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Parathyroid Gland

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Parathyroid Gland*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C12765.

One of two small paired endocrine glands, superior and inferior, usually found embedded in the connective tissue capsule on the posterior surface of the thyroid gland; these glands secrete parathyroid hormone that regulates the metabolism of calcium and phosphorus. The parenchyma is composed of chief and oxyphilic cells arranged in anastomosing cords.