INDICATIONS FOR TESTING
Palpable nodule, incidentaloma, or enlarged thyroid

PERFORM
Thyroid ultrasound
AND ORDER
Thyroid Stimulating Hormone

Normal or elevated TSH

Suspicious ultrasound features/ nodule otherwise recommended for cytology

No
Cytology not required

Yes

Low TSH

PERFORM
Radionuclide scanning

Not hyperfunctioning
CONSIDER
FNA

Hyperfunctioning (hot)
Cytology not required
Evaluate for thyrotoxicosis

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

Abbreviations
FNA Fine needle aspiration
TSH Thyroid-stimulating hormone

References