



Endocrine Surgery Section

AHNS Endocrine Surgical Section Newsletter October 2019

GW Randolph MD FACS FACE

This represents an interval report on the Endocrine Section activities. The American Head Neck Society Endocrine Section (AHNS-ES) has emerged as the single largest US and international society managing thyroid surgical disease and cancer with a membership of well over 1700. ***The Endocrine Section now has a membership of nearly 500.*** I am proud to again outline the endocrine section vision and mission below:

Endocrine Section Vision: *To provide an organizational home for all surgeons who have a special interest in endocrine surgery, under the umbrella of the American Head and Neck Society.*

Endocrine Section Mission: *To advance education, research, and quality of care for the patient with thyroid and parathyroid diseases.*

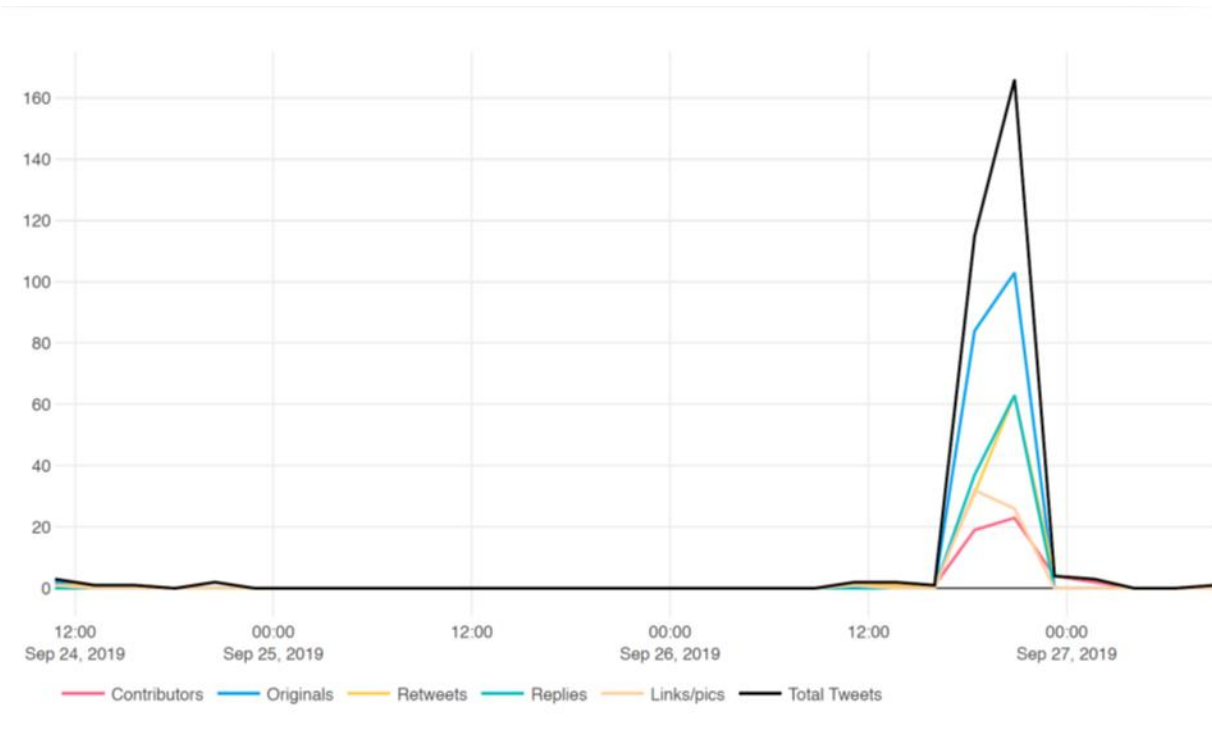
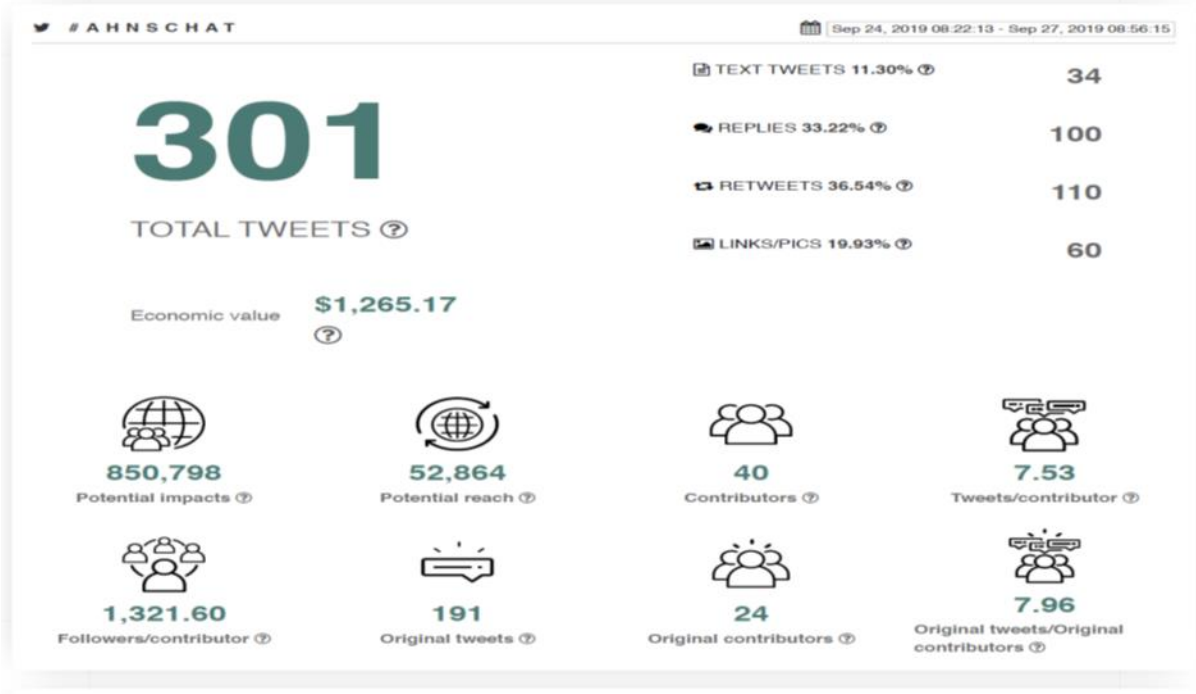
Twitter Chat Session between the AHNS Endocrine Section and ThyCa

