ARUPConsult

Thyroid Cancer Testing

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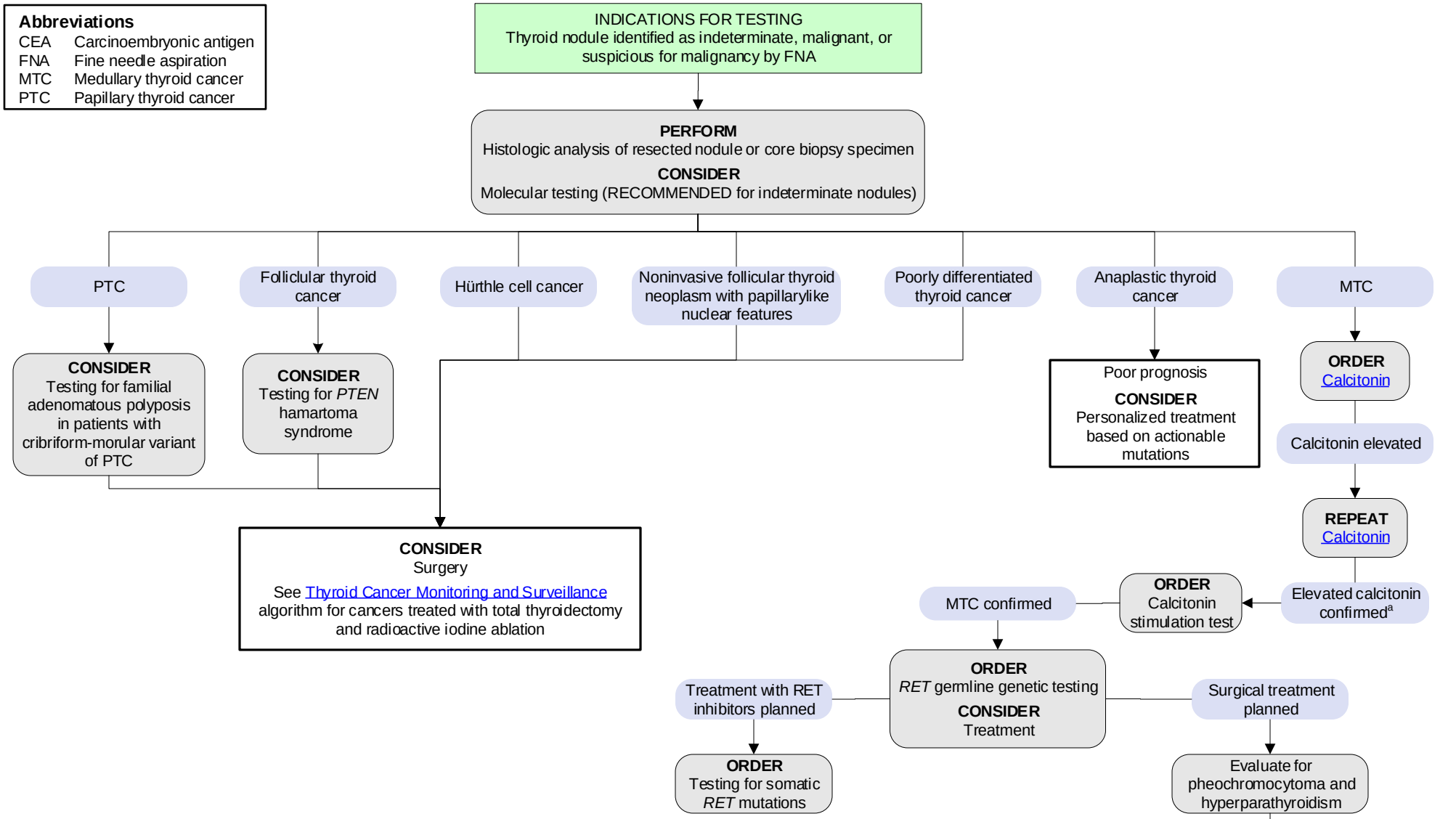
Abbreviations

CEA	Carcinoembryonic antigen
FNA	Fine needle aspiration
MTC	Medullary thyroid cancer
PTC	Papillary thyroid cancer



[a]CEA is also expressed in MTC, but not in other primary thyroid cancers, so CEA testing may be useful if calcitonin-negative MTC is suspected. Results should be interpreted with care, as elevated CEA is associated with other malignancies, and coexisting CEA-expressing tumors and metastases should be ruled out, especially in cases of otherwise undetectable residual disease.

References

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