



MTC FAQ

1. What is MTC?
2. What is a biopsy for MTC ?
3. What specialist should I see for future care?
4. **Q. Is MTC hereditary?**
 - A. Genetic testing. Some people with medullary thyroid cancer may have genetic changes that can be associated with other endocrine cancers. Your family history may prompt your doctor to recommend genetic testing to look for genes that increase your risk of cancer. (Mayo Clinic)
5. What are the types of MTC ?
6. What is CEA and Calcitonin?
7. Can MTC spread outside the thyroid and neck?
8. What are the stages of MTC?
9. **Q. What are some treatment options?**
10. **Q. What is alcohol ablation?**
 - A. I. Injecting alcohol into cancers
Alcohol ablation involves injecting small thyroid cancers with alcohol using imaging such as ultrasound to ensure precise placement of the injection. This procedure causes thyroid cancers to shrink. (Mayo Clinic)
 - A. II. Alcohol ablation might be an option if your cancer is very small and surgery isn't an option. It's also sometimes used to treat cancer that recurs in the lymph nodes after surgery. (Mayo Clinic)



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11. Q. Is there a cure? Q.Are there any new treatments for MTC?
12. Q. Where can I register for clinical trials?
 - I. [Mayo Research Clinical-trials](#)
 - II.
 - III.
13. Q. Where can I find thyroid conferences?
<http://www.thyca.org/support/conferences/>
14. Q. What is Calcitonin doubling-time?
15. Q.Are there medications for MTC?
16. Q.What medications do I take for thyroid replacement?
17. Q.What tests will I need for MTC ?
18. Q.What are other recourses for me online to start with?
19. Q.How much time will I need off work to recover from surgery or treatments?
- 20.Q.What is a thyroid storm?
21. Q.What foods can affect my thyroid medicine absorption?
- 22.Q.What information can I share so my family can have a better understanding with my journey?
- 23.Q. What are some things that might happen from my surgery?
- 24.Q. Can I be an organ donor or give blood/plasma?
- 25.Q. Should I make lifestyle changes, (e.g. drinking alcohol, whole food diet, gluten-free foods/products, coloring my hair)?



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26. **Q.** Is it true that some die of old age and not from their MTC?
27. **Q.** What other health issues can be associated with MTC, (e.g. gallbladder, teeth, bone, arthritis, IBS, diabetes, lupus, hair loss, menstrual cycle, sex drive fibromyalgia) ?
28. **Q.** Do I (females) need to worry about carrying a child in pregnancy?
29. **Q.** Do I need a thyroid-guard for dental x-rays?
- A. Yes, even if you do not have a thyroid anymore, it will protect your parathyroid glands! Tell all your friends/family about the thyroid guard.
30. **Q.** Can vitamins/medications affect my labs?
- A. Yes, keep a current list of all medications, vitamins or supplements. See if your shampoo has biotin in it, it could affect your labs.
31. **Q.** What is palliative care?
- A. Palliative care is specialized medical care that focuses on providing relief from pain and other symptoms of a serious illness. Palliative care specialist's work with you, your family and your other doctors to provide an extra layer of support that complements your ongoing care. Palliative care could be used while undergoing other aggressive treatments, such as surgery, chemotherapy or radiation therapy. Increasingly, it is being offered early in the course of cancer treatment. (Mayo Clinic)A. When palliative care is used along with all of the other appropriate treatments, people with cancer may feel better and live longer. (Mayo Clinic)A. Palliative care is provided by a team of doctors, nurses and other specially trained professionals. Palliative care teams aim to improve quality of life for people with cancer and their families. (Mayo Clinic)