

**DISEASE STATE  
EDUCATION  
*THYROID CANCER***



# Disclaimer

This information is intended for your scientific and/or educational purpose and is not intended for promotional use.

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## Thyroid Cancer Treatment

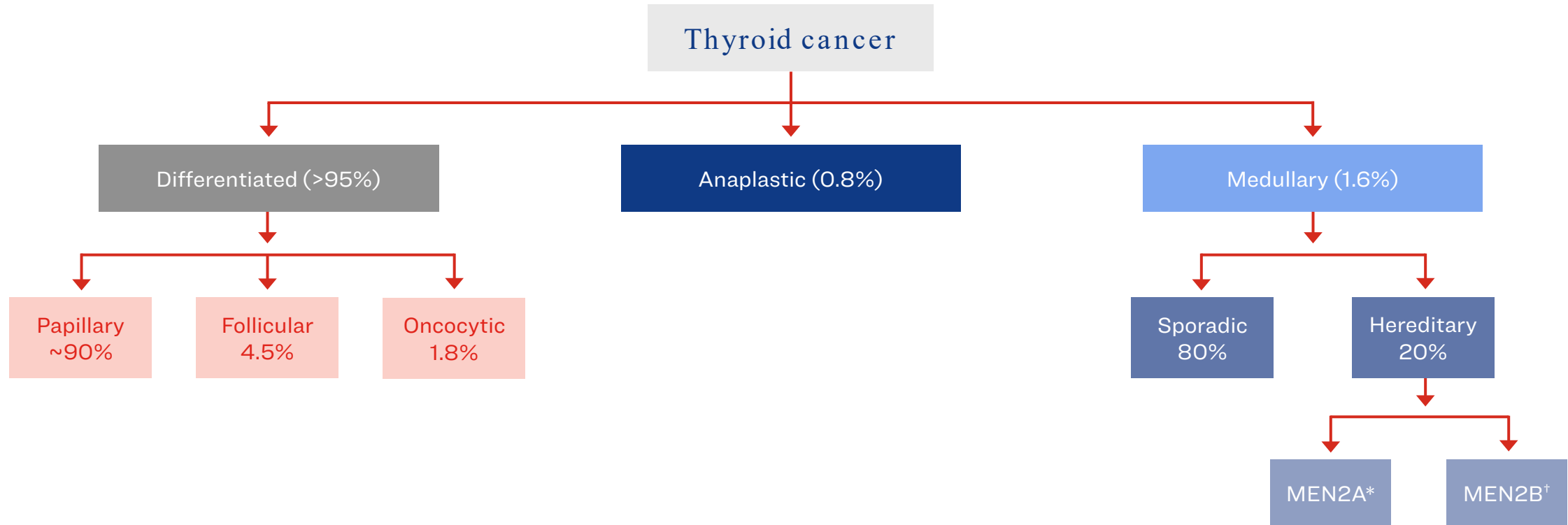
- Patient Experience
- Approved Therapies

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# Thyroid Cancer Overview



# Thyroid Cancers Have Unique Histological Subtypes



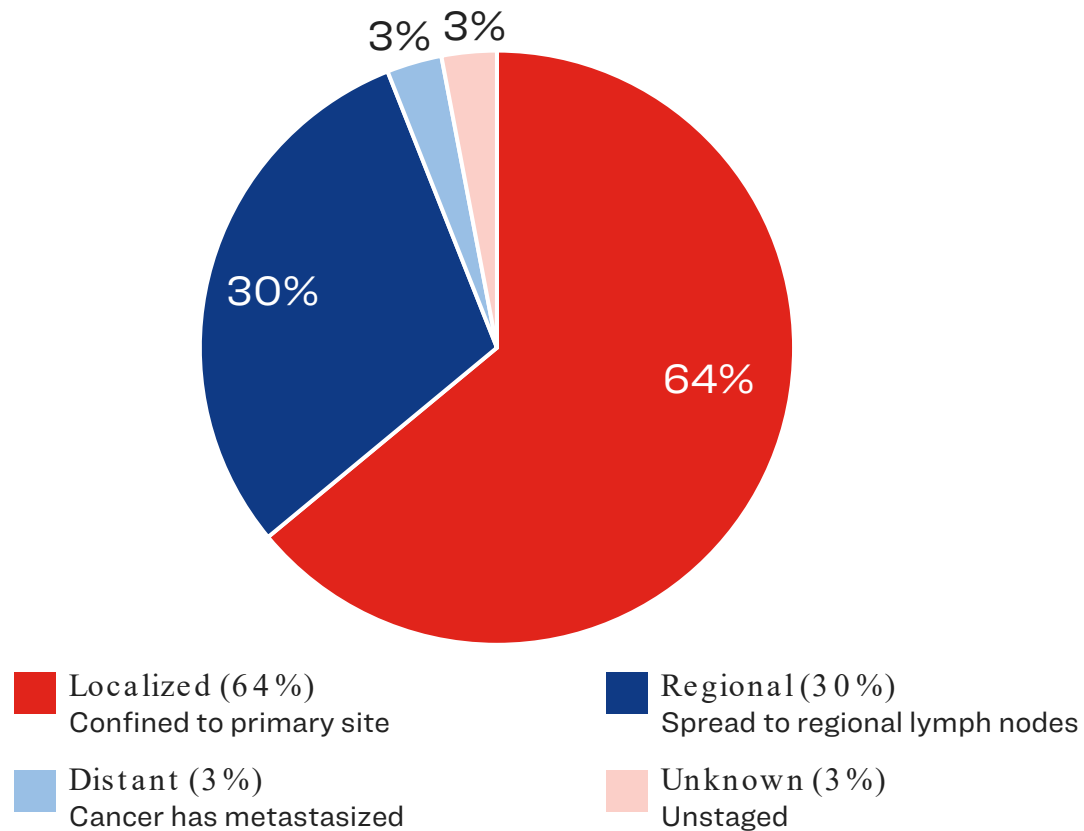
\*Signs or symptoms of hyperparathyroidism or pheochromocytoma rarely present before those of MTC. †MEN2B is similar to MEN2A but is not associated with hyperparathyroidism and is more likely to have locally aggressive disease compared to MEN2A.

