

THYROID TUMORS OPERATED IN LIBREVILLE (GABON), FROM 2003 TO 2009.

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Background/Purpose: To present and analyze histological and epidemiological data about thyroid tumors in Libreville (Gabon)

Methods: Method: A retrospective study from January 2003 to December 2009 out of data of the laboratory of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Libreville (Gabon).

Results: 192 thyroid surgical specimens were analyzed. 177 (92.2%) came from women and 15 (7.8%) from men. 179 tumors (93.2%) were benign while 13 (6.8%) were cancers.. Mean age was 41 years with extremes ranging from 14 to 78 years.

Benign pathology was dominated by multinodular colloid goiters (60.43%) followed by thyroid adenomas (17.20%) and various thyroiditis (Mainly Hashimoto's thyroiditis) 6.25% of cases.

Among 13 cancers there were: 6 vesicular or follicular, 4 vesicular and papillary, 2 medullary thyroid carcinoma and 1 was a papillary carcinoma. The incidence of cancer increased with age (2/3 of patients older than 70 years had cancer) but there was also a 19 year old patient with papillary carcinoma.

Discussion & Conclusion: In Gabon, as elsewhere, thyroid tumors mainly concern women .Predominance of vesicular cancer is in favor of iodine deficiency, documented in certain parts of Gabon.