ABOUT METASTATIC THYROID CANCER

Thyroid cancer is a cancer that starts in a person’s thyroid gland. Metastatic means cancer cells have spread to other parts of the body.

- The most common types of thyroid cancer are papillary and follicular. Other types include Hurthle cell, medullary, and anaplastic.
- Thyroid cancer may spread to other parts of the body, including lungs, bones, and occasionally the brain.

Thyroid cancer is the most common endocrine cancer.1

Until recently, thyroid cancer was also the most rapidly increasing cancer in the U.S., mainly due to increased detection.2

The AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY ESTIMATES THAT IN 2021, THERE WILL BE:2

About 44,280 new cases of thyroid cancer in the U.S.
About 2,200 deaths from thyroid cancer in the U.S.

WHAT ARE METASTATIC RET-DRIVEN THYROID CANCERS?

Metastatic thyroid cancer can be driven by a gene in a person’s body. One of those genes is RET. (rearranged during transfection).1

The two main types of these cancer-promoting RET gene alterations are mutations and fusions.6,7

HOW ARE GENETIC ALTERATIONS IN CANCER IDENTIFIED?

A biomarker test is a type of genetic test that can tell the doctor a lot about the cancer’s DNA.11 Certain biomarker tests require a doctor to biopsy the tumor, which means removing some tissue or blood for testing.10,12

These tests help oncologists develop a treatment plan for their patients. Knowing what is driving the cancer can help the patient and his or her doctor choose the right treatment.12


HOW CAN GENETIC ALTERATIONS IN CANCER IDENTIFIED?

The best way to know if a cancer has an alteration that can be treated is to talk to a doctor about getting tested for all treatable biomarkers.10

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