ThyCa volunteers – Leah Guljord of Florida created the quilts and Cheri Lindle of Oklahoma developed the video slide show. Through these tributes, we honor and remember our loved ones who have lost their lives to thyroid cancer. 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 thyca@thyca.org.

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), American Head & Neck Society (AHNS), 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 2026 we awarded 7 grants. Our grant recipients are from these institutions:

- Albert Einstein College of Medicine | Bronx, New York
- Cancer Center | Karolinska, Sweden
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Cleveland Clinic Foundation | Cleveland, Ohio
- Cochin Institut | France
- Columbia University | New York, New York
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute | Massachusetts
- Duesseldorf University Hospital | Germany
- Duke University | North Carolina
- Earle A. Chiles Research Institute at Providence | Portland, Oregon
- 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 | District of Columbia
- 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
- Stanford University School of Medicine | Stanford, California
- 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 California San Diego | La Jolla, California
- University of Cincinnati | Cincinnati, Ohio
- University of Colorado | Aurora, Colorado
- University of Southern California | Los Angeles, California
- University of Texas Southwestern | Texas
- University of Toronto | Toronto, Canada
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center | Tennessee
- Washington University School of Medicine | St. Louis, Missouri
- Weill Medical College of Cornell University | New York, New York

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!

Speakers & Presenters – Thank You!

Sarimar N. Agosto Salgado, MD is an oncologic endocrinologist at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Agosto Salgado's clinical interest centers on the management of thyroid nodules and all stages and types of thyroid cancer, including administration of systemic therapies for aggressive tumors. She is also interested in the management of hereditary endocrine neoplasia disorders, pituitary tumors, adrenal tumors, adrenocortical carcinoma and pheochromocytoma-paranglioma tumors. Her research interest focuses on intermediate-high risk thyroid cancers in terms of management, surveillance protocols, targeted therapies and potential redifferentiation of tumors resistant to radioactive iodine.



Alanoud A. Alaasmi, MD is an oncologic endocrinology fellow in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Her interests include precision medicine approaches aimed at improving outcomes for patients with advanced thyroid cancer. Dr. Alaasmi completed her internal medicine residency training at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She subsequently completed her Endocrinology Fellowship at University of Missouri. Dr. Alaasmi has received several awards recognizing her research contributions, including the Young Investigator Award from Women in Endocrinology, the Outstanding Abstract Award from the Endocrine Society, and the Outstanding Abstract Award from the American Thyroid Association.



Douglas W. Ball, MD is an Endocrinologist and Associate Professor at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. He is a clinician and researcher specializing in all types of Thyroid Cancer. Dr. Ball is active in developing new therapies for and works in a translational research program in collaboration with other researchers and clinicians. Dr. Ball graduated from George Washington University Medical School and completed further training in Internal Medicine and in Endocrinology and Metabolism at the University of Pittsburgh and Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of numerous peer-reviewed medical journal articles and has been a speaker at previous ThyCa educational events. He is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Jeffrey M. Blumberg, MD, FACS is a head and neck surgery otolaryngologist at UNC School of Medicine in Chapel Hill, NC. Dr. Blumberg is board certified in Otolaryngology and graduated from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Blumberg frequently treats conditions like oral cancer, head and neck cancer, soft tissue sarcoma of head, face, and neck along with other conditions.



Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD, FASCO is a medical oncologist and professor at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA, where she participates in clinical trials of new treatments for patients with advanced thyroid cancer. Her clinical focus is familial cancer syndromes and cancer risk evaluation, Phase I/II clinical trials, and novel drug target discovery. Her research focuses on genomic characterization of cancers of the head and neck, thyroid, and lungs; novel drug target discovery; and the use of genetic testing in the diagnosis, prognostication, and treatment of cancer. Dr. Brose received her bachelor's degree from Amherst College, her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College, and her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University. She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Naifa L. Busaidy, MD is an endocrinologist and professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Dr. Busaidy specializes in thyroid cancer and has authored numerous peer-reviewed research articles and book chapters. Dr. Busaidy has spoken at many ThyCa conferences. Dr. Busaidy is a 2011 ThyCa Research Grant recipient. She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Maria E. Cabanillas, MD is an oncologic endocrinologist, professor, and the Faculty Director of Clinical Research in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. As a clinician and clinical researcher, Dr. Cabanillas treats both early and advanced thyroid cancers, including medullary, differentiated, and anaplastic. Her research focus is on advanced and aggressive thyroid cancer and molecular targeted therapies and immunotherapy. She is a principal investigator on several clinical trials for treating advanced disease and has been a member of and currently serves on the board of directors of the International Thyroid Oncology Group (ITOG). She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Luz E. Castellanos, MD is a board-certified pediatric endocrinologist and recent graduate of the Oncologic Endocrinology Fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She will be joining their Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders as faculty this fall. After completing her MD at McGovern Medical School, she did her pediatric residency at University of Texas at Austin Dell Children's and pediatric endocrinology fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital. After fellowship, she coupled her clinical practice with clinical trial research on artificial pancreas technologies for diabetes. Dr. Castellanos plans to pursue an academic career specializing in the care of children with cancer-related endocrinopathies and endocrine neoplasia.