To celebrate Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month, this week saw the first joint Twitter Chat Session between the AHNS Endocrine Section and ThyCa, an influential thyroid cancer survivor group. The chat was an outsized success with questions raised from a multitude of thyroid cancer patients, all answered by AHNS members based in far-flung cities ranging from Los Angeles to Boston. The session will be supported by our Patient Education committee Chair and Vice chair **Miriam Lango** and **Ellie Maghami**. We need lots of surgeons to join so we will be sending out more information to the endocrine section soon. Please join us for the important social media event!! Some interesting stats from the 1-hr session:

>30 participants,

>300 tweets

>215,000 “impressions” that are still growing each day.



The partnership with ThyCa has been so successful that several more Twitter chat sessions are in the works. Special thanks to **Vinny Dhillon, Amy Chen, and Carol Bier-Laning** for anchoring the session, along with the other surgeons who joined in. We plan a whole program of ThyCa and AHNS program of Twitter Chats:

December- ThyCa and AHNS Thyroid Cancer Preop consent

March – ThyCa and AHNS medullary thyroid cancer awareness

June – ThyCa and AHNS differentiated thyroid cancer awareness

Sept – ThyCa and AHNS thyroid cancer awareness

Watch for the dates !! We hope to have you join us in new chat!

Thanks to **Allen Ho**, AHNS Endocrine Section Social Media Chair who supervised the entire program!!

International White Paper Initiative Update:

I want to give an update regarding our global **Graves' Disease white paper** initiative. The international global networking inherent in this paper is really game changing.

It will be a product of not only the AHNS endocrine section but negotiations are complete with a total of 12 organizations to partner collaboratively the AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section and now involve: 1 – the Latin American Thyroid Society (LATS), 2 – the Brazilian Head and Neck Society, 3 – The British Association of Endocrine and Thyroid Surgeons (BAETS), 4 – the Danish Head and Neck Society, 5-the Asian Pacific Thyroid Society (APTS), 6 – The Japanese Society of Endocrine Surgeons, 7-Swedish Association of Endocrine Surgeons, 8- Asia Association of Endocrine Surgeons (AsAES), 9-African Head and Neck Society (AfHNS), 10- French Society of Endocrine Surgeons, and the 11-French Head and Neck Society, and the 12-Indian Society of Thyroid Surgeons. We've had our first organizational call and will be as a result of this reaching out to patient advocacy groups to join us in this important global project. This will be an amazing addition to our large AHNS Endocrine Surgery:

<https://www.ahns.info/ahns-endocrine-surgery-guidelines/>.

AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section international outreach through co-joint panels with other groups:

The AHNS endocrine surgery section had a major presence at the Brazilian Head and Neck Society in Gramado Brazil this month. **Cherie Ann Nathan, Amy Chen , Mark Zafereo, Brendan Stack** and I give multiple presentations and were involved in multiple collaborative panels at the meeting. Plans are underway for additional programming for their annual meeting next year. Below is a photo of the large number of women head and neck and endocrine surgeons who attended the meeting. Central in this group is **Cherie Ann Nathan** and **Amy Chen**.



The strong partnership between the sister societies of APTS and AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section were again re-forged during our joint panel of the APTS and AHNS ESS at the **World Congress on Thyroid Cancer 3.5** in Rome June 20, 21 and 22, 2019 <https://thyroidworldcongress.com/>. Our work in the endocrine section really spans the globe reflecting the international nature of the AHNS-ES!!

AHNS Endocrine Surgery Library :

Since 2014, the AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section has produced 9 white papers on critical endocrine surgery questions thanks to the commitment and hard work of many of its members.

