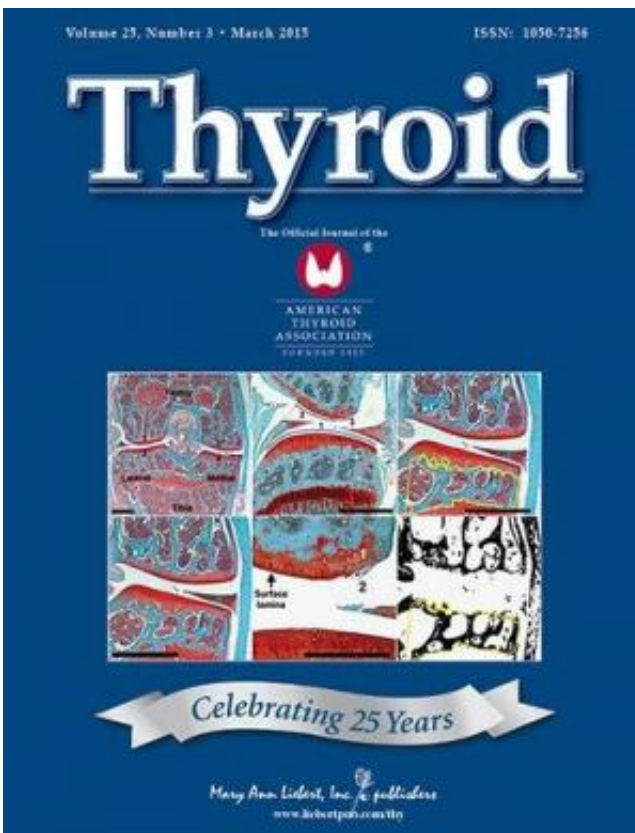


Newly updated treatment guidelines for medullary thyroid carcinoma

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Credit: Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers

A Task Force convened by the American Thyroid Association (ATA) released updated guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC). The current document is the first revision of the original guidelines published in 2009. The Task Force has presented

their recommendations in the article "[Revised American Thyroid Association Guidelines for the Management of Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma](#)", in *Thyroid*.

Lead author and Task Force Chair Samuel A. Wells, Jr., MD, Cancer Genetics Branch, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, MD), together with a team of expert colleagues, reviewed the basic science and clinical literature and developed evidence-based recommendations to guide physicians in the diagnosis and treatment of [patients](#) with sporadic and hereditary MTC. The 67 recommendations represent current and optimal medical practice.

The authors observe that despite significant progress in the management of patients with MTC, much remains to be done. Although patients with advanced disease, who receive recently developed novel therapeutic compounds, experience reduction in tumor size and have significantly prolonged progression-free-survival, compared to patients receiving placebo, drug resistance almost always develops and the tumor progresses. There is a critical need for more effective drugs, or combinations of drugs, that will improve the overall survival of these patients.

"The updated MTC guidelines provide a superb overview on the biology, diagnosis, and therapy of MTC. They form a state-of-the-art basis for a differentiated clinical care of patients with MTC and also highlight areas that are in need of further investigation and improvements," says Peter A. Kopp, MD, Editor-in-Chief of *Thyroid* and Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Molecular Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago.

"The revised [guidelines](#) for management of medullary [thyroid](#) carcinoma are an excellent detailed review of the literature, and they provide an

invaluable resource for the practicing endocrinologist, surgeon, oncologist, and others to assist in care of their patients," says Robert C. Smallridge, MD, President of the ATA, Professor of Medicine and former Chair, Endocrinology Division, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida.

More information: The guidelines are available free on the [Thyroid](#) website.

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

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