Herbert Chen, MD, FACS, FRACS is chair of the department of surgery at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), the Surgeon-in-Chief of UAB Hospital and Health System, and the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the UAB Heersink School of Medicine. His clinical interests include endocrine surgery, and he is a pioneer in radio guided parathyroid surgery. He is the American Cancer Society MEN2 Thyroid Cancer Professor. He has held several leadership positions in major academic societies including President of the Society of Asian Academic Surgeons Foundation, President of Association for Academic Surgery, President of the Society of Clinical Surgery, President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AAES), President of Surgical Biology Club II, and President of the AAES Foundation. He has published over 775 original research and review articles and has edited 29 textbooks.



C. Alessandra Colaianni, MD, MPhil is a writer and an otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeon who specializes in the treatment of patients with head and neck cancer and thyroid cancer at UNC Health in Chapel Hill, NC. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *Guernica*, *VQR*, *The New Yorker* online, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *Intima*, and *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.



Trisha D. Cubb, MD, FACE is an associate professor and the endocrine neoplasia director at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. She is an endocrine oncologist, and her clinical and research focus is advanced thyroid malignancy and hereditary endocrine neoplasia syndromes. She is actively involved in the American Thyroid Association and Endocrine society and is the current chair of the ATA laboratory affairs committee. She serves on the editorial board for Clinical Thyroidology, JCEM Clinical Case Reports, and the Journal of the American Head and Neck Society.



Priya H. Dedhia, MD, PhD, FACS is an endocrine surgeon and assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at The James Ohio State University in Columbus, OH. She earned her MD from the University of Pennsylvania Health System and did her fellowship in endocrine surgery at the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison, WI. As a member of the Translational Therapeutics Program, her research focuses on using human organoid technology to generate insulin-producing cells to study the molecular basis of thyroid and parathyroid disease. Dr. Dedhia also works on three-dimensional models of endocrine cancer in order to find new and personalized approaches for these cancers. Her work has been published in over 20 peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Dedhia is a 2020 ThyCa Research Grant recipient.



Carlos S. Duque, MD is a head & neck surgeon trained at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine, Department of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery. He worked as a head and neck surgeon for more than twenty years at the Hospital Pablo Tobón Uribe in Medellín, Colombia. Dr. Duque's passion has been the treatment and management of thyroid cancer. He has published numerous articles on this topic, as well as an e-book in Spanish, entitled *¡Uuuyyy, TENGO CÁNCER DE TIROIDES!*, which is also available in English, *Oh no, I HAVE THYROID CANCER!*. He has led sessions in both English and Spanish at numerous past ThyCa conferences.



Timothy A. Erickson, PhD is a researcher at Providence Cancer Center in Providence, OR. Shortly after his diagnosis in 2014 with MTC, he decided that he would take his research skills and aim to find a cure for MTC. He has published several papers in the journal *Thyroid* on the immune-tumor interface of MTC and cell therapy to treat MTC with the help of collaborators at Providence and CU-Anschutz Cancer Centers. Dr. Erickson is currently developing a triad of T cell engagers to treat medullary thyroid cancer. These protein therapeutics enable direct killing of tumor cells by immune cells called T cells. The goal of his research is to develop a systemic therapy for MTC, comparable in efficacy to radioactive iodine in differentiated thyroid cancer. Dr. Erickson is a 2021 & 2025 ThyCa research grant recipient.



Shireen Fatemi, MD, FACE, FACP is an Endocrinologist currently practicing with the Southern California Permanente Medical Group (Kaiser Permanente) as a partner emeritus, where she has dedicated 30 years to clinical care and leadership. Additionally, she is an Associate Professor at the USC Keck School of Medicine and serves as the Co-Laboratory Director at the USC Keck Endocrine Services Laboratory. Throughout her tenure at SCPMG, Dr. Fatemi has held several key leadership positions, including Area Research Chair, Assistant Area Medical Director, Site Director for the Bernard J. Tyson Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine, and Chief of Endocrinology. She remains involved as the Kaiser Permanente Regional Osteoporosis Co-Director and the Lead Clinician for the Osteoporosis National Guidelines Committee.



