



Classification, Risk Assessment and Clinical Management of Malignant Thyroid Nodules

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Message from the Guest Editors

As is already known, thyroid nodules usually occur in the general population and differentiating between benign and malignant ones is still a challenge. The basic tests for the risk stratification of thyroid nodules comprise serum TSH, ultrasonography (US), and fine-needle aspiration (FNA), which are the baseline in general practice, with radionuclide scans performed only for patients with low TSH. Assessing the risk of malignancy of thyroid nodules with US is crucial, as it can support in the selection of those who should undergo fine-needle aspiration (FNA) and subsequent surgery. Several reports identified a few US features that are remarkably more frequent in malignant thyroid nodules, which can be merged to be used as indicators of high risk.

As pediatric surgeons, huge effort has been made to understand how age is a crucial factor in patient outcome: while thyroid nodules are much more common in adults, they are much more likely to be malignant in children, resulting in a better outcome.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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