



كلية الدراسات العليا

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



**Sudan University of Science and Technology**

**College of Graduate Studies**

**Measurement Of Thyroid Isthmus Thickness  
In Younger Sudanese Adults Using Ultrasonography**

**قياس سمك برزخ الغدة الدرقية لدى السودانيين البالغين  
باستخدام الموجات فوق الصوتية**

**A Thesis Submitted for a Partial Fulfillment for Requirements of  
M.SC Degree in Medical Diagnostic Ultrasound**

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**2019**

## الآية

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قال تعالى :

(رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَصْلِحْ لِي فِي دِينِي إِنَّي تُبْتُ إِلَيْكَ  
وَإِيْمِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ)

سوره الاحقاف (الاية 15)

## *Dedication*

*I dedicate this research:*

*To my parent who are priceless*

*To my husband*

*To my sisters and family*

*To all my friend and colleagues who helped me along the  
way any were the greatest of companion*

## *Acknowledgement*

*I would like firstly and finally thanks the almighty Allah for giving me the strength to accomplish this work.*

*I would like to express my gratitude appreciation to my super visor:prof. / Caroline Edward Ayad*

*Who give me much of her time for suggestion and super vision of this work*

*I thank also to ultrasound department staff in Military Hospital*

*Also I intend our appreciation for all participants who help me in this study*

## **Abstract**

*Background :Thisdescriptive study deals with the ultrasound finding of thyroid isthmus thickness.*

*The problem of study is there is no reference value in adult Sudanese ,the isthmus thickness may increase or decrease different pathological condition*

*The objective of study was to measurement the thyroid isthmus thickness in younger adult Sudanese in different ages (from 18-30 years)using ultrasonography and detectingif there is relationship between the isthmus thickness and volume of thyroid. it was carried in 51person (11 male and 40 female) in Aljazeera state.The study was conducted during the period extended from December 2018 to August2019 . The machine used in the study were Dp - 1100 mindary with 8-10 frMhz , linear probe was used by a dedicated single operator.all volunteers with supine position technique. the data was collected in sheet designed which include age, isthmus thickness, length of right lobe, width of right lobe, depth of right lobe, length of left lobe,width of left lobe, depth of left lobethe data was analyzed by using (SPSS software program version 20) .*

*In results show the normal values of isthmus thickness were determined according to age groups and show the minimum 2.4,maximum 5.3mean 3.4 and stander deviation is 0.6 in 51 person.*

*In conclusion show there is correlation between isthmus thickness and total thyroid volume with age (P\*value 0.05)and there is significant correlation between isthmus thickness with age(P\*value 0.05).it increasing by 0.039with increasing the age in any five years starting from 2.7mm.*

*The researcher recommended to take large sample and using other parameters like body surface area ,body mass index , height and weight of the body and comparing between the two gender.*

## نبذة مختصرة

الخلفية: تتناول هذه الدراسة الوصفية اكتشاف الموجات فوق الصوتية لسماك الغدة الدرقية. مشكلة الدراسة هي عدم وجود قيمة مرجعية في البالغين السودانيين ، سمك البرزخ قد يزيد أو ينقص الحالة المرضية المختلفة

كان الهدف من الدراسة هو قياس سمك البرزخ في الغدة الدرقية لدى البالغين السودانيين الأصغر سنا في مختلف الأعمار (من 18-30 سنة) باستخدام الموجات فوق الصوتية واكتشاف ما إذا كانت هناك علاقة بين سمك البرزخ وحجم الغدة الدرقية. تم نقله في 51 شخصا (11 ذكرا و 40 أنثى) في ولاية الجزيرة. أجريت الدراسة خلال الفترة الممتدة من ديسمبر 2018 إلى أغسطس 2019. كانت الآلة المستخدمة في الدراسة موانئ دبي -1100 ذهنية مع 8-10 الاب ميغاهيرتز ، تم استخدام مسبار خطي من قبل مشغل واحد مخصص. جميع المتطوعين الذين لديهم تقنية وضع ضعيف تم جمع البيانات في ورقة مصممة والتي تشمل العمر وسمك البرزخ وطول الفص الأيمن وعرض الفص الأيمن وعمق الفص الأيمن وطول الفص الأيسر وعرض الفص الأيسر تم تحليل البيانات باستخدام (إصدار برنامج SPSS 20).

في النتائج ، تم تحديد القيم الطبيعية لسمك البرزخ وفقاً للفئات العمرية وإظهار الحد الأدنى 2.4 ، الحد الأقصى 5.3 دقيقة 3.4 والانحراف الواقف 0.6 في 51 شخص.

في الختام ، هناك علاقة بين سمك البرزخ وحجم الغدة الدرقية الكلي مع تقدم العمر (قيمة  $P * 0.05$ ) وهناك ارتباط كبير بين سمك البرزخ مع تقدم العمر (قيمة  $P * 0.05$ ) ، ويزداد بمقدار 0.039 مع زيادة العمر في أي خمس سنوات بدءا من 2.7mm.