Aime T. Franco, PhD is an assistant professor and investigator with the Center for Childhood Cancer Research at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Franco directs the newly established Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Translational Research Laboratory. She earned her PhD in Cancer Biology from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN and conducted her postdoctoral fellowship in genetics of thyroid cancer at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY. Her research interests include the molecular biology and genetics of thyroid cancer and improving quality of life and survivorship outcomes for thyroid cancer. Dr. Franco is a 2012 ThyCa Research Grant recipient and has spoken at many ThyCa conferences.



Ruchi Gaba, MD, FACE, FEAA is an associate professor of medicine and program director of the endocrinology fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. She specializes in thyroid and parathyroid disorders, with particular expertise in thyroid cancer, especially advanced and complicated cases. As Medical Director of the Thyroid and Parathyroid Center at the Dan Duncan Cancer Center, she leads a multidisciplinary team to provide comprehensive, patient-centered care and contributes nationally to guideline development and educational initiatives in endocrinology.



Matthew A. Gorris, MD is an assistant professor in the Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism at Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Toledo College of Medicine, followed by internal medicine residency and endocrinology fellowship at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston Salem. He joined the faculty there in 2019, where he serves as Medical Director of Endocrine Neoplasia. He has focused on expanding and enhancing the multidisciplinary care team, and directs the endocrine and pituitary tumor boards. He also has several roles in medical education, including director of the endocrine neoplasia elective for endocrinology fellows, and clinical skills coach and academic advisor for the school of medicine.



Kristi D. Graves, PhD is a tenured Professor of Oncology at Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center at Georgetown University. Dr. Graves conducts research focused on cancer survivorship and symptom management, with an emphasis on patient- and community engagement. Dr. Graves is currently leading or co-leading 3 projects funded through the National Institutes of Health. One project, which she co-leads with an endocrinologist, Dr. Jacqueline Jonklaas, focuses on supporting treatment decisions about radioactive iodine (RAI) treatment among patients diagnosed with intermediate risk differentiated thyroid cancer. This study is comparing two educational websites about RAI treatment to evaluate the effect on treatment decisions, decision satisfaction, and quality of life among patients with intermediate risk thyroid cancer.



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 has spoken at many ThyCa conferences. Dr. Grubbs is a 2014 ThyCa research grant recipient. She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



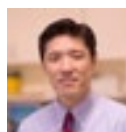
Sarah Hamidi, MD, FRCPC is a board-certified endocrinologist with specialized fellowship training in oncologic endocrinology. She currently serves as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Hamidi's clinical and research work is dedicated to the care of patients with advanced thyroid cancers, with a particular focus on anaplastic thyroid carcinoma. She leads and collaborates on clinical trials and translational studies aimed at identifying novel treatment strategies and improving outcomes in this rare, aggressive disease.



Megan R. Haymart, MD is professor of internal medicine in the Division of Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Diabetes at the University of Michigan. Dr. Haymart received her medical degree at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Haymart has a history of NIH-funded research focused on optimizing thyroid care delivery. She is a health services researcher who primarily studies thyroid cancer care across the disease continuum: from the diagnosis of a thyroid nodule to cancer survivorship. In recognition of her research, she received the American Thyroid Association's Van Meter Award for outstanding contributions to research on the thyroid gland (2017), the University of Michigan's Jerome Conn Award for Research Excellence (2017), membership to American Society for Clinical Investigation (2018), the AACE Hossein Gharib Education Lectureship Award for exemplary contributions to an individual profession or area of expertise (2021), and the inaugural AACE Endocrine Care Innovation Award in recognition of her team's outstanding body of work focused on clinical outcomes or health care delivery (2025).



Alan L. Ho, MD is a medical oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City, NY. 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 has been the Principal Investigator of NIH R01 grants. His research interest lies in translating emerging scientific knowledge of these diseases into new drug therapies.



Jennifer Holkem is a dedicated educator and patient advocate for thyroid patients. After a successful RFA treatment of a large benign thyroid mass in 2019, she founded Save Your Thyroid—an advocacy community for patients seeking minimally invasive, non-surgical treatment options. Recognizing a lack of patient-focused resources, Jennifer creates and shares educational content through her podcast and social media. She also developed the saveyourthyroid.org website, which provides patient-oriented resources, and as of 2025, she offers personalized patient navigation services. Jennifer devotes a full-time effort to building awareness of treatment advancements worldwide.



