

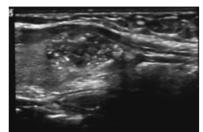
## HELLENIC MINISTRY OF HEALTH EVANGELISMOS-POLIKLINIKI GENERAL HOSPITAL

## DEPARTMENT OF ENDOCRINOLOGY "D.IKKOS" CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR RARE ENDOCRINE DISEASES

## THYROID CANCER

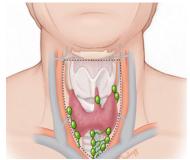
The thyroid is a butterfly-shaped glad located in the front of your throat. The fundamental function of the thyroid gland is the production and release of hormones into the human body to regulate our metabolic function.

Frequently the nodules of the thyroid gland, are benign. With a clinical examination of your specialist and mainly with an ultrasonography the nodules suspected of malignancy can be distinguished by a fine needle aspiration (FNA) and cytology examination.



Depending on the result of the puncture, your doctor will recommend surgical removal or follow-up.

There are a few conditions that raise the doubt of malignancy in a thyroid gland, such as cervical radiation for the treatment of another childhood malignancy (e.g. lymphoma or leukemia).



The extend of the surgery relies upon the ultrasound results, particularly if there are suspicious lymph nodes. After surgery, your doctor will ask to see the histological examination and will decide how your treatment will proceed. Additional treatment with radioactive iodine (Radiotherapy) may need to be performed.

Regardless, you will be treated with thyroid hormones for life, as you don't have thyroid gland to produce them any more. Your doctor will ask you to schedule appointments at the outpatient clinic every 6 months for the first few years and once a year thereafter. They will for the most part measure your TSH and thyroglobulin, and if necessary they will request an ultrasound.

Most types of thyroid cancer are slow-growing, they don't relapse and does not change your quality of life or mortality.

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