



Endocrine Surgery Section

## AHNS Endocrine Surgical Section Newsletter/Counsel Report Sept 2020

GW Randolph MD FACS FACE

This represents an interval report on the Endocrine Section activities.

**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.*

### ***Your Endocrine Section in the COVID crisis***

Endocrine Sectional leadership provided a template for stratifying endocrine surgical cases during the pandemic and also a suggested narrative to guide the sometimes difficult patient discussions for endocrine surgical cases postponements.

<https://www.ahns.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Endocrine-Surgery-during-the-Covid.pdf>

<https://www.ahns.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AHNS-Endocrine-Section-patient-message.pdf>

In addition nearly completed a white paper to guide the safe use of fiber optic endoscopy in the preop head, neck and endocrine surgery clinic as we open up from the pandemic: AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section Consensus Statement on Nasopharyngolaryngoscopy and Clinic Reopening During COVID-19: How To Get Back to Optimal Safe Care. This is a joint product of the Endocrine Section in collaboration with the Reconstruction, Mucosal, Cutaneous, Salivary and Skull Base sections.

### ***Endocrine Section Webinar program –fully underway***

Starting in July we will start our new endocrine section webinar series. These are one hour case based presentations with related literature discussion. This program will be led by **Nishant Agarwal** and **Mike Singer** the leaders of our Education Committee. The first session on 7/15 was titled: **“Bread and Butter” Endocrine Surgical Cases** lead by **Nishant Agrawal** with presenters **Babek Givi, Arnaud Bewley** and **Maisie Shindo** with discussant **Dave Steward**. Our next session was titled: **Re-operative Endocrine**

**Surgery** on 8/18 lead by **Mike Singer** with presenters **Lisa Orloff, Mike Moore, Dave Shonka** and discussant **Dave Terris**.

Please join us for a joint Latin American and Korean RFA webinar on 10/21 and our joint international webinar on 12/12 with our sister organization the British Association of Endocrine and Thyroid Surgeons (BAETS).

**Twitter Chat Session between the AHNS Endocrine Section and ThyCa –lead by Allen Ho**

To celebrate Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month, in October we started a series of joint Twitter Chat Session between the AHNS Endocrine Section and ThyCa, an influential thyroid cancer survivor group. On 9/10 the AHNS Endocrine Section and ThyCa teamed up for the latest Twitter Chat, in celebration of September as Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month. The topic focused on “Recurrent Thyroid Cancer” and focused on differences in surgical approach, ethanol ablation, radiofrequency ablation, and active surveillance. The chat was an amazing success – surgeons and endocrinologists fielded questions and learned from the perspectives of thyroid cancer survivors. In just an hour, there were more than 450 tweets for 1.3 million Impressions!

AHNS Endocrine Section members who participated included Carol Bier-Laning, Amy Chen, Vinny Dhillon, Allen Ho, Daniel Kwon, Caitlin McMullen, Greg Randolph, Jonathan Russell, Merry Sebelik, Catherine Sinclair, Brendan Stack, and James Wu. These Twitter chats have become a key part of forging closer relationships with ThyCa and across our institutions. Kudos to **Allen Ho** AHNS Endocrine Section Social Media Chair who has lead this great new and expansive program for the section.

**The #AHNSchat Influencers**

**Top 10 Influential**

-  @ThyCaInc 100
-  @AmyYChenMD1 95
-  @zemkai 85
-  @AHNSEndo 82
-  @VaninderD 72
-  @DrCathSinclair 67
-  @jonrussellmd 66
-  @mcmullen\_dr 63
-  @msebe 57
-  @bstack53183322 54



**Prolific Tweeters**

-  @ThyCaInc 210
-  @AHNSEndo 33
-  @RandolphGreg 24
-  @AmyYChenMD1 20
-  @allenhomd 20
-  @zemkai 20
-  @jonrussellmd 16
-  @DrCathSinclair 15
-  @lisadbudzinski 15
-  @mcmullen\_dr 11



**Highest Impressions**

-  @ThyCaInc 1.1M
-  @lisadbudzinski 77.0K
-  @LouiseASL 67.3K
-  @AHNSEndo 12.0K
-  @thyroidfriends 9.4K
-  @AmyYChenMD1 9.3K
-  @zemkai 9.0K
-  @AmThyroidAssn 5.2K
-  @clinicallythyroid 2.9K
-  @cancergirl730 2.8K



Top 10 Influencers is determined by the SymplurRank algorithm.

