



LIVING WITH MEDULLARY THYROID CANCER (MTC) CAN BE DIFFICULT FOR ANYONE.

The fear that may accompany this diagnosis can be compounded when the disease becomes advanced, meaning it has spread to lymph nodes, nearby tissue, or other parts of the body.

It is normal to feel confused or isolated when dealing with a complicated diagnosis. IT'S IMPORTANT TO SHARE THESE EMOTIONS WITH LOVED ONES. As you navigate appointments with your treatment team and make decisions about your care, be sure to ask questions about your health and the impact that new or different treatment approaches may have on your daily life. You shouldn't feel embarrassed to ask questions about what is important to you, or to reach out for clarifications if you have difficulty understanding the answers.

Here are some question topics that may aid conversations with your treatment team.

Click on each icon to go to that corresponding page/section in this PDF.



Remember

This is your journey, and you have the right to participate in your own care.





- 1 What is advanced MTC?
- 2 What stage is my MTC?
- 3 Does my cancer appear to be aggressive?• Where has it spread?
- 4 What is my prognosis?
- What is the best way to describe to my family and friends how my condition has changed?



Treatments for advanced MTC



1	Treatment options Should I have any additional tests?	
2	Have my treatment options changed?	
3	What will change from how we monitored and treated my MTC previously?	
4	What is targeted therapy? • Am I a candidate for it?	
5	Do you know of any clinical trials available for people with advanced MTC? • If so, should I consider participating?	
6	Side effects What side effects can I expect from treatment? • What are the most common side effects of treatment?	
	• How severe might they become?	
	• How can I best manage side effects?	
	 What is the best way to track side effects that I experience? 	
	(continued on next page)	



Treatments for advanced MTC (cont'd)



	Daily life Will have to be an treatment for the rest of my life?	
U	Will I have to be on treatment for the rest of my life?	
8	Can I take other prescription and non-prescription medications while undergoing treatment?	
9	Are treatments for advanced MTC expensive? How can I inquire about financial support for my treatment? ———————————————————————————————————	
10	What other factors should I consider before changing or starting a different treatment?	
	Management	
11)	Management Where do you recommend I receive treatment?	
11)	Where do you recommend I receive treatment?	
11)	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision	
11 12	Where do you recommend I receive treatment?	
11 12 13	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision	
11 12 13	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision about my treatment options/next steps? Will the members of my treatment team change?	
11 12 13 14	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision about my treatment options/next steps? Will the members of my treatment team change? Who will be responsible for managing my care	
11 12 13 14	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision about my treatment options/next steps? Will the members of my treatment team change?	
11 12 13 14	Where do you recommend I receive treatment? How much time do I have to make a decision about my treatment options/next steps? Will the members of my treatment team change? Who will be responsible for managing my care	



Surgery for advanced MTC



- 1 Can my MTC be surgically removed?

 If so:
 - What will be the extent of the surgery?
 - What are the risks of surgery?
 - What is the goal of surgery?
 - What are the best and worst possible outcomes?
 - What are the most common side effects of surgery?
 - How long does recovery typically take?
 - After surgery, what kind of follow-up care will I need?
 - What is my prognosis after surgery?
 - Will I need additional surgeries down the road?





- 1 How will the disease progression impact my daily life?
- Will I be able to work a part- or full-time job during treatment?
- 3 Should I follow new or different exercise or diet/nutrition guidelines during treatment?
- 4 Is any food/drink prohibited during treatment?





- Where should I go for more resources on advanced MTC?
- 2 Are there support groups for people living with advanced MTC? For caregivers?
 - If so, what is the best way to contact them?
- 3 To whom should I speak about emotional support needs?



Future office visits



- 1 Will I need to routinely follow up with you or anyone else while undergoing treatment?
 - If so, how often?
- 2 Can I have copies of my new test results and medical records?
- 3 Can I bring a loved one to take notes during my future office visits?

Additional notes