

Signs and Symptoms of Thyroid Cancer:

Unfortunately, many cases of thyroid cancer do not cause any problem. The most common sign of thyroid cancer that people notice is a lump or swelling in the neck. Difficulty in swallowing, neck pain or sore throat, or a chronic hoarse voice may be symptoms of the disease. Swollen lymph nodes in the neck or chronic neck and throat pain may also indicate thyroid cancer.

While anyone can develop thyroid cancer, certain factors increase the risk:

- * Age between 25 to 65 years
- * Female gender
- * Caucasian
- * Having a family member with thyroid disease
- * Exposure to radiation (especially in childhood)

Radiation exposure may result from a nuclear reactor accident (such as Chernobyl or Fukushima) or from radiation treatments for another cancer. Those at highest risk of thyroid cancer are those treated with high-dose radiation for cancer in childhood.

The risk of thyroid cancer in women is about three times higher than in men, and most cases occur in patients under 55 years of age.