**INDICATIONS FOR TESTING**

Patient presents with a palpable nodule in the thyroid gland, enlarged thyroid, or abnormal cervical nodes

**PERFORM**

Thyroid ultrasound (US) **AND ORDER**

Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)

**RECOMMEND FNA**:  
- Nodules >1 cm with high or intermediate suspicion sonographic pattern on US  
- Nodules >1.5 cm with low suspicion sonographic pattern on US

**CONSIDER FNA**:  
Nodules >2 cm with very low suspicion sonographic pattern on US

Bethesda System for Reporting Thyroid Cytopathology (2009)

- **Nondiagnostic/unsatisfactory**  
  - Repeat FNA with US guidance  
  - Nondiagnostic
  - High suspicion of malignancy  
    - Yes: Close surveillance or surgery  
    - No: Surveillance

- **Benign**
  - Low to intermediate suspicion on US  
    - Repeat US, FNA at 12-24 mos  
    - Repeat US, FNA within 12 mos

- **Malignant or suspicious for papillary thyroid carcinoma**
  - Repeat US, FNA >24 mos or no repeat necessary
  - High suspicion on US
  - Consider mutation testing if patient will benefit from chemotherapy (eg, metastatic lesions, high grade lesions)

- **Indeterminate cytology**
  - Very low suspicion on US
  - Low to intermediate suspicion on US
  - High suspicion on US
  - Atypia or follicular lesion of undetermined significance (AUS or FLUS)
  - Molecular testing
  - Repeat FNA at 3-6 mos

- **Surgery**
  - High or intermediate suspicion for malignancy on US
  - Molecular testing
  - Follow up as per diagnostic category

- **Mutation analysis if data will alter surgical decision**
  - Surveillance (low risk, patient preference)
  - Not informative or suggests not benign
  - Suggests malignancy

- **Surveillance**
  - If suspicious, consider excision
  - Molecular testing, if results will modify management

- **Radionucleide scan**

- **Calcitonin**

- **Cytology, Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA)**

- **Genetic testing**
  - If medullary subtype in family, consider MEN testing

- **Lower risk nodule**
  - Low TSH
  - Normal or high TSH
  - Radionucleide scan

- **If medullary subtype in family, consider MEN testing**

- **Repeat FNA or molecular testing may be utilized prior to decision making**

*Consider second opinion
b Repeat FNA or molecular testing may be utilized prior to decision making