أوصى الباحث بأخذ عينة كبيرة واستخدام معايير أخرى مثل مساحة سطح الجسم ومؤشر كتلة الجسم والطول والوزن في الجسم والمقارنة بين الجنسين.

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# **Chapter one**

## **Introduction**

# Chapter one

## 1.1 Introduction:

Thyroid is butterfly shape gland that sits low in front of the neck below Adam's apple, the thyroid has two side lobes, connected by bridge (isthmus) forming with lobes an H shape when the thyroid is in normal size. The thyroid is brownish red in color (Mosby, S 2009).

The normal thyroid weight is approximately (15-25g) with each lobe (4-6cm) in length and (1.3-1.8cm) in thickness, the isthmus measures less than (4-5 mm) and varies from nation to nation. The gland is bordered by common carotid arteries and SCM muscle anterolaterally. The thyroid isthmus has different measurements in its width, height, and thickness, and its location with respect to the tracheal rings has been inconsistent, among the anatomical literature. Laterally by the jugular veins, anteriorly by strap muscle and posteriorly by the longus colli muscle it is supplied by superior thyroidal branch of external carotid artery and the inferior thyroid branch of subclavian artery, the recurrent laryngeal nerve runs along the inferior thyroid artery (Hyung, *Set al* 2013).

The thyroid secretes several hormones collectively called thyroid hormones, the main hormone is thyroxine, acting throughout the body influencing metabolism, growth, development and body temperature.

Enlargement of thyroid gland is due to several factors, such as hormonal or immunological stimulation, inflammatory, proliferative, infiltrative, or metabolic disorders (Rogers, WM 1978). A normal thyroid gland volume does not exclude the diagnosis of nodular goiter (Ueda, *D, et al* 2009).

There are numerous studies investigating the length and thickness of thyroid isthmus by a means of age and evaluating the relationship reference values(kosiak W ,SwietonD et al2010).

Thyroid issuitable organ for the investigation with ultrasonography due to it is verysuperficial localization in body .it is also useful in frequent control of the organ.

Ultrasonography is reliable methodfor calculating the thyroid gland (Rojeski and gharib1985).The high resolution property of ultrasonography gives the opportunity ofevaluating the morphology,dimensions ,andparenchymal structure of thyroid gland adequately. Ultrasonography is the basic method to calculate thyroid volume and thyroid isthmus .

Computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging has limited value in the diagnosis of the thyroid gland diseases(Schlumberger.MJ, *et al*2003).

## **1.2 Problem of study**

There is no reference values in adult Sudanese and the isthmus thickness may increase or decrease by different pathological conditions.

## **1.3 Questions to be answer**

can ultra sound able to detecting if there is different in size of isthmus thickness in different age (18-30 year)? and if there is relationship between isthmus thickness and thyroid volume?.

## **1.4 Objectives of study**

### **1.4.1 General objective**

To measurement thyroid isthmus thickness in younger Sudanese between 18-30 by ultrasonography.

### **1.4.2 Specific objectives**

- To measure the thickness of isthmus in different ages .
- To measure the length, width and depth of thyroid lobes in different ages.
- To compare between isthmus thickness and volume of thyroid

## **1.4Over view of the study**

This study including five chapters. chapter one deal with introduction , chapter two consist of literature review that include thyroid anatomy and physiology , normal ultrasound appearance of it and normal measurement ,and abnormal thyroid , chapter three contain of materials and method , chapter four deal with result of the study and chapter five consist of discussion , conclusion and recommendations.



**Chapter two**

**Literature reviews and  
previous studies**

## **Chapter two**

### **2.1 Literature Review**

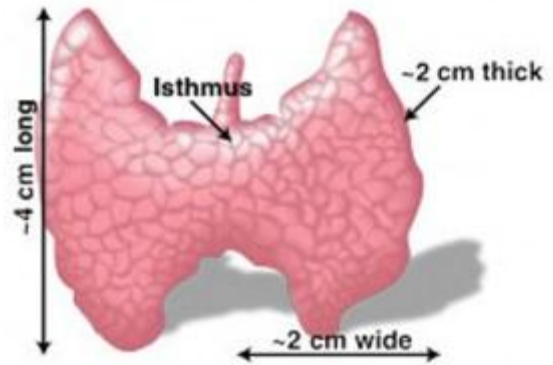
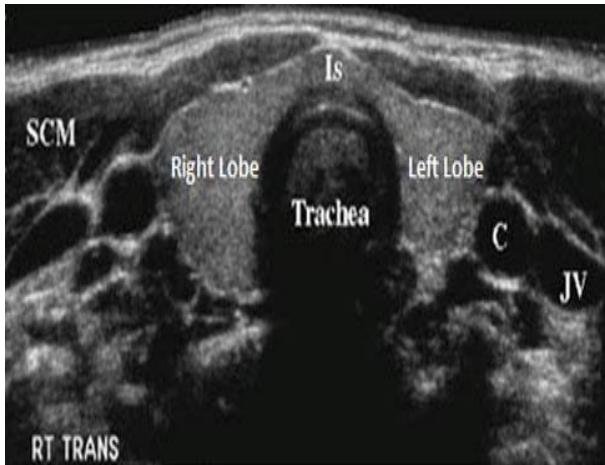
#### **2.1.1 Anatomy of thyroid gland:**