Priyanka C. Iyer, MD is an oncologic endocrinologist in the department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal disorders at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She treats advanced thyroid cancer including anaplastic thyroid cancer. She is one of the 5 oncologic endocrinologists in the FAST team at MD Anderson, a leading referral center for Anaplastic thyroid cancer. Dr. Iyer's clinical panel and research interests include novel approaches in the management of locally advanced and metastatic thyroid cancer with the use of targeted therapies and their combinations with immunotherapy. Her research involves exploring real world studies in advanced thyroid cancer that inform real world evidence and practice. Dr. Iyer is also the Associate program director for the Oncologic Endocrinology Fellowship program at MD Anderson. She is very involved with the education of fellows and trainees who are interested in pursuing a career in oncologic endocrinology.



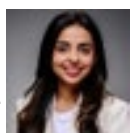
Hadiza Kazaure, MD, MMCi, FACS is a fellowship-trained endocrine surgeon and associate professor of surgery at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC. Dr Kazaure is the NSQIP Surgeon Champion for Duke University Hospital, Quality Lead for the Duke Division of Surgical Oncology, and Director of the Duke Endocrine Neoplasia Research Lab. She is a surgeon scientist with an abiding interest in improving the quality of endocrine and geriatric surgical care in the United States and beyond. She has received internal and NIH funding for her research. She is a member of the American Thyroid Association and the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, where she serves on the Guidelines and Therapeutics Committee.



Randol J. Kennedy, MD, FACP is an assistant professor at the Duke University Hospital. He completed his fellowship training at Duke after which he stayed as faculty and continued his endocrinology practice. His current specialty focus is in thyroid cancer and in the management of endocrine adverse events of cancer therapy. Dr. Kennedy is also a member of the ATA Clinical Affairs Committee.



Sualeha Khalid, MD is an oncologic endocrinologist at University of Maryland Medical System Shore Regional Health. She is a recent graduate of the oncologic endocrine fellowship program at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. After completing her MBBS from Shifa College of Medicine in Islamabad, Pakistan she did her Internal Medicine residency at Albany Medical College in Albany, NY followed by an endocrinology fellowship at University of Maryland Medical Center. Dr. Khalid plans to pursue an academic career focusing on endocrine neoplasia. Her research interests include advanced thyroid cancer and hereditary syndromes.



Sonya Khan, MD is an endocrinologist and assistant professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders. She is also the Center Medical Director of the Endocrine Center. She did her residency in Internal Medicine followed by fellowship at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, TX and trained at MD Anderson Cancer Center during her fellowship. Her current outpatient practice includes diabetes, thyroid cancer, pituitary disorders, bone health, hypercalcemia and immunotherapy induced endocrinopathies in the oncologic population.



Lawrence T. Kim, MD, FACS, FACE is professor of surgery in the Division of Surgical Oncology and Endocrine Surgery at the University of North Carolina. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and completed his general surgery training at the U.T. Southwestern Medical Center and Parkland Hospital. He is active in several organizations focused on endocrine surgery and is the co-editor of a textbook on Differentiated Thyroid Cancer published by Springer in 2017. He has held several national leadership positions and is a member of the American Surgical Association.



Jochen H. Lorch, MD, MSc is a medical oncologist and professor of medicine and medical director of the Head and Neck and Thyroid Programs Northwestern Medical Group in Chicago, IL. He graduated from the University of Regensburg in Germany in 1993 and completed his internship and residency at the University of Pennsylvania/Presbyterian Medical Center in 1999. He was awarded a fellowship in hematology and oncology at Northwestern University in Chicago. In 2002, he returned to Germany to complete his German Board Certification in Internal Medicine and Medical Oncology. He returned to the US in 2005 to take a faculty position at Boston University in Boston, MA and started as a faculty member at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA in 2008. He became the inaugural director of the Thyroid Center at Dana Farber. In 2021 he left Dana Farber as Associate Professor of Medicine to join the faculty at Northwestern University. He has conducted many investigator-initiated studies for patients with aggressive thyroid cancer. He is a member of the NCCN thyroid cancer board. Dr. Lorch is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Anastasios Maniakas, MD, PhD, FRCSC is an associate professor, tenure track, in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at UT MD Anderson. Dr. Maniakas received his undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees from McGill University, and his medical doctorate from the University of Montreal. He completed his residency at the University of Montreal followed by a fellowship in head and neck surgical oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. His clinical and translational research expertise is in advanced head and neck cancers, with an emphasis on advanced thyroid cancer and oral cavity cancer. Dr. Maniakas' research interests include novel drug therapy development, the effect of the microbiome in the development, progression, and recurrence of cancer, and co-leading clinical trials in head and neck cancer.



