



**MARYLAND ENT ASSOCIATES**  
**EAR • NOSE • THROAT**  
**FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY**

**Proudly Part of Privia Health**

## **Informed Consent for Thyroidectomy and/or Parathyroidectomy**

### **What is this surgery?**

Thyroidectomy is surgery to remove part or all of the thyroid gland (located in the front of the neck). Parathyroidectomy is surgery to remove one or more of the parathyroid glands (small glands near the thyroid that control calcium levels).

### **Why is this surgery needed?**

This surgery may be recommended for thyroid cancer, suspicious thyroid nodules, large goiters causing symptoms, overactive thyroid (hyperthyroidism), or overactive parathyroid glands (hyperparathyroidism) leading to high calcium levels and related problems.

### **Benefits of the surgery**

Removal of cancer or suspicious growths, relief of pressure symptoms (trouble breathing or swallowing), correction of hormone imbalances, improvement in calcium levels, prevention of complications from untreated disease.

### **Alternatives to surgery**

Observation with regular checkups, medicines (in some thyroid or parathyroid conditions), or radioactive iodine therapy (for selected thyroid conditions).

### **Risks of the surgery**

Common: neck pain, temporary hoarseness, sore throat, difficulty swallowing, scar on the neck. Less common: bleeding, infection, fluid collection (hematoma/seroma). Specific risks: injury to the vocal cord nerves causing permanent hoarseness or voice changes, low calcium levels (hypocalcemia) if parathyroid glands are injured or removed, need for lifelong calcium or thyroid hormone replacement. Rare but serious: severe bleeding causing airway blockage, injury to major blood vessels or trachea, severe allergic reaction to anesthesia, or death (very rare).

### **Things you should know**

Most patients stay in the hospital 1–2 days. You may need thyroid hormone pills for life if the thyroid is fully removed. If parathyroid glands are removed or injured, you may need calcium and vitamin D supplements long-term. Voice changes are often temporary but can be permanent if nerves are damaged.

### **Consent**

I have read and understood this information (or had it explained to me). I understand the procedure, its benefits, alternatives, and risks. I agree to proceed with Thyroidectomy and/or Parathyroidectomy.

Patient (or Legal Guardian) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician/Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_