MEN = multiple endocrine neoplasia; MTC = medullary thyroid cancer/carcinoma.

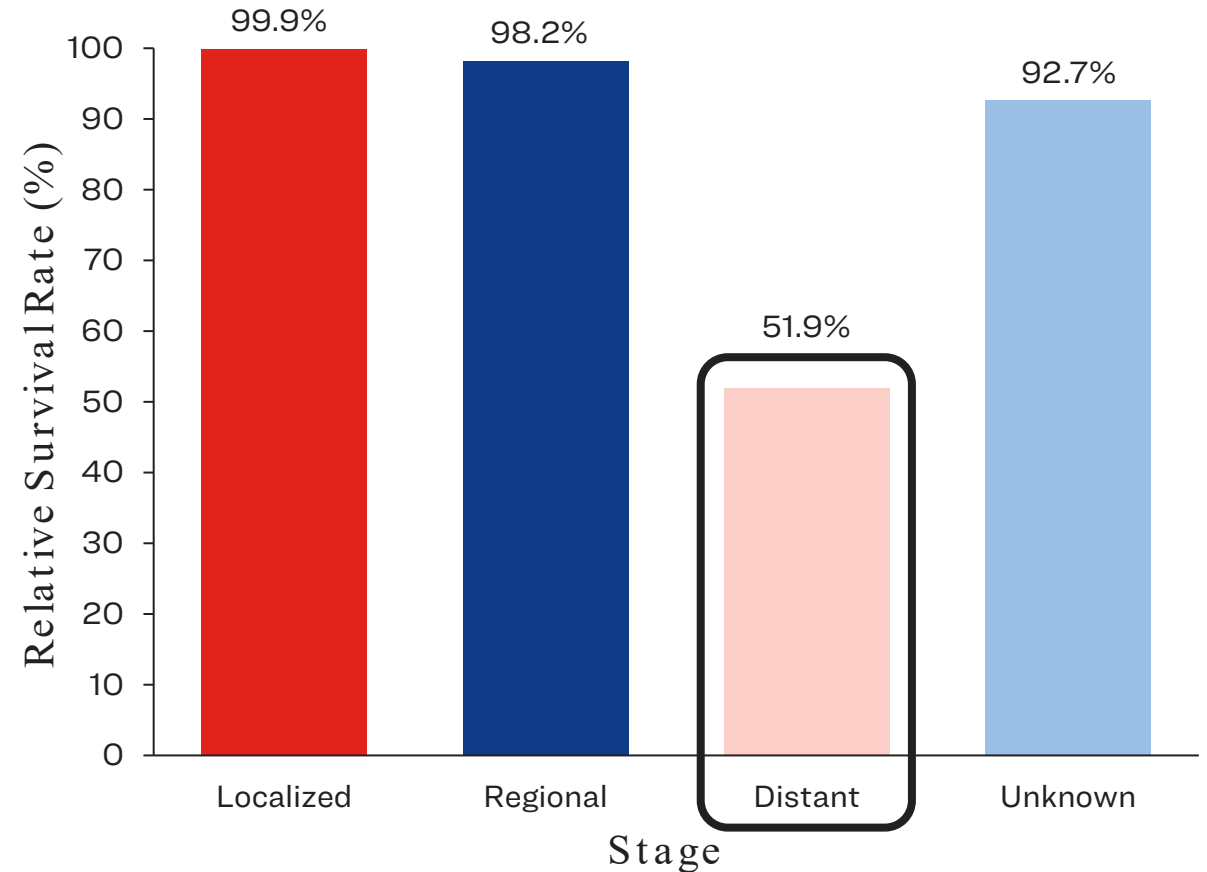
[https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/thyroid.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/thyroid.pdf) (Accessed January 3, 2024).

