

Assess Your Status

The following framework may be useful at any time from initial diagnosis onward as you manage your disease in order to assess your current status:

ACC Status Framework

	Status 1	Status 2
Original Diagnosis	Resectable	Unresectable
No Evident Disease	Monitor	Monitor
Recurrence or Metastasis	Stable	Progressive

Your current status as outlined above may help frame how you discuss treatment options with your doctors.

Example patient 1: Jane has just been diagnosed with ACC in her parotid gland. She has been told her tumor is resectable and that she has no metastases. She is in a “resectable original diagnosis” status.

Example patient 2: Paul was diagnosed 3 years ago with resectable ACC in his parotid gland. He had surgery and radiation and has just learned that his scans show a metastasis in his lung that has not grown in 12 months. He is in a “stable metastasis” status.

You may also find it helpful to explore the following questions with your medical team to further refine/define your status and identify your options. The answers to these questions may help you as you move on to explore treatment options.

ACC Status Refining Questions

What is the extent of my primary tumor ?	How large is it?
	Are the borders well-defined (encapsulated)?
	Has it invaded any nerves?
	Is it encroaching on vital structures?
If surgery is being considered will there be there any known disease left?	Can the tumor be fully resected?
	What is the likelihood of a surgeon achieving clean (negative) margins? Note that all cases are presumed to have the potential for microscopic disease that is not evident.
Is there any evidence of metastasis?	Have imaging tests ruled out locoregional spread of the primary tumor (near the primary tumor site) or distant metastasis to the lungs, liver, brain, bone or other site?
If metastases are present...	Where are they?
	How many are there?
	Are they located near vital structures (heart, brain, bronchus, eye, etc.) that would limit treatments by surgery or radiation?
Are there any personal limitations to potential treatments?	What is your overall health status (an important consideration when evaluating some treatment options)
	What is your age? (a potentially important factor as younger patients may be given lower dose radiation to preserve longer-term health and