



## Weak Evidence Suggests That Multinodular Goiter Is Less Likely to Harbor a Malignancy than a Solitary Nodule

Brito JP, et al.

The results of this review are highly influenced by one study, by Rago et al. in Pisa. They reported that papillary thyroid cancer (901 cases) was more frequent in solitary nodules (446 of 13,549 [3.3%]) than in multinodular goiter (411 of 19,923 [2%],

$P < 0.0001$ ) (3). None of the other studies showed a significant difference in odds ratios, but the meta-analysis that included this study supported the conclusion noted above.

### References

1. Belfiore A, La Rosa GL, La Porta GA, Giuffrida D, Milazzo G, Lupo L, Regalbuto C, Vigneri R. Cancer risk in patients with cold thyroid nodules: relevance of iodine intake, sex, age, and multinodularity. *Am J Med* 1992;93:363-9.
2. Frates MC, Benson CB, Doubilet PM, Kunreuther E, Contreras M, Cibas ES, Orcutt J, Moore FD Jr, Larsen PR, Marqusee E, Alexander EK. Prevalence and distribution of carcinoma in patients with solitary and multiple thyroid nodules on sonography. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2006;91:3411-7. Epub July 11, 2006.
3. Rago T, Fiore E, Scutari M, Santini F, Di Coscio G, Romani R, Piaggi P, Ugolini C, Basolo F, Miccoli P, et al. 2010 Male sex, single nodularity, and young age are associated with the risk of finding a papillary thyroid cancer on fine-needle aspiration cytology in a large series of patients with nodular thyroid disease. *Eur J Endocrinol* 2010;162:763-70. Epub January 18, 2010.

DEDICATED TO SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY, CLINICAL EXCELLENCE, PUBLIC SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND COLLABORATION.

AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

ATA Publications



Public &amp; Patients



Physicians &amp; Professionals

[www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

ABOUT THE ATA

GIVE ONLINE

JOIN THE ATA

FELLOWS' CORNER

MEMBERS ONLY

## We invite you to join the ATA!

### Are You Intrigued by the Study of the Thyroid? You Belong in the ATA!

- ATA members are leaders in thyroidology who promote excellence and innovation in clinical care, research, education, and public policy.
- Join us as we advance our understanding of the causes and improve the clinical management of thyroid diseases in this era of rapid pace biomedical discovery.
- A close-knit, collegial group of physicians and scientists, the ATA is dedicated to the research and treatment of thyroid diseases. ATA's rich history dates back to 1923 and its members are respected worldwide as leaders in thyroidology.
- The ATA encourages you to apply for membership. We want you to experience the wealth of knowledge and enjoy the benefits of being active in this highly specialized and regarded society. The ATA looks forward to having you as a member!