# Early Detection of Thyroid Cancer Is Associated With Improved Patient Outcomes

Cases by Stage

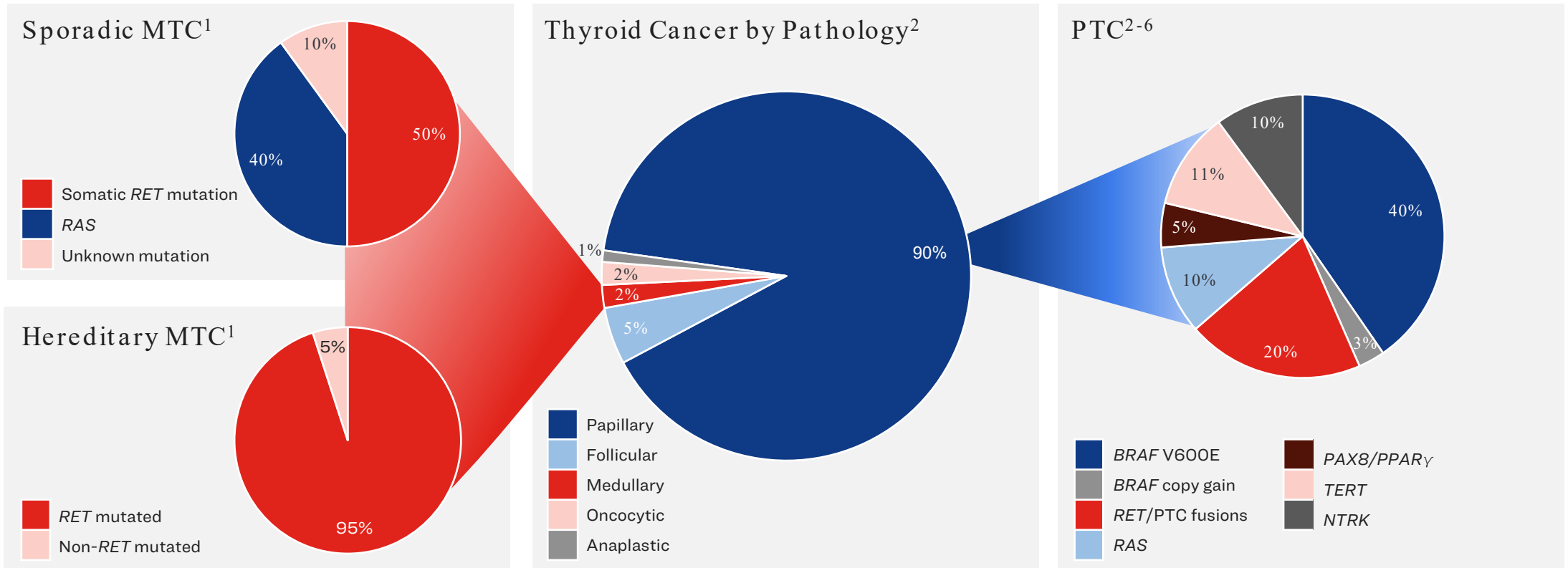


5-Year Relative Survival



<https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/thyro.html> (Accessed May 17, 2024).

# Genomic Alterations in Advanced Thyroid Cancer



Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding and variance in reporting.

*BRAF* = v-raf murine sarcoma viral oncogene homolog B; *NTRK* = neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; *PAX8* = paired box 8; *PPAR* $\gamma$  = peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma; PTC = papillary thyroid cancer/carcinoma; *RAS* = rat sarcoma; *RET* = rearranged during transfection; *TERT* = telomerase reverse transcriptase.

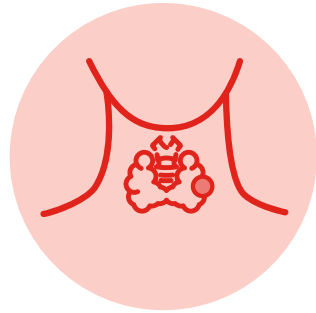
1. Hlozek J, et al. *Biomedicines*. 2022;10:1515. 2. [https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician\\_gls/pdf/thyroid.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/thyroid.pdf) (Accessed January 3, 2024). 3. Higgins MJ, Forastiere A, Marur S. *Oncology*. 2009;23(9):768-775. 4. Acquaviva G, et al. *Histopathology*. 2018;72:6-31. 5. Ciampi R, et al. *Endocr Pathol*. 2005;16(2):99-105. 6. Rangel-Pozzo A, et al. *Cancers*. 2020;12:3146.

# Diagnosing Thyroid Cancer





# Patient Journey to Receiving a Thyroid Cancer Diagnosis



Patient presents with suspected thyroid nodule, and sonography is performed.



Nodule is deemed suspicious on high-resolution ultrasound.



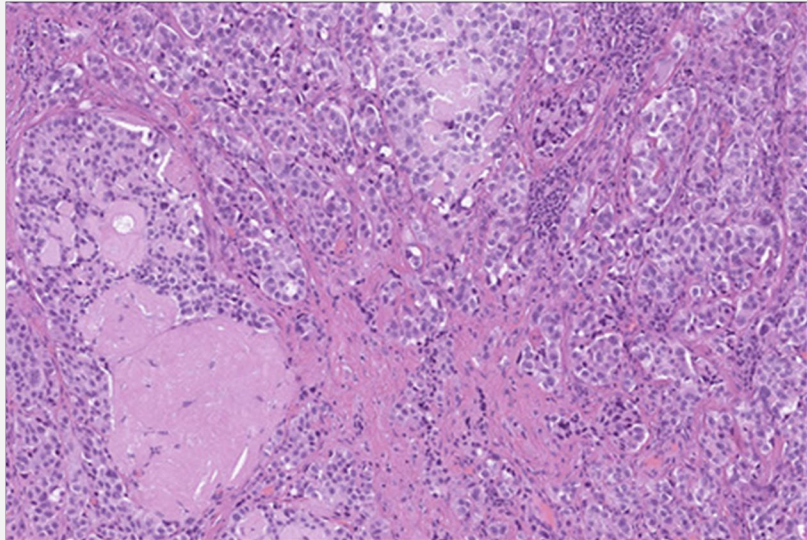
FNA cytology and scoring is performed using the Bethesda system.



Thyroidectomy is performed for confirmed malignancies. Highly suspicious nodules with inconclusive FNA cytology are recommended for molecular testing or repeat FNA.

FNA = fine-needle aspiration.  
Haugen BR, et al. *Thyroid*. 2016;26(10):10.1089/thy.2015.0020.