These multidisciplinary papers, covering topics such as optimal management of invasive or recurrent thyroid cancer, management of the RLN and best practices for reoperative parathyroid surgery, are now available to all members of the AHNS in the **Endocrine Surgery Library**: <https://www.ahns.info/ahns-endocrine-surgery-guidelines/>.

In this library, you will find a free downloadable PDF of each manuscript, accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the key findings and recommendations. These presentations can be utilized by AHNS members when lecturing to surgeons, endocrinologists, and other clinicians.

This educational resource will continue to expand as additional white papers from the AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section become available in the near future. The paper that is most close to completion is the project of **Mike Singer** "Salivary and Lacrimal Gland Dysfunction After Use of Radioactive Iodine for Differentiated Thyroid Cancer: Otolaryngology and Endocrine Management--An American Head and Neck Society Endocrine Surgery Section and Salivary Gland Section Joint Multidisciplinary Consensus Statement." **Vinny Dhillon** is just starting work on another white paper on vocal cord paralysis after thyroid surgery and **Nishant Agarwal** and **Samer Al-khudari** have started work on a paper on substernal goiter.

The papers published in this library of highly cited. Recently I proudly received this note from the journal Head and Neck:

Congratulations — your articles are among the top downloaded!

Dear Gregory W. Randolph ,

We are pleased to let you know that your work, published in Head & Neck, is some of the journal's top downloaded recent papers!

1- Indications and extent of central neck dissection for papillary thyroid cancer: An American Head and Neck Society Consensus Statement

[Lead authors Nishant Agarwal, Maria Evasovich and Emad Kandil]

2- Surgical management of the recurrent laryngeal nerve in thyroidectomy: American Head and Neck Society Consensus Statement

[Lead authors Chris Fundakowski, Nathan Hales and Nishant Agarwal]

3- AHNS Series: Do you know your guidelines? AHNS Endocrine Section Consensus Statement: State-of-the-art thyroid surgical recommendations in the era of noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features

[Lead authors Robert Ferris, Yuri Nikiforov and David Terris]

What this means for you:

Amongst articles published between January 2017 and December 2018, your paper received some of the most downloads in the 12 months following online publication.

Your work generated immediate impact and visibility, contributing significantly to the advancement of your field.

*Best wishes,
Head & Neck*

A New Important AHNS Endocrine Section Committee:

I am very pleased to announce the **AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section Medical Oncology Advanced Thyroid Cancer committee**. We have four early and midcareer oncologists and endocrine oncologists

who have volunteered to work together under the umbrella of the AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section. This includes **Nagashree Seetharmu** NY Hoftra oncologist, **Ashish Chintakuntlawer** Mayo Clinic Oncologist, **Jong Park** -MGH/Harvard Oncology and **Sina Jasmin** -MD Anderson Endocrine/Oncology, under the leadership of Chair **Allen Ho** -MSK Oncology. These individuals be working in conjunction with some of the best-known oncologists in the country. Our initial white paper pilot project is an AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section statement regarding the need for mutational testing to guide targeted therapy in advanced thyroid cancers. This paper will epitomize the collaborative activities necessary for optimal patient care blending head neck surgery, oncology and endocrinology in the management of advanced thyroid cancer patients. **David Shonka, Mark Zafereo** and I will be helping to organize this group and its activities, blending them with the work of the other segments of the AHNS Endocrine Surgical Section. We have had our first organizational call and so writing is underway.

Research grant initiative:

Bill Armstrong, Brendan Stack and I are coordinating research outreach grant efforts with the AHNS in order to expand the current endocrine section research grant program. Importantly we are coordinating a reference with the main society to make sure we are in sync and optimizing grant opportunities. Colleen Elkins has been tremendously helpful and active in this collaborative program.

New Survey Results from the Endocrine Technology Committee:

Led by **Vinny Dhillon** of the Endocrine Technology Committee a survey was sent out to the entire endocrine section with nearly 100 responses. The survey centered on alternate access approaches and ultrasound based technologies. **Dr. Dhillon** writes of the results: "Overall, these results demonstrate that most respondents are knowledgeable about ultrasound-guided procedures and minimally invasive thyroid surgery but do not currently utilize these technologies. There is interest in performing these techniques and a potential need for education to facilitate adoption of these technologies into practice."

Please let Brendan (bstack@uams.edu), I (gregory_randolph@meei.harvard.edu) or Betty (betty@AHNS.info) know how we can best serve you through activities of the Endocrine Surgery Section. We need your help and we need your expertise. We are always open and welcoming new AHNS members to the Endocrine Section. ***As an AHNS member, you need only to contact us or designate on your dues renewal to join the section and participate in any of our activities.*** Together within the head neck society we move forward!! The AHNS Endocrine Section:

Together we provide an organizational home for all surgeons who have a special interest in endocrine surgery, under the umbrella of the American Head and Neck Society, and to in turn advance education, research, and quality of care for the patient with thyroid and parathyroid diseases.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Randolph MD FACS FACE

AHNS Endocrine Section Chair