



# Interstitial Laser Photocoagulation Provides Effective Therapy for Thyroid Cysts

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## ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY ● ● ● ● ●

The current study is a randomized, controlled trial of this innovative procedure previously reported by this outstanding Danish group (1). They also reported that ILP could be used to treat benign solid nodules (2), and others showed that it was effective therapy for cervical nodal recurrence of papillary thyroid cancer (3), reviewed recently in Clinical Thyroidology (4). The authors have reported similar results

with the treatment of thyroid cysts by ethanol (5), but prefer the ILP procedure because seepage of ethanol outside the capsule may cause pronounced pain or more serious side effects, such as paresis of the vocal cords or extraglandular fibrosis.

The main disadvantage of ILP is that it requires a highly trained and skillful operator. The procedure is beyond the expertise of clinical endocrinologists in the United States.

## References

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