# Classification of Medullary Thyroid Cancers



## Histological Features of MTC<sup>1</sup>

Dyscohesive cells that may be spindle-shaped, plasmacytoid, or epithelioid; eccentric nuclei exhibit “salt & pepper” chromatin granularity<sup>2</sup>

**When determining if a thyroid nodule is consistent with MTC classification, the following should be evaluated:**

- Age of patient at presentation
- Genomic testing for germline *RET* mutations
- Serum levels of calcitonin and CEA\*
- Pathological features of FNA biopsy through IHC<sup>2</sup>:
  - Presence of markers, such as calcitonin, chromogranin, and CEA
  - Absence of Tg
  - High Ki-67 proliferation index<sup>1</sup>

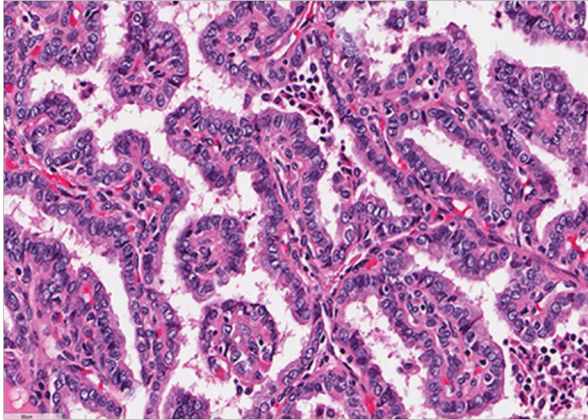
\*CEA is not considered a diagnostic marker of MTC; however, it is useful for evaluating disease progression, and it is recommended to be measured concurrently with calcitonin.

CEA = carcinoembryonic antigen; IHC = immunohistochemistry; Tg = thyroglobulin.

Image reproduced from Juhlin CC, Mete O, Baloch ZW. *Endocr Relat Cancer*. 2022;30(2):e220293.

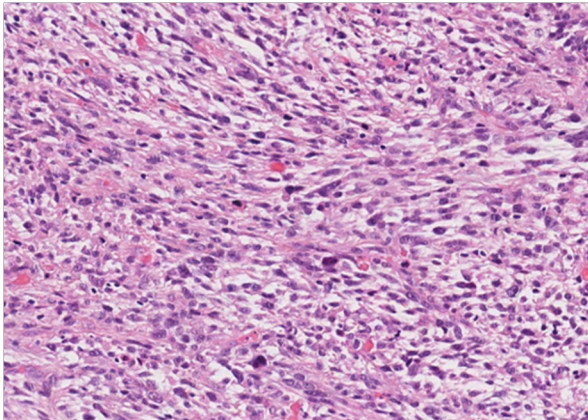
1. Juhlin CC, Mete O, Baloch ZW. *Endocr Relat Cancer*. 2022;30(2):e220293. 2. Wells SA, et al. *Thyroid*. 2015;25(6):567-610.

# Classification of Nonmedullary Thyroid Cancers



## Differentiated Thyroid Cancers<sup>1</sup>

- DTCs can vary greatly in histological features depending on the variant of tumor<sup>1-3</sup>
  - Reported characteristics should include tumor size, presence of extrathyroidal extension, and lymph node metastasis
- Measurement of serum Tg or anti-Tg antibodies is not recommended for patients with suspected DTCs<sup>3</sup>
- Molecular testing for status of the following markers for FNA biopsies with suspicious cytology may aid in diagnosis and surgical decision-making<sup>3</sup>:
  - *BRAF*
  - *RAS*
  - *RET/PTC*
  - *PAX8/PPAR $\gamma$*



## Anaplastic Thyroid Cancers<sup>1,4</sup>

- ATCs are highly dedifferentiated cancers with few characteristics of noncancerous thyroid cells with a rapid growth rate and highly variable histopathology
  - Spindle cell morphologies and giant cell morphologies are common presentations for these tumors
  - Known to be highly invasive
- IHC evaluation of the following markers is essential for ATC diagnosis:
  - Absence of Tg and TTF-1
  - Presence of PAX8 (in the proper morphological context)
  - High Ki-67 proliferation index
  - *BRAF<sup>V600E</sup>*
- Genomic profiling is not sufficient for diagnosis of ATC, but it may be useful in differential diagnosis

ATC = anaplastic thyroid cancer/carcinoma; DTC = differentiated thyroid cancer/carcinoma; TTF-1 = thyroid transcription factor 1.

Images reproduced from Baloch ZW, et al. *Endocr Pathol.* 2022;33:27-63.

1. Baloch ZW, et al. *Endocr Pathol.* 2022;33:27-63. 2. Schmidbauer B, et al. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2017;18(6):1292. 3. Haugen BR, et al. *Thyroid.* 2016;26(10):10.1089/thy.2015.0020. 4. Bible KC, et al. *Thyroid.* 2021;31(3):doi:10.1089/thy.2020.0944.

# Single Analyte Diagnostic Methods Used in Precision Oncology

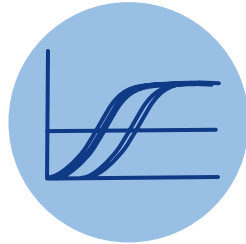
Protein or Nucleic Acid Detection Techniques



## Immunohistochemistry<sup>1-3</sup>

- Detects protein expression
- Microscopy-based technique
- Unable to determine gene sequence or identify specific fusion partners

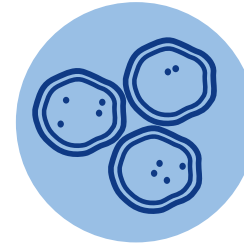
- SELECTED ASSAYS**
- Variety of protein-specific antibodies available for use<sup>1-3</sup>



## Polymerase chain reaction<sup>4-7</sup>

- Detects regions of interest within DNA or RNA
- Only detects known alterations

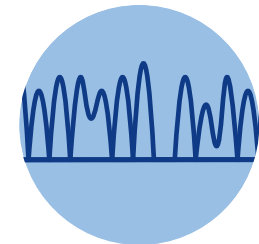
- ARMS-PCR<sup>4,12</sup>
- ddPCR<sup>7,13</sup>
- RT-PCR<sup>5,6</sup>
- qPCR<sup>4</sup>



## Fluorescence *in situ* hybridization<sup>8,9</sup>

- Visualizes specific genes/regions within a tissue sample
- Fluorescent microscopy-based technique
- Unable to determine gene sequence and limited to detection of known variations

- Variety of gene and region-specific probes available for use<sup>8</sup>



## Sanger sequencing<sup>7,9-11</sup>

- Detects SNVs, indels (insertions and deletions), and some fusion events in DNA
- Low-plex and low sensitivity traditional molecular method

- PCR enrichment may be used to amplify specific DNA regions of interest for sequencing<sup>4</sup>

For source information, please see speaker notes.

