



## THE MOST COMMON THYROID CANCER IS <1 CM IN A >45-YEAR-OLD, BUT NOT ALL SMALL CANCERS ARE INSIGNIFICANT

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in incidence in the past three decades. Based on the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) staging, a <2-cm thyroid cancer in a >45-year-old with paratracheal (level VI) nodes or extrathyroidal extension would be stage III; those with lateral nodes (level 2, 3, 4, or 5) would be stage IVA. This has serious

implications because of the need for the evaluation and treatment of the higher-stage tumors, even if they are <1 cm at the time of diagnosis in an older person.

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### References

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