INDICATIONS FOR TESTING
Palpable nodule, incidentaloma, or enlarged thyroid

PERFORM
Thyroid ultrasound
AND ORDER
TSH test

Normal or elevated TSH

Suspicious ultrasound features/nodule otherwise recommended for cytology

No

Yes

Low TSH

PERFORM
Radionuclide scanning

Not hyperfunctioning

Hyperfunctioning (hot)

CONSIDER
FNA

Cytology not required

See Recommended Follow-Up Based on Cytologic Analysis of FNA Specimens

Abbreviations
FNA     Fine needle aspiration
TSH     Thyroid-stimulating hormone

References