ARMS = amplification refractory mutation system; ddPCR = droplet digital polymerase chain reaction; PCR = polymerase chain reaction; qPCR = quantitative polymerase chain reaction; RT-PCR = reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction; SNV = single-nucleotide variant.

# Comprehensive Diagnostic Methods Used in Precision Oncology

## Nucleic Acid Detection Techniques

### Next-generation sequencing<sup>1,2</sup>



- High-throughput testing of most actionable thyroid cancer biomarkers
- Detects all classes of genomic alterations
- Can test multiple genes of interests on limited material from biopsies or cytological samples
- Commonly used panels in thyroid cancers<sup>a</sup> include Afirma<sup>®</sup> GSC, ThyroSeq<sup>®</sup> v3, and ThyGeNEXT<sup>®</sup> + ThyraMIR<sup>®</sup>

#### NGS DNA tumor sequencing<sup>3</sup>

- Allows for whole-genome or whole-exome sequencing

#### NGS RNA tumor sequencing<sup>3</sup>

- Can analyze at the transcriptome level, including all types of RNA transcripts (mRNA, rRNA, tRNA, micro-RNA, and non-coding RNA)
- mRNA sequencing can detect gene fusions

#### NGS plasma sequencing<sup>4</sup>

- Enrichment is performed on ctDNA collected by liquid biopsy
- TAT is typically much shorter than that needed for tissue NGS

For source information, please see speaker notes.

**\*This list is not all-inclusive and does not represent all laboratories and tests. This list is intended for informational purposes and your considerations only, and it is based on publicly available information for these organizations.**

ctDNA = circulating tumor DNA; GSC = genomic sequencing classifier; mRNA = messenger RNA; NGS = next-generation sequencing; rRNA = ribosomal RNA; TAT = turnaround time; tRNA = transfer RNA.



# Molecular Testing Options to Identify Targetable Alterations in Thyroid Cancers

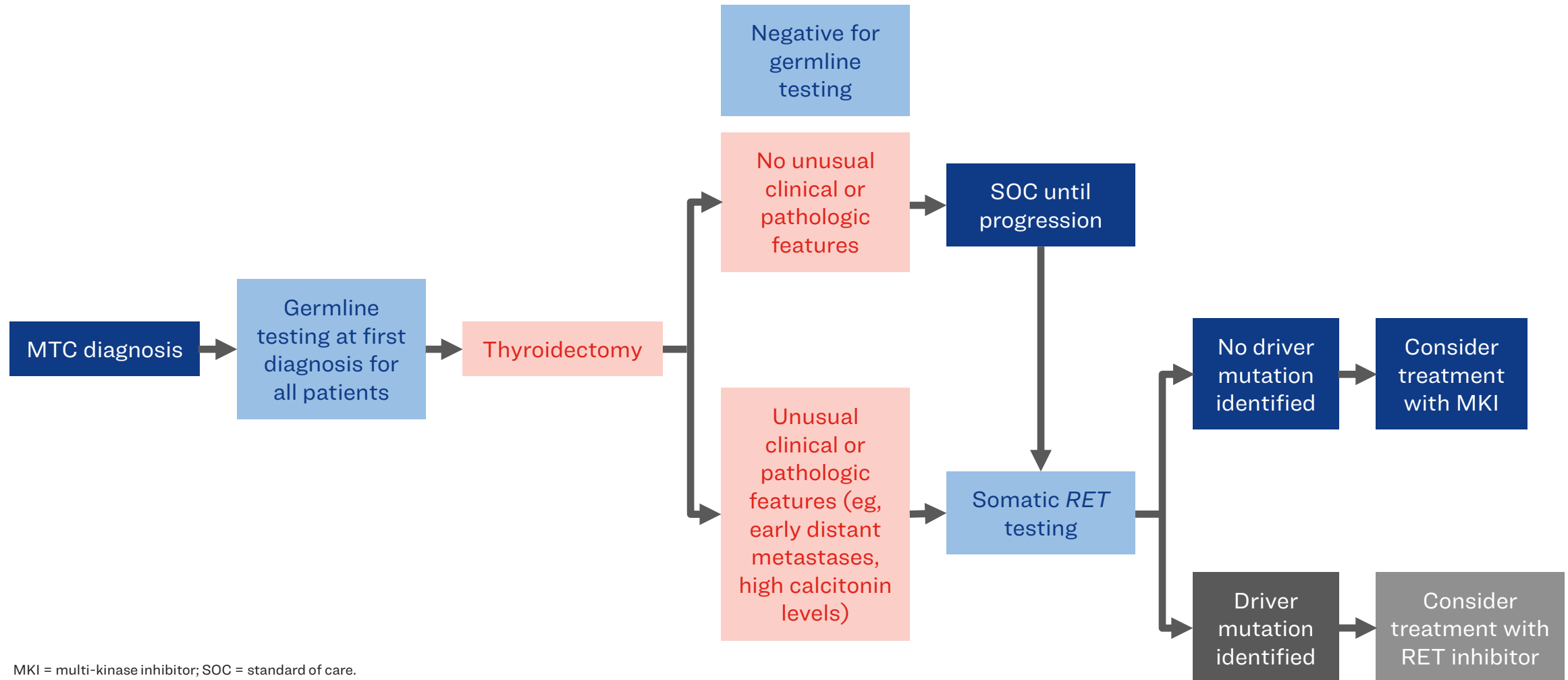
Target	Single Analyte Testing			Comprehensive Testing		
	PCR-Based Methods	FISH Testing	IHC Staining	NGS DNA Tumor Sequencing	NGS Plasma Sequencing	NGS RNA Tumor Sequencing
<b>Medullary thyroid cancers<sup>1</sup></b>						
<i>RET</i> rearrangements <sup>2,3</sup>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>Nonmedullary thyroid cancers<sup>4,5</sup></b>						
<i>BRAF</i> V600E <sup>2,6</sup>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>NTRK</i> fusions <sup>2,7</sup>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>RET</i> rearrangements <sup>2,3,8</sup>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

