

## MISSION


The Acoustic Neuroma Association, the premier resource to the Acoustic Neuroma community, informs, educates and supports those affected by Acoustic Neuroma brain tumors.

## What Does the Acoustic Neuroma Association Do?

The Acoustic Neuroma Association provides information and support to patients who have been diagnosed with an acoustic neuroma. Patient founded in 1981, ANA is a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status and is supported by contributions from its members.

## Fast Facts about ANA

- Patient founded in 1981
- More than 4,500 members worldwide
- More than 19,000 *Notes* newsletters distributed annually to members
- Distributes 7,200 patient information booklets annually
- *Webinar Series* impacting 4,000 AN patients provides presentations by AN medical professionals
- Complimentary info packets sent to 1,200 people worldwide annually
- Approximately 130 *Support Group* meetings held each year
- More than 2,000 people attend *Support Group* meetings each year
- Nearly 8,000 *ANA Website Discussion Forum* members
- 50-member **ANetwork**, *Nationwide Peer Support Program*, provides comfort and support to patients, family members and caregivers
- Offers individuals the opportunity to participate in acoustic neuroma research and studies with respected institutions



Issue Fall, June 2017

**Q&A WITH SHANNON KAHN, MD**  
 Dr. Kahn is an assistant professor of Radiation Oncology and Director of the Cumming Health Radiosurgery Center at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta, GA.


**What makes an acoustic neuroma patient a good candidate for radiation treatment?**  
 Radiation therapy is an excellent option in small to moderate sized acoustic neuromas that are not causing pressure with related symptoms on the adjacent...

**The Start Line: From Brain Surgery to Half-Marathon**  
 BY LEE FALK, BRISTOL, CT  
 As early as the summer of 2014, I had brushed off symptoms associated with acoustic neuroma as my imagination. Symptoms such as decreased hearing in my right ear, strange numbness in my face, head pain on the right side and slight dizziness. The one thing that I could not ignore was the horrible tinnitus that plagued me for weeks.

**Acoustic Neuroma and Trigeminal Neuropathy** (page 8)

**Eight Years and Counting** (page 10)

**Working On** (page 9)



Join/Renew | Ways to Give | ANA Discussion Forum | Contact | Member Section Login

ANA provides information and networking support for pre- and post-treatment acoustic neuroma patients.

Home | What is an AN | Pre-Treatment | Post-treatment | Resources | Finding Support | About ANA

Connect with us: Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn

Mark Ruffalo  
 Mark Ruffalo was diagnosed with AN in 2007. Watch his story.

Acoustic Neuroma Studies  
 View opportunities to participate in Acoustic Neuroma research.

ANRS Study  
 Treatment outcomes in patients with large acoustic neuromas.

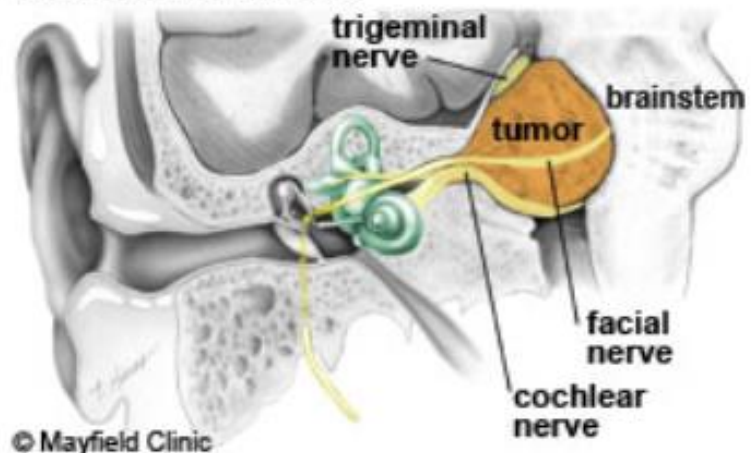
Yale University  
 Acoustic Neuroma Quality-of-Life Study

Mayo Clinic  
 Acoustic Neuroma Quality-of-Life Study

GET INVOLVED

Latest News  
 AITA Webinar: Understanding the Diagnosis and Treatment of Acoustic Neuroma  
 How to Make the Most of the Member Section  
 December Newsletter Sales  
 November Webinar: Recent Findings after AN Surgery  
 2016 Patient Survey Report  
 NOW! Login to update your membership information.

## What is an Acoustic Neuroma?



An acoustic neuroma, known as a vestibular schwannoma, is a benign (non-cancerous) growth that arises on the eighth cranial nerve leading from the brain to the inner ear. This nerve has two distinct parts, one part associated with transmitting sound and the other with sending balance information to the brain from the inner ear.

## Important Points to Know About an Acoustic Neuroma

- An acoustic neuroma, also called a vestibular schwannoma, is a rare, benign tumor of the hearing and balance nerves.
- It is usually slow growing and expands at its site of origin (1.5mm/yr).
- The cause is unknown.
- The most common first symptom is hearing loss in the tumor ear.
- The treatment options are observation, surgical removal or radiation.
- Pre- and post-surgery patients deal with many complications including hearing loss, tinnitus, balance problems, facial issues, headaches and more.