

DIFFERENTIATED THYROID CANCER (DTC)

DIFFERENTIATED THYROID CANCER (DTC) AND THE RISING GENDER DISPARITIES

Thyroid cancer is diagnosed more often in women than men. Over the past few decades, this gender-based gap has grown substantially.¹



DTC accounts for more than 90% of all thyroid cancers and includes papillary, follicular and Hürthle cell thyroid cancers.²



Thyroid cancer typically occurs in people between the ages of 25 and 65³ with the average age of diagnosis being 51.⁴



In 2024, there will be an estimated 44,020 new cases of thyroid cancer (12,500 in men and 31,520 in women).⁴ Metastatic disease is present in 4–10% of DTC patients.⁵

WHAT IS RAI-R DTC?

Radioactive iodine (RAI) is a common treatment that can be used to destroy any thyroid tissue not removed by surgery, or to treat some types of thyroid cancer that have spread to lymph nodes and other parts of the body.⁶



Up to 70% of patients with advanced thyroid cancer become RAI-refractory⁷, also known as resistant to treatment, posing unique difficulties.^{8,9}

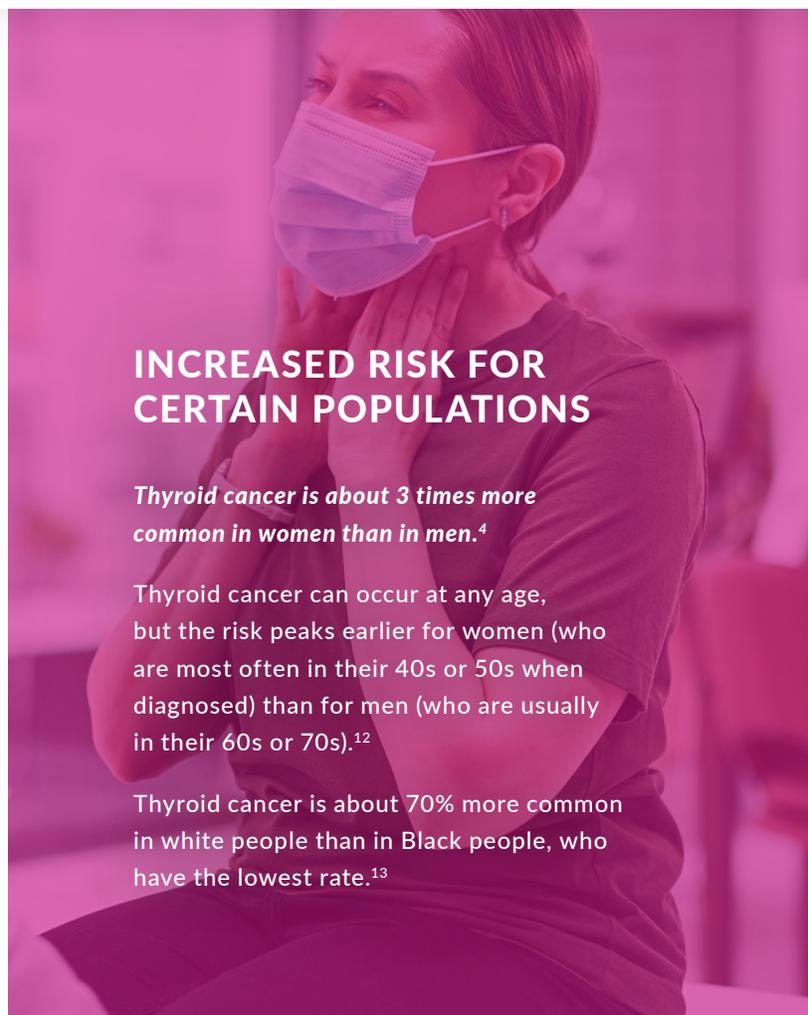
The cancer may persist or progress despite treatment efforts, requiring alternative approaches.