Targeted NGS testing covers the vast majority of genes of interest for thyroid cancer, requires less DNA/RNA, and usually offers results in 1-2 weeks.<sup>4</sup>

For source information, please see speaker notes.

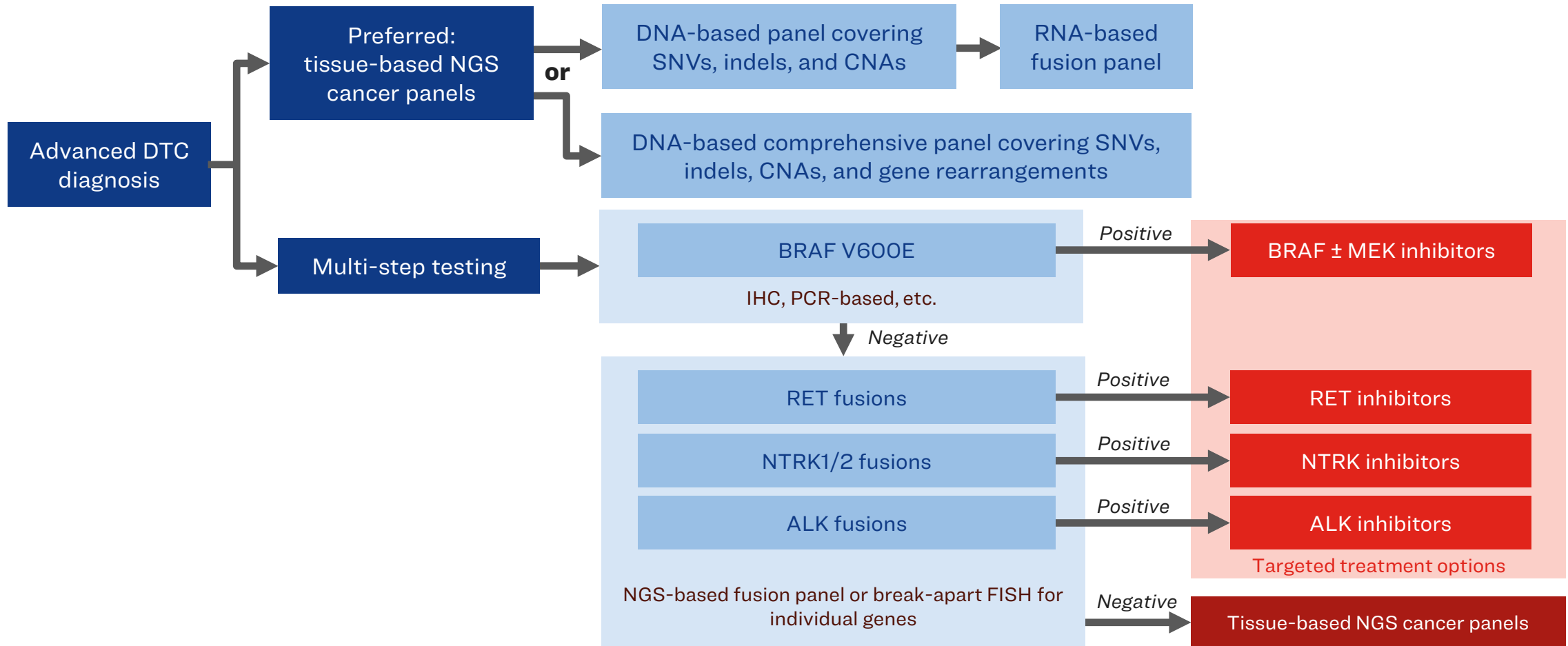
FISH = fluorescence *in situ* hybridization; PCR = polymerase chain reaction.

# Consensus Testing Algorithm for MTC



MKI = multi-kinase inhibitor; SOC = standard of care.  
Shonka DC, et al. *Head Neck*. 2022;44:1277-1300.

