

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF NONPALPABLE THYROID TUMORS

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Background/Purpose: To develop algorithm for ultrasound investigation of the thyroid, to identify indications for aspiration for aspiration puncture biopsy of thyroid micronodes and to develop treatment in thyroid microcarcinoma.

Methods: A total of 115 patients (18 men and 97 women) with nonpalpable thyroid nodes were managed at the clinic during 2002 through 2012. Besides thyroid micronodes 84,5% of women had various reproductive system diseases. In 59% of cases the microcarcinoma developed against the background of various thyroid abnormalities. All patients underwent ultrasound-guided aspiration puncture biopsy.

Results: Individual morphologic types of thyroid cancer had no specific ultrasound features. Cytologic study had an accuracy of 95,7%. Scheduled histologic study discovered papillary carcinoma in 107, follicular carcinoma in 5 and medullary carcinoma in 3 patients.

Discussion & Conclusion: All patients with reproductive system diseases should undergo ultrasound scan of the thyroid, and aspiration puncture biopsy should be made in all micronode-positive cases irrespective of node size. If cancer of the thyroid is confirmed, the patient should undergo thyroidectomy and central lymph node dissection with mandatory intraoperative inspection of regional metastasis zones.