



Mark L. Urken, MD, FACS is the Founder and Medical Advisor of the THANC Foundation.

Dr. Mark L. Urken received his medical degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville and then completed two years of general surgery training on the Tufts Surgical Service in Boston and three years of surgical specialty training in

Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery at Mount Sinai Medical Center. Following his graduation in 1986, he began his fellowship at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, where he trained in microvascular reconstructive surgery of the head and neck.

Following his training, Dr. Urken served as the Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the Mount Sinai Medical Center from 1995-2004. In 2004, he was recruited to join the Continuum Cancer Centers of New York as the Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology of the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery of Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

In addition to publishing over 220 articles in peer-reviewed journals and over 30 chapters on a variety of topics in head and neck and thyroid surgery, Dr. Urken’s 3 textbooks and his video series on head and neck reconstruction are definitive resources on this subject.



10 Union Square East  
Suite 5B  
New York, New York 10003  
T 212-844-6832  
F 212-844-8465  
[www.thancfoundation.org](http://www.thancfoundation.org)



## THE THANC FOUNDATION

is committed to supporting research and education in the early detection and treatment of thyroid and head and neck cancer; to advancing new therapeutic approaches; and to alleviating the suffering and functional impairment of patients who undergo treatment.

## CONTACT

The THANC Foundation welcomes your feedback. If you have a question, or simply wish to make a donation, please contact us at:

10 Union Square East, Suite 5B  
New York, NY 10003  
T 212-844-6832  
F 212-844-8465  
[info@thancfoundation.org](mailto:info@thancfoundation.org)  
[www.thancfoundation.org](http://www.thancfoundation.org)

[www.thancfoundation.org](http://www.thancfoundation.org)



## RESEARCH

---

### **THYROID HEAD AND NECK RESEARCH CENTER (THNRC)**

A THANC-funded in-house research staff conducts outcomes research in collaboration with the global HNRN. We are the premiere US site participating in this cooperative.

### **TCCC**

THANC has underwritten the establishment of the Thyroid Cancer Care Collaborative (TCCC), an interactive software application which documents patient care, aggregates scientific data and facilitates the sharing of patient information for those undergoing care for thyroid cancer. This initiative will result in personalized treatment, portable information for patients and the physicians involved in providing their care, and will revolutionize the way this subset of cancer patients manage the life-long surveillance required of this disease process.

### **MAXILLOFACIAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FUND**

THANC promotes education and research of acquired and developmental craniomaxillofacial deformities, such as cleft lips and palates and other facial malformations.

---

Incorporated in 2003, THANC is the first independent foundation dedicated specifically to thyroid, head and neck cancer research, education, and patient support.



## MEDICAL EDUCATION

---

### **MULTIDISCIPLINARY MANAGEMENT OF HEAD AND NECK CANCER AND THYROID AND PARATHYROID DISEASES**

From 1993 to 2011, participants from around the world learned the latest techniques in the treatment of these diseases from a top-notch faculty of experts.

### **THE GERALD GUTIERREZ MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND**

To honor the memory of the acclaimed Broadway director, THANC supported clinicians of Latin American nationality or descent to attend the annual course, from 1993 to 2011.

### **HEAD & NECK ONCOLOGIC AND MICROVASCULAR RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY, AND THYROID/ PARATHYROID SURGERY FELLOWSHIP**

The Foundation selects one fellow per year to receive funding for a full-range, hands-on experience in surgical oncology, microvascular and reconstructive surgical techniques, and multidisciplinary patient management at Mount Sinai Beth Israel's Institute for Head, Neck, and Thyroid Cancers.

### **MAXILLOFACIAL RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM**

Located at Mount Sinai Beth Israel's Institute for Head, Neck, and Thyroid Cancers, the training program focuses on functional restoration of patients with acquired or congenital deformities of the jaw and face.

### **SURGICAL OBSERVERSHIPS**

Observerships are arranged for periods of one day to three months, allowing physicians from around the world to experience the range of surgical procedures and patient care provided by the team of surgeons in the Institute for Head, Neck, and Thyroid Cancers.

### **RESEARCH ASSOCIATES**

Working alongside physicians and PhDs, research analysts run clinical studies, coordinate projects, and write manuscripts for publication. They also collect data to advance ongoing research initiatives.



## PATIENT SUPPORT

---

### **SPOHNC (SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH ORAL AND HEAD AND NECK CANCER)**

A patient-to-patient support group meeting is held monthly at the Institute for Head, Neck, and Thyroid Cancers at Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

### **THYROID CANCER CARE COLLABORATIVE PATIENT PORTAL**

Offers portability of thyroid cancer information, education through a library of expert video presentations available anywhere there is an internet connection, and highly coordinated care between clinicians. Patients have access to clinical decision making modules, a robust frequently asked questions page and ask the expert section.

### **IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER**

Over 5,000 donors, patients and medical professionals receive our semiannual newsletter.

### **HEAD & NECK CANCER GUIDE**

A website aimed at head and neck cancer patients, their family members, caregivers and friends that provides support and expert medical information on extremely complex diseases in an age appropriate manner for adults, teens and even children.



Dr. Mark L. Urken, Medical Advisor and Erika Markowitz, Executive Director