

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

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Thyroid Cancer: Active Surveillance & Treatment

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Specialized treatments, to other parts of your body, we can help.

Once we confirm your [diagnosis](#), we customize a treatment plan based on factors such as:

- the size of the tumor
- a genomic analysis of the tumor
- whether the tumor has spread outside of the thyroid
- your overall health and personal preferences

As a leading center for the diagnosis and treatment of all types of thyroid cancer, we can help you get the best outcome and quality of life possible.

Active Surveillance, Thyroid Cancer Surgery, and Radioactive Iodine (RAI) Treatment

Many people with small, low-risk papillary thyroid cancer choose to participate in our program of active surveillance for thyroid cancer. Once called watchful waiting, this approach involves closely monitoring your condition over time.

Many people with thyroid cancer get [surgery](#), which can be effective in curing thyroid cancer. We also may recommend

surgery if the disease comes back in the neck area.

Many patients do well with [radioactive iodine treatment \(RAI\)](#) after surgery to prevent the disease from coming back. You can get RAI therapy to treat thyroid cancer that has come back, is advanced, or appears in areas of the body outside of the thyroid gland.

Clinical Trials and Other Treatment Options for Advanced Thyroid Cancer

Radiation therapy, proton therapy, and other forms of systemic treatments with anti-cancer drugs can be an option for you if the [disease becomes advanced](#). These approaches are sometimes effective if your cancer isn't responding to other therapies anymore.

We offer many patients participation in a range of [clinical trials](#), including:

- observational trials for low-risk patients

- targeted drugs to improve the effectiveness of radioactive iodine

- molecular-based therapies for people with advanced thyroid cancer who don't get better with conventional treatments

Request an Appointment

Call [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225)

Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern time)

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