# Consensus Testing Algorithm for Advanced DTC



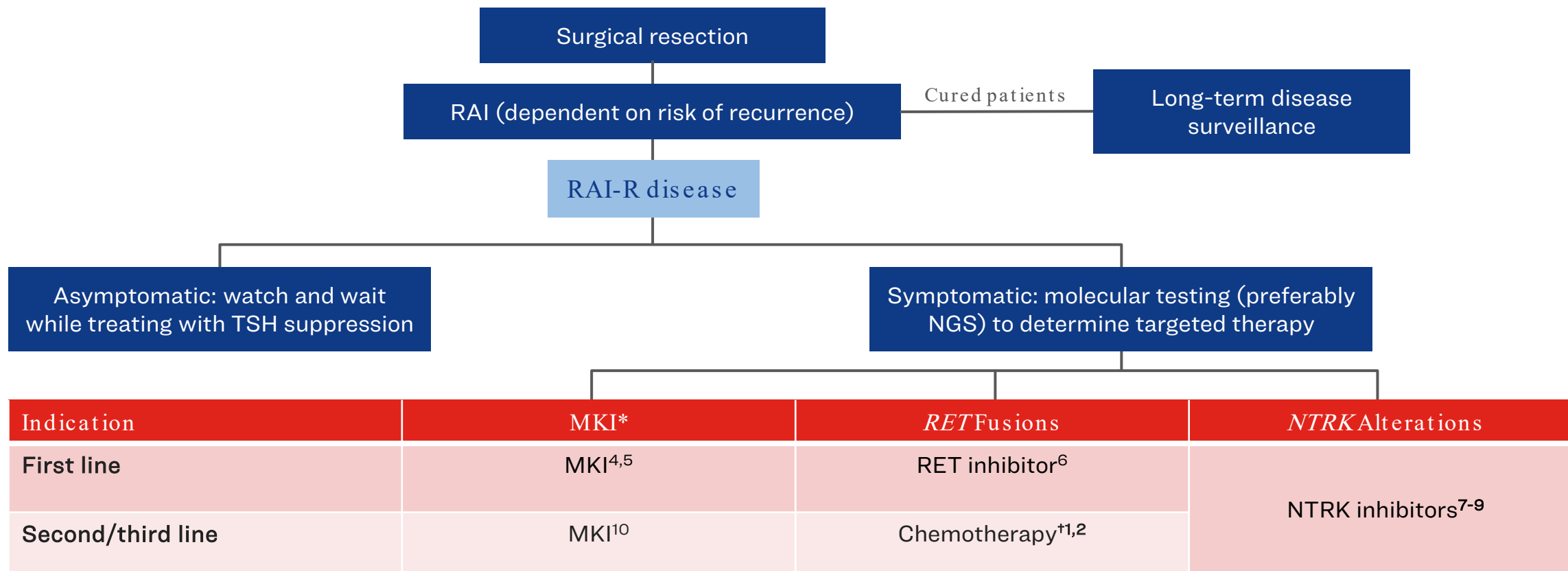
ALK = anaplastic lymphoma kinase; CNA = copy number aberration; MEK = mitogen-activated protein kinase.  
Shonka DC, et al. *Head Neck*. 2022;44:1277-1300.



# Treatment of Thyroid Cancer



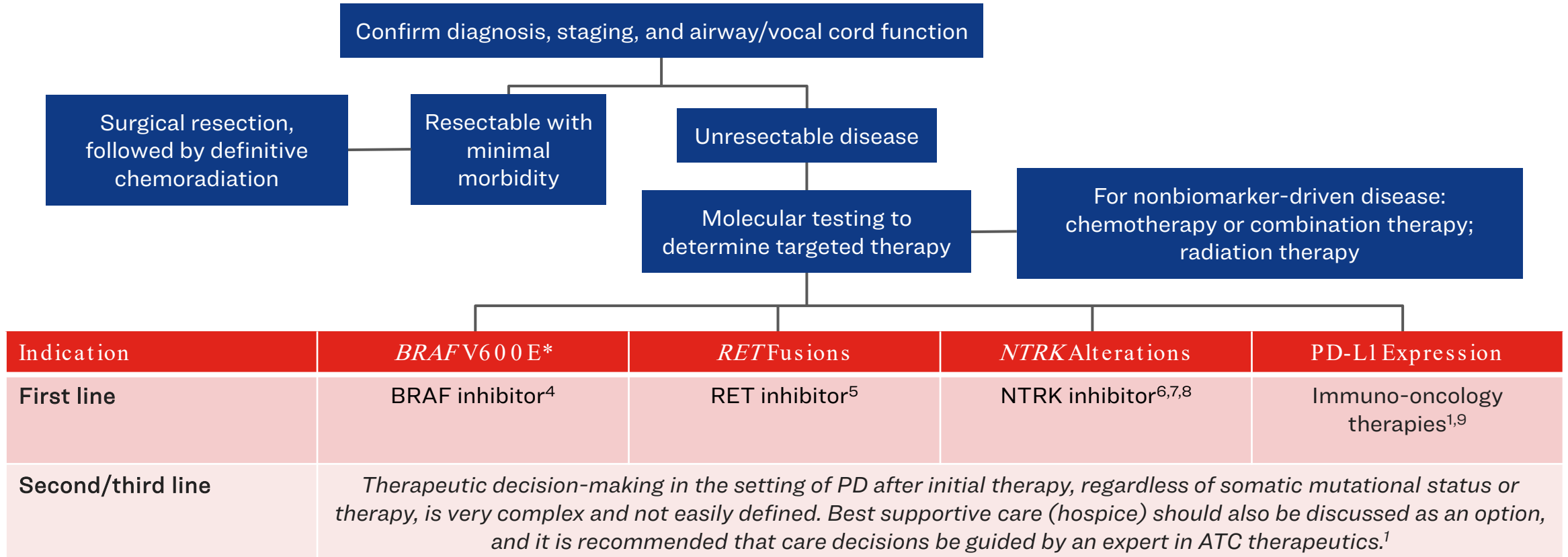
# Treatment Algorithm for DTCs<sup>1-3</sup>



For source information, please see speaker notes.

\*MKIs are considered standard first-line therapy for RAI-R DTC.<sup>1,2</sup> <sup>†</sup>Cytotoxic chemotherapy has historically proven to be ineffective in RAI-R DTC; however, it may have selective benefit in patients who are unresponsive to kinase inhibitors.<sup>1</sup>  
 RAI = radioactive iodine; RAI-R = radioactive iodine-refractory; TSH = thyroid-stimulating hormone.