Mark Martinez, CPA, MBA served ten years in the United States Marine Corps as an M1A1 Tank Commander, including two combat deployments. He then traded deserts for desks and salutes for spreadsheets, using the GI Bill to earn his accounting degree and MBA from Seattle University. Over the past 20 years, Mark has built a career spanning accounting, finance, and executive leadership. Today, his work focuses on forensic accounting matters involving family law, elder financial exploitation, fiduciary misconduct, business disputes, and financial investigations. Mark is a CPA, Certified Forensic Accountant, and founder of Red-3 CPA & Forensic Accounting. He and his wife, Aubrey, live just outside Seattle. Outside of work, Mark supports Scouting America and enjoys woodworking, gardening, and playing Dungeons & Dragons with the guys.



Aarti Mathur, MD, PhD, FACS is an associate professor of surgery and oncology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD. She serves as Associate Vice Chair for Faculty Development in the Department of Surgery, is the Fellowship Director for the Endocrine Surgery Fellowship, and directs the CORES Endocrine Surgery Research Group. Dr. Mathur earned her medical degree at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX. She completed a general surgery residency at Georgetown University Hospital during which she spent time several years at National Cancer Institute. She then completed a fellowship in endocrine surgery at Johns Hopkins. She has a busy clinical practice that focuses on thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal diseases and has a focused practice designation for adult complex thyroid and parathyroid surgery. One of her research interests is environmental risk factors for thyroid cancer.



Alberto J. Monreal, MD is an endocrine surgeon and faculty member in the Division of Surgical Oncology at Duke University, specializing in the surgical management of thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal disease. His clinical and academic interests center on multidisciplinary endocrine oncology, quality improvement, and the integration of emerging technologies and minimally invasive approaches into the treatment of endocrine disease. He is actively engaged in surgical education and the training of medical students, residents, and fellows at Duke. Dr. Monreal is also actively involved in several national professional societies, including the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AAES) and the American Thyroid Association (ATA). He serves on the AAES Patient Advocacy Committee and the ATA Patient Affairs & Education Committees, with a focus on advancing education, advocacy, and access to comprehensive, patient-centered care.



Jennifer A. Morrison, MD, PhD is a visiting associate professor at the University of Colorado Anschutz in the Department of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Diabetes. Her career has focused on delivering high-quality, patient-centered endocrine care, with particular interest and expertise in thyroid disease and cancer and more recently, to the provision of endocrine care to oncology patients. She has been actively involved with the Denver, Colorado chapter of ThyCa since 2015.



Lilah F. Morris-Wiseman, MD, FACS is an endocrine surgeon and Chief of the Division of Endocrine Surgery at Johns Hopkins. She is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Oncology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and has a high-volume practice with expertise in thyroid cancer surgery, including hereditary endocrine cancer syndromes and complex primary and reoperative surgery of the thyroid. She completed her surgical training at UCLA and her endocrine surgery fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center. She serves as Chair of the Patient Advocacy Committee of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AAES), where she organizes patient education initiatives on thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal disease in partnership with national patient advocacy organizations. Dr. Morris-Wiseman holds leadership roles in the AAES, the American Thyroid Association, and the American Board of Surgery.



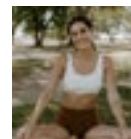
Salem I. Noureldine, MD, FACS is an endocrine surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, where he also serves as Associate Program Director of the General Surgery Residency Program in Washington, DC. Dr. Noureldine is an accomplished and expert academic endocrine surgeon, having authored thyroid cancer guidelines from the American Thyroid Association, over 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers, multiple textbook chapters, and served as an editor for several textbooks and review series. His clinical and research interests include minimally invasive and robotic endocrine surgery, molecular diagnostics, radiofrequency and microwave ablation, and fluorescence-guided surgery.