INCREASED RISK FOR CERTAIN POPULATIONS

Thyroid cancer is about 3 times more common in women than in men.⁴

Thyroid cancer can occur at any age, but the risk peaks earlier for women (who are most often in their 40s or 50s when diagnosed) than for men (who are usually in their 60s or 70s).¹²

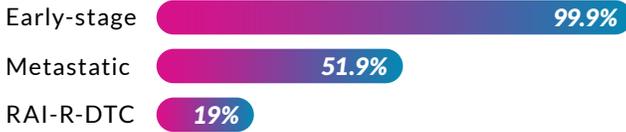
Thyroid cancer is about 70% more common in white people than in Black people, who have the lowest rate.¹³



PROGNOSIS

Based on SEER* data from 2013–2019, the 5-year relative survival rate for thyroid cancer that has not spread outside the thyroid is 99.9%.¹⁰ If the cancer has spread to distant parts of the body, such as the bones, the 5-year relative survival rate is 51.9%.¹⁰ For RAI-R-DTC, the 5-year relative survival rate decreases to 19%.¹¹

5-year relative survival rate



RISK FACTORS

- Radiation exposure
- Age (women are more often diagnosed at a younger age than men)
- Being overweight
- Family history – having a first-degree relative (parent, sibling or child) with thyroid cancer¹²

*The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program from the National Cancer Institute provides information on cancer statistics in the U.S.

SYMPTOMS OF DTC

Early-stage DTC may not show noticeable symptoms. That's why it's crucial to be aware of possible symptoms for early detection. Some signs and symptoms of DTC can include:



A lump in the neck, sometimes growing quickly.



Difficulty swallowing or breathing.



Changes in voice or persistent cough.¹⁴

These are not all the symptoms of DTC, and they could also be caused by other conditions.

Symptoms of DTC may be easily overlooked, so it's important to talk to your doctor about any concerning symptoms as soon as they arise.

More information about Eisai and our commitment to the cancer community can be found [here](#) or by scanning the QR code.



1. Why have Thyroid Cancer Diagnoses Spiked for US Women? National Cancer Institute. 2021. Available at: <https://www.cancer.gov/news-events/cancer-currents-blog/2021/thyroid-cancer-diagnosed-more-in-women> 2. Lee K, et al. Thyroid Cancer. StatPearls. 2023. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK459299/> 3. Thyroid Cancer. Medline Plus. National Institute of Health. 2021. Available at: <https://medlineplus.gov/thyroidcancer.html> 4. Key Statistics for Thyroid Cancer. American Cancer Society. 2024. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/thyroid-cancer/about/key-statistics.html> 5. Finessi M., et al. Definition of Radioactive Iodine Refractory Thyroid Cancer and Redifferentiation Strategies. Springer. 2023. Available at: https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-35213-3_9_6. Radioactive Iodine (Radioiodine) Therapy for Thyroid Cancer. American Cancer Society. 2023. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/thyroid-cancer/treating/radioactive-iodine.html> 7. Nervo, A. et al. Management of Progressive Radioiodine-Refractory Thyroid Carcinoma: Current Perspective. Cancer Management and Research. 2022. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9584766/> 8. Huize Shen, et al. Radioiodine-refractory differentiated thyroid cancer: Molecular mechanisms and therapeutic strategies for radioiodine resistance. Drug Resistance Updates. 2024. Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1368764623000961> 9. Aashiq M., et al. Radioiodine-Refractory Thyroid Cancer: Molecular Basis of Redifferentiation Therapies, Management, and Novel Therapies. Cancers (Basel). 2019. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6770909/> 10. Cancer Stat Facts: Thyroid Cancer. National Cancer Institute. 2019. Available at: <https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/thyro.html> 11. Mu Z., et al. Identification of Radioactive Iodine Refractory Differentiated Thyroid Cancer. Chonnam Medical Journal. 2019. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6769251/> 12. Thyroid Cancer Risk Factors. American Cancer Society. 2020. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/thyroid-cancer/causes-risks-prevention/risk-factors.html> 13. Thyroid Cancer: Statistics. Cancer.net. 2023. Available at: <https://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/thyroid-cancer/statistics> 14. Signs and Symptoms of Thyroid Cancer. American Cancer Society. 2019. Available at: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/thyroid-cancer/detection-diagnosis-staging/signs-symptoms.html>