**Free** Create [Symplur Account](#) to produce your own influencer lists like these.

**The Numbers**



Twitter data from the #AHNSchat hashtag from Wed, September 9th 2020, 4:05PM to Thu, September 10th 2020, 7:05PM (America/Denver) – Symplur.



Join us for our next Twitter Chat on Thurs 12/10/2020 (5pm Pacific/8pm Eastern). Remember #AHNSchat! Please email Allen Ho (Allen.Ho@cshs.org) if you will be planning to join the session.

***Two new International AHNS White Paper Initiatives underway:***

I want to give an update regarding two of our latest initiatives on parathyroid autofluorescence and RFA ablation both of which are global, multidisciplinary and very exciting.

The first is **AHNS Endocrine Surgery Section Consensus Statement on Parathyroid Identification and Vascular Assessment: Autofluorescence (AF), Indocyanine Green Fluorescence (ICG), and Other Parathyroid Imaging Technologies**. This is being led by **Amanda Silver** and **Fred Triponez** and involves a multidisciplinary author panel from around the world including general surgeons, otolaryngologist head and neck surgeons, endocrinologists, basic science optics scientists. This paper will provide a user friendly “how to manual” of parathyroid AF best practice.

The second is **Radiofrequency and Related Technologies for Treatment of Benign and Malignant Thyroid Disease: An International Multidisciplinary Consensus Statement of the American Head and Neck Society Endocrine Surgery Section with the Korean Society of Thyroid Radiology, Asia Pacific Society of Thyroid Surgery, European Thyroid Association, Latin American Thyroid Society, Thyroid Nodules Therapies Association and Associazione Medici Endocrinologi**. This is being led by **Lisa Orloff** and **Julia Noel** and as you see is a collaboration of the AHNS with 6 other international societies. The author panels consists of endocrinologists, general surgeons, otolaryngologist head and neck surgeons as well as radiologists. We expect this to define the landscape of modern RFA ablative endocrine landscape and will provide multiple AHNS “boiler plates” for preop, consent, procedural and postop-outcome parameters.

***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. One such paper is the collaboration between AHNS and AACE on pediatric thyroid cancer management lead by **Brendan Stack**. This paper will be the first to be jointly published in AACE’s Endocrine Practice as well as Head and Neck. Another is a project lead by **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” which has just been accepted to Head and Neck. **Vinny**

**Dhillon** has just had accepted 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.

I am especially proud to announce the first AHNS Endocrine Section Multi center research project's progress: **Louise Davies** and **Lisa Caulley** are leading the first multi institutional study under the auspice of the Endocrine Section research collaborative. A dozen institutions inside and outside the US are participating in the first study, which will examine how NIFTP has affected rates of thyroid cancer diagnosis. Data analysis is underway and we expect submission for publication toward the end of the summer.

***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 are working in conjunction with some of the best-known thyroid cancer 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 in nearly complete. 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** and I are helping to organize this group and its activities, blending them with the work of the other segments of the AHNS Endocrine Surgical Section. The paper is near completion.

***Endocrine Section Research grant initiative:***

**Bill Armstrong, Brendan Stack** and I coordinate research outreach grant efforts with the AHNS in order to expand the current endocrine section research grant program. Importantly we are coordinating 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. This year we have for the AHNS Endocrine Section Eisai and Stryker \$10,000 each. Winners for this year will announced this month.

Please let Brendan ([bstack28@siumed.edu](mailto:bstack28@siumed.edu)), I ([gregory\\_randolph@meei.harvard.edu](mailto:gregory_randolph@meei.harvard.edu)) or Betty ([betty@AHNS.info](mailto: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