Sarah C. Oltmann, MD is an endocrine surgeon at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX. She is the Section Chief of Endocrine Surgery at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and Director of Endocrine Surgery for Parkland Health and Hospital Systems. She attended Baylor University, graduating cum laude. She went on to earn her MD at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, graduating Alpha Omega Alpha. She completed her General Surgery residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. During her surgery training, she was diagnosed with thyroid cancer, which greatly influenced her decision to pursue Endocrine Surgery as a career. She completed an Endocrine Surgery fellowship training at University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI. Her research interests include management and clinical outcomes in endocrine surgery. She is a 2015 recipient of the ThyCa Research Grant for her work on cancer progression and therapeutic response in a mouse model of medullary thyroid cancer. She is an avid knitter.



Catalina Ovalle is a yoga teacher and nutrition & wellness coach who believes in the powerful connection between movement, nourishment, and healing. With a BSc in Nutrition & Dietetics and 300+ hours of yoga teacher training, she brings together her scientific background and holistic approach to create supportive, accessible yoga practices. Catalina is passionate about creating spaces where people can reconnect with their bodies, find moments of calm, and feel supported through life's transitions.



Theodora Pappa, MD, PhD is an onco-endocrinologist and physician scientist committed to precision medicine in thyroid cancer. Her clinical practice at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is focused on advanced thyroid cancer and she conducts translational research on thyroid cancer genomics collaborating with colleagues from Harvard Medical School and the Broad Institute. The focus of her research activities is to chart the tumor ecosystem in thyroid cancer and clinically interpret thyroid cancer genome, to eventually develop novel prognostic biomarkers and tailor treatment options based on the tumor's molecular profile. Dr. Pappa is a 2022 ThyCa Research Grant recipient.



Beena Patel, MSc, PA-C is a physician associate in oncology who has worked clinically in Bone Marrow Transplant and GU Oncology/Clinical Trials at leading cancer institutions including Columbia University Medical Center, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and Weill Cornell Medical College. Through her interest in integrative medicine that was sparked by patients, physicians, and her own personal journey with thyroid cancer at the age of 21, her path led her into the world of holistic healing and wellness. She is now also a Certified Yoga Teacher and Reiki Healer at The Yoga Movement. She uses her background in both medicine and alternative healing to provide a more integrative approach to cancer care.



Ivana Petrovic, MSc, CLS supervises all laboratory testing at USC Endocrine Services Laboratory and is directly involved in Thyroglobulin and Thyroglobulin Antibody radioimmunoassay manufacturing, quality control, troubleshooting, and patients' testing. She participates in research regarding clinical utility of Thyroglobulin and Thyroglobulin Antibody testing in patients with Differentiated Thyroid Cancer. Ivana Petrovic received both Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Pharmacy-Medical Biochemistry from Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade, Serbia. She has authored and co-authored more than 15 original papers and presented research work results at American and European Thyroid Association Meetings.



Jennifer Rosen, MD, FACS is Chief of Endocrine Surgery and Vice Chair for Research of the Department of Surgery at MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington DC. Dr. Rosen received her medical degree from Thomas Jefferson University Medical College. She then completed her residency at Beth Israel Medical Center before completing her fellowship training at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Her research interests include bringing in new technology and tools for diagnosing thyroid nodules as well as discriminating cancerous nodules from benign nodules. Dr. Rosen has previously patented tools that are now being used at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. She is currently interested in improving genetic studies to predict thyroid cancer in individuals as well as putting together large national databases to look at what improves survival in patients with thyroid cancer.



Randall P. Scheri, MD is a professor of surgery at Duke University in Durham, NC. Dr. Scheri serves as the Chief of Endocrine Surgery and the leader of the Endocrine Neoplasia for the Duke Cancer Institute. His research interests include improving outcomes and quality of care/life for patients with endocrine neoplasia and thyroid cancer. Dr. Scheri serves as the director for the Duke Endocrine Surgery Fellowship, the only fellowship training future endocrine surgeons in North Carolina.



Speakers & Presenters *continued*

Siddharth Sheth, DO, MPH is a medical oncologist and a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Oncology at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill. His clinical expertise is in head and neck cancers including thyroid malignancies. His research focuses on clinical trials and evaluating promising biomarkers in clinical studies. He leads multiple trials with an interest in neoadjuvant trials. At UNC, Dr. Sheth co-leads the head and neck cancer program and leads the head and neck POD (clinical trials group). Dr. Sheth is an active member of ASCO, SITC, and AACR, ITOG, and participates in NCI Cooperative Groups including Alliance, NRG, ECOG/ACRIN and ETCTN.



