



West Yorkshire & Harrogate Cancer Alliance

Guidelines on Indications for Thyroid Surgery, Prophylactic Level 6 and Radioiodine plus follow-up of low risk differentiated thyroid cancer

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Version 2.0

i Document Control

Title	Guidelines on Indications for Thyroid Surgery, Prophylactic Level 6 and Radioiodine plus follow-up of low risk differentiated thyroid cancer (Summary of BTA 2014 Guidelines)
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Contributors to current version		
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ii Information Reader Box

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1 Introductions

There are no RCTs & the evidence is weak so consider the risks & benefits of treatment for each patient depending on risk factors present & other variables

2 What surgery to do if FNAC is Thy5 / PTC?:

Diagnostic lobectomy: If US suggests <4cm size tumour and no other concerning features.

Total thyroidectomy: if:

- > 4cm
- Multifocal/ Bilateral
- Extrathyroidal extension- if possible to see on US
- Involved lymph nodes

3 Who needs completion thyroidectomy after diagnostic lobectomy?

3.1 Papillary microcarcinoma (cancer of 10mm or less)

Completion after lobectomy?

Yes if:

- multifocal and involving both lobes (on US)
- Extrathyroidal extension
- LNs involved
- family history
- unfavourable histology
- discovered by PET (PET positive)

3.2 Papillary thyroid cancer (> 10mm)

Completion after lobectomy?

Yes if:

Tumour > 4cm in size

Or any size and

- multifocal or bilateral
- Extrathyroidal extension (pT3 or pT4)
- Node positive
- Family history
- Unfavourable histopath (tall cell/ columnar/ diffuse sclerosing/ poorly differentiated)

- Metastatic disease

1-4 cm Vascular invasion in medium/ big vessels (but evidence unclear - MDT review/discuss)

>45years old: Personalised decision making

Any age: < 2cm no other risk factors- probably no further surgery

>45yrs: 2 - 4cm- patient discussion

3.3 Follicular thyroid cancer

Completion after lobectomy?

Yes if:

Tumour >4cm in size

1 - 4cm in size and any of:

- patient >45yrs
- Widely invasive
- Mets- LN or distant
- Vascular invasion in medium/ big vessels
- Extrathyroidal extension

3.4 Minimally invasive FTC

Completion after lobectomy?

Yes if:

>4cm

Any size and vascular invasion

>45yrs- personalised decision making if 2 – 4cm (& no vascular invasion)

3.5 Hurthle cell tumours

Completion after lobectomy?

Yes if:

> 1cm in size

(consider if anything unusual when <1cm)

4 When to recommend a level 6 prophylactic central compartment LN dissection:

(I.e. no clinical or radiological evidence of disease in level 6).

Personalised decision making.

Consider if have:

- adverse histological subtype
- Tumour >4cm in size
- Extrathyroidal extension
- Patient > 45 years old

5 What Follow-up is needed if no completion after lobectomy?

a) Tumour equal to or <1cm:

No follow-up if initial neck US OK

Target TSH: low normal if patient needs thyroxine. GP to check TSH annually-risk of hypothyroidism

b) Tumour >1cm & no radioiodine planned: Neck US, Tg & TSH follow-up (under surgeons or endocrinologists) – suggest 6 monthly Tg & annual neck US for 1st 3 to 5 years.

Target TSH: low normal & may need to start thyroxine if TSH > 2

Consider the ION trial if eligible

6.1 Papillary thyroid cancer

Recommend RI?

No if:

Tumour <1cm- unifocal or multifocal (no other adverse features)

Yes if:

Tumour > 4cm in size, gross extrathyroidal extension or distant mets

Recommendations can't be made for or against radioiodine if:

1 – 4 cm but

consider if:

any size and any of:

- Extrathyroidal extension (thyroid capsule invasion)
- Less favourable histology- (tall cell/ columnar/ diffuse sclerosing/ poorly differentiated)
- Involved lymph nodes – particularly if large size, many nodes involved or ECS

What to do with nodal micromets? Personalised decision making based on other risk factors

6.2 Follicular thyroid cancer

Recommend RI?

Yes if:

Tumour >4cm in size, gross extrathyroidal extension or distant mets

Recommendations can't be made for or against radioiodine if:

1 – 4 cm but

consider if:

any size and any of:

- Extrathyroidal extension
- Widely invasive
- Vascular invasion
- Involved lymph nodes

6.3 Hurthle cell

Consider RI?

Yes if:

Tumour >1cm in size