# Treatment Algorithm for ATCs<sup>1-3</sup>

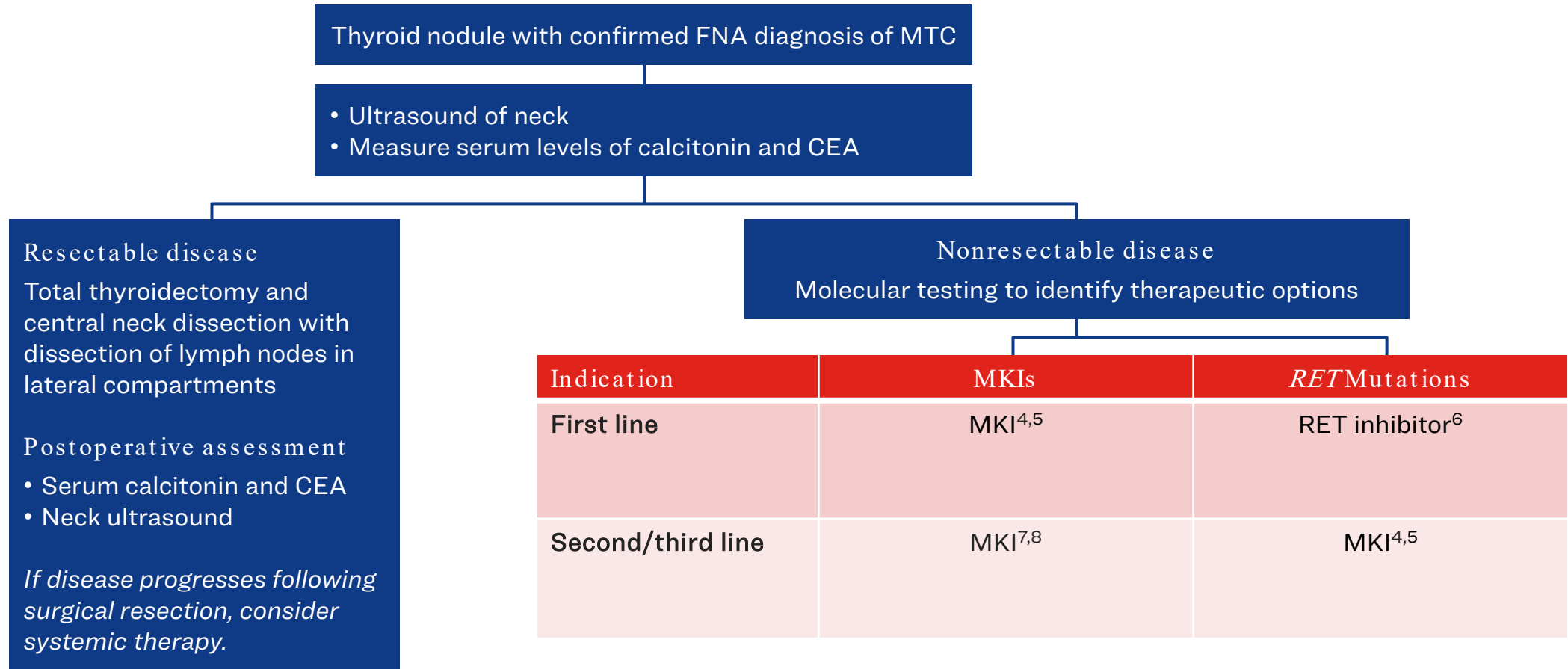


For source information, please see speaker notes.

\*IHC evaluation for *BRAF* V600E should be incorporated into initial assessment of advanced thyroid cancers while awaiting NGS results.

FDA = US Food and Drug Administration; PD = progressive disease.

# Treatment Algorithm for MTCs<sup>1-3</sup>



1. Wells SA, et al. *Thyroid*. 2015;25(6):567-610. 2. Salgado SA, et al. *Am Soc Clin Oncol Educ Book*. 2023;43:e389708. 3. Filetti S, et al. *Annals Oncol*. 2019;30:1856-1883. 4. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT00704730> (Accessed May 17, 2024). 5. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT00410761> (Accessed May 17, 2024). 6. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT03157128> (Accessed May 17, 2024). 7. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT00784303> (Accessed May 17, 2024). 8. <https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT00390325> (Accessed May 17, 2024).

# Current Therapeutic Options for Thyroid Carcinoma

Therapy Type	Cancer Type				
	DTC (PTC, FTC, and Hürthle Cell Carcinoma)	ATC		MTC	
		Locoregional	Systemic or Progressive Disease	Locoregional	Systemic or Progressive Disease
Chemotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doxorubicin*<sup>1,2</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paclitaxel<sup>3</sup></li> <li>Carboplatin<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Docetaxel<sup>3</sup></li> <li>Doxorubicin<sup>2,3</sup></li> <li>Paclitaxel<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>		
<b>Targeted Therapies</b>					
Immuno-oncology therapies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pembrolizumab<sup>+3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pembrolizumab<sup>†</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pembrolizumab<sup>†4</sup></li> <li>Spartalizumab<sup>+3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pembrolizumab<sup>†</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pembrolizumab<sup>†4</sup></li> </ul>
MKIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lenvatinib<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Sorafenib<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vandetanib<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Cabozantinib<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vandetanib<sup>5,6</sup></li> <li>Cabozantinib<sup>5,6</sup></li> </ul>
BRAF <sup>V600E</sup> inhibitors		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dabrafenib/Trametinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>			
NTRK inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Larotrectinib<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Entrectinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Larotrectinib<sup>2,3</sup></li> <li>Entrectinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>			
RET inhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selpercatinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selpercatinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selpercatinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selpercatinib<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>

For source information, please see speaker notes.

\*Indicated for DTC in patients contraindicated or unresponsive to MKIs. <sup>†</sup>Therapy not indicated for use in thyroid cancers and conditionally available for investigative use in patients with high PD-L1 expression and no other targetable alterations. <sup>‡</sup>Investigational therapy.

FTC = follicular thyroid cancer/carcinoma.