Julie Ann Sosa, MD, MA, FACS, FSSO is an endocrine and oncologic surgeon at the University of California, San Francisco. She is also the Chair of the Department of Surgery and Leon Goldman, MD Distinguished Professor in the Department of Surgery. Her previous position was at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC. She is a principal investigator or co-principal investigator of studies of new drug treatments for advanced thyroid cancer as well as a natural history registry for patients with medullary thyroid cancer. She co-chaired the committee that wrote the newly published iteration of the American Thyroid Association practice guidelines for the management of adult patients with differentiated 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, MD. She received postgraduate training at Johns Hopkins Hospital as well as the 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 in the Department of Medicine at USC where she is a licensed medical technologist and the Technical Director of the USC Endocrine Services Laboratory. Her research focuses on the clinical and laboratory aspects of thyroid disease. She earned her undergraduate degree in Applied Biochemistry from Bath University of Technology in England U.K., and her Ph.D. from the Glasgow University. Dr. Spencer is a past President of the American Thyroid Association and is the recipient of many Outstanding Speaker Awards as well as Awards from the Clinical Ligand Society, the American Association of Clinical Chemistry, the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and an award for publishing excellence from the Endocrine Society.



Steven G. Waguespack, MD oncologic endocrinologist, is a professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Uniquely trained in both adult and pediatric endocrinology, he has been on the faculty at MD Anderson since 2002 and is consistently recognized as one of "America's Top Doctors for Cancer" in endocrinology. Dr. Waguespack served as a member of the ATA task force that revised the medullary thyroid cancer guidelines in 2015, was a co-chair of the inaugural 2015 ATA guidelines for pediatric thyroid nodules and differentiated thyroid cancer, and he is currently co-chairing the task force revising the ATA pediatric guidelines. Considered to be a leading expert in thyroid cancer, Dr. Waguespack is privileged to be able to care for patients across the age continuum. He is also a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



Mark E. Zafereo, MD is a head and neck surgeon and tenured Professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. He is Section Chief of Head and Neck Endocrine Surgery and Associate Medical Director of the Head & Neck Center. He has served on the Board of Directors of the International Thyroid Oncology Group (ITOG) and the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery and was recently elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Thyroid Association. His clinical practice focuses on patients with thyroid cancer, particularly patients with advanced thyroid cancer, wherein he leads several multicenter neoadjuvant phase II clinical trials. Dr. Zafereo is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.



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Art can help people express experiences that are too difficult for words. Since 2004, Oncology on Canvas® has provided members of the cancer community an opportunity to express the changes, experiences, and emotions that give each cancer story its meaning. To share in these works of art and be inspired by them, view the gallery at:

LillyOncologyOnCanvas.com

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At Eisai, everything we do is guided by a simple principle: patients and their families come first. We spend time with them. We listen and we learn about their lives, their desires and their greatest needs. *We call this human health care or hhc*, giving first thoughts to patients and their families and helping increase the benefits health care provides.

Our hhc mission is what drives us to discover innovative solutions and therapies that help address unmet needs within the communities that we seek to serve.

Eisai is proud to support ThyCa.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE VISIT WWW.EISAI.COM/US

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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 Honduras
- Oversee our Online Communities: Email Support Groups, Facebook, Inspire, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, & 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, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, and Ukrainian
- 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 – 35,526 Followers



ThyCaInc – 8,535 Followers



ThyCaInc – 1,800 Connections



ThyCaInc – 763 Followers



ThyCaInc – 92 Followers



ThyCaInc – 1,368 Followers



386 Followers



@ThyCaInc – 5,375 Followers



8,520 Subscribers



together we're better™ – 106,188 Members

Medical Advisory Council

ThyCa is fortunate to have a distinguished Medical Advisory Council of 50 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

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Oncologist, Retired

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Endocrinologist, Boston Medical Center, MA

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Medical Oncologist, Northwestern Medical Group Chicago, IL

Mira M. Milas, MD

Endocrine Surgeon, Banner – University Medical Center of Phoenix, AZ

David Myssiorek, MD

Otolaryngologist, Bronxcare Health System, NY

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Researcher, Johns Hopkins Medicine, MD

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Sareh Parangi, MD

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Scot C. Remick, MD

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Medical Oncologist, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, MA

Mark Zafereo, MD

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In Memory and Gratitude

Gilbert J. Cote, PhD

Donald Margouleff, MD

Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD

Bryan McIver, MB, ChB, PhD

Jeffrey F. Moley, MD

Yolanda C. Oertel, MD

Arturo R. Rolla, MD

Samuel A. Wells, MD

About Us

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: Educate and support the global thyroid cancer community and invest in research.

Vision: A world 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 more than 130 countries receive our free services. Our free services and materials are available to everyone whose life has been touched by thyroid cancer.

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 Honduras.

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 16 languages: English, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, and Ukrainian. 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.

Research Fundraising & Thyroid Cancer Research Grants

ThyCa has proudly awarded 136 thyroid cancer research grants totaling more than \$3.4 million, to researchers in 8 countries.

Survivors' Toll-Free Telephone Number

(877) 588-7904

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 American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists 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

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, Spanish, and Ukrainian

Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer

- In English, Chinese, and Spanish

Medullary Thyroid Cancer

- In English, Chinese, and Spanish

Pediatric Thyroid Cancer

- In English

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

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.

You and Thyroid Cancer

An animated resource to meet the educational needs of patients and caregivers affected by thyroid cancer.

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 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, reflecting the confidential assessments of the Bar and the judiciary. He is a member of ABOTA, the American Board of Trial Advocates, and he serves as a member of the Executive Council of The Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar. He has served as Chair of The Florida Bar Grievance Committee for his part of Florida. Mr. Alexander serves by Order of the Florida Supreme Court as a member of its Committee on Standard Jury Instructions in Civil Cases. He is also a member of the Florida Bar's Standing Committee on Professionalism.

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. Bridget is a WBE-certified IBEW electrical contractor from the Chicago area. 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.

Anjali Kapoor-Davis, *Recording Secretary*

Anjali Kapoor-Davis is a writer from Fresno, California. She became RAI-Resistant with metastatic disease a year after her thyroid cancer diagnosis. ThyCa volunteers inspired her to start and co-facilitate ThyCa Fresno. She enjoys volunteering at the annual ThyCa conferences and co-facilitates the RAI-Resistant support group. Anjali writes about her cancer experience, racism, sexism, and human rights. Her writing has appeared in the Yonsei Memory Project and Remedy Media's Patient Power series. You can often find her baking, gardening, reuniting countless dogs that have gone for walks without their humans, and spending time with her husband and son, the joys of her life.

Bill McClain

Bill is an author and businessman who lives with his wife in Milford, CT. He consults on Strategic Planning and has published two books on the subject, "Strategic Planning In This Age Of Disruption" and "The 4 Horsemen (Envisioning 2030)." 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 newest 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.

Bill Nelson

Bill is an attorney, author, and speaker living on the southern tip of Lake Michigan. He earned a B.A. in Business Administration from Taylor University and a Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University School of Law. He's been in private law practice for more than three decades and serves as a part-time Public Defender. His book, *Firm Grip, Learning to Thrive When Life Doesn't Go as Planned*, was published in 2021. He enjoys an active lifestyle that includes fitness and exercise, skiing, cycling, and travel. Bill and his wife, Jane, have two adult sons, Erik and Adam, and two French Bulldogs, Vinny and Ivy. Bill was diagnosed with medullary thyroid cancer in 2016.

Valronica Scales, *Vice Chair*

Valronica is a nine-year papillary thyroid cancer survivor and advocate for young adult cancer patients. She is a Senior Consultant in Human Capital at Deloitte Consulting. Prior to joining Deloitte in November 2021, Valronica worked as a strategic, data-driven, and detail-oriented manager and leader at multiple higher education institutions across the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic for 15+ years. Originally from Stoneville, NC (and now based in Maryland), Valronica earned her bachelor's degree in psychology at Elon University, master's degree in higher education and student affairs at Loyola University and doctorate degree in adult and higher education at Northern Illinois University.

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 San Anselmo, California with his wife and two children. Howard is Managing Partner for Finn Partners - a global group of strategists who develop communications programs across sectors and media platforms.

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.

Kathy Alsup
Inez M. Anderson
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Rexx Arkana
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Choi Sung-bong
Elizabeth Anne Testa
Robin Appleby Thompson
Sarah Dawn Trop
Gail Tully
David Tomio Umino
Robert Charles Vieth
Larry Weinreb
Thomas Werden
Bonnie
Brian, brother of Jan Wood
Colleen Winchel's son
Hafsa Quadri's husband
Jansu Sanli's mom
Lenora's mom
Randy, husband of Leigh Ann
Michael
Sharon Bunkin's mom
Tammy Schlitter's father Darden
Susan's mom
Veronika Zakova's husband

"When you die, it does not mean that you lose to cancer. You beat cancer by how you live, why you live, and in the manner in which you live."

—Stuart Scott

Thyroid Cancer Support Groups

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

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