##### **2.1.1.1 Embryology**

The normal thyroid gland begins as a primitive diverticulum at the base of tongue in the third week of gestation and grows caudally toward its ultimate position anterior to the thyroid cartilage (Hyung.S, *et al* 2013).

##### **2.1.1.2 Normal structure of thyroid gland**

Vascular is a palpable endocrine gland .the thyroid brownish red and highly lies directly below the larynx , partially in front of the trachea . it is two lateral lobes ,One on either side of the trachea ,joint with narrow tissue bridge ,called the isthmus to give butterfly shape It is enclosed in the thin pretracheal fascia and also has it is own fibrous capsule , when the gland is enlarged , the strap muscles are stretched tightly over it and the carotid Sheath is displaced laterally. The thyroid tissue is made up of two types of cells : follicular cells and Para follicular cells . most of the thyroid tissue consist of the follicular cells , which secrete iodine containing hormones called thyroxin (T4) and tri iodothyronine (T3). The Para follicular cells secrete the hormone calcitonin , the thyroid needs iodine to produce the hormone (Carol.M ,*et al* 2011).



Figure(2.1)Normal thyroid gland. (a) Gray scale ultrasound, transverse scan showing normal thyroid anatomy,(IS)the isthmus,(SCM)subscapular muscle,(C)carotid artery,(JV)jugular vein.

### 2.1.1.3 Blood supply

Blood supply of the thyroid gland is mainly derived from the thyroid artery , the first branch from the anterior aspect of the external carotid , which pierces the Petracealfascia as single vessel to reach summit of the upper pole and the inferior thyroid artery , from the thyro cervical trunk , which supply lower pole of the gland.Venous drainageis mainly from the superior thyroid vein, middle thyroid vein and plexus form by inferior vein.Thesuperior and middle thyroid vein enter the internal jugular vein while the plexus drain into the brachiocephalic veins , most of it into the left one , high vascular nature of gland is seen in color flow Doppler as increased color flow(Carol.M ,*et al* 2011).

## **2.1.2 physiology of thyroid gland**

### **2.1.2.1 Thyroid Hormone**

Once released from the thyroid gland, thyroid hormone circulates in the bloodstream where free T<sub>4</sub> and T<sub>3</sub> are available to travel across the cell membrane. In the cytoplasm, T<sub>4</sub> is deiodinated into T<sub>3</sub>, the active form of thyroid hormone. T<sub>3</sub> combines with its nuclear receptor on thyroid hormone-responsive genes, leading to production of messenger RNA that, in turn, leads to production of proteins that influence metabolism and development. Effects of thyroid hormone include tissue growth, brain maturation, increased heat production, increased oxygen consumption, and an increased number of  $\alpha$ -adrenergic receptors. Clinically, individuals who have excess thyroid hormone (thyrotoxicosis) will have symptoms of increased metabolism such as tachycardia and tremor, while individuals with hypothyroidism note symptoms of lowered metabolism like edema and constipation (Carol.M, *et al* 2011).

### **2.1.2.2 Function of thyroid gland**

The thyroid plays an important role in regulate the body metabolism and calcium balance. T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>4</sub> hormones stimulate every tissue in the body to produce proteins and increase the amount of oxygen used by cells. The harder the cell work, the harder and organ work. The calcitonin hormone works together with the parathyroid hormone to regulate calcium levels in the body. Levels of thyroid are controlled by the pituitary glands thyroid stimulating hormones, which in turn is controlled by the hypothalamus.

The size and shape of gland vary widely in normal individuals. Normally in tall individuals, the lobes have elongated shape where in shorter individuals they

are oval . As a result, the normal dimensions of the gland have wide variability (Carol.M ,*et al* 2011).

### **2.1.2.3Control of Thyroid Function**

Understanding of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroidaxis is essential for correctly interpreting thyroid function testing. This axis is central in the regulation of thyroid hormone production. TRH is synthesized by neurons in the supraoptic and supraventricular nuclei of the hypothalamus and stored in the median eminence of the hypothalamus. When secreted, this hormone stimulates cells in the anterior pituitary gland to manufacture and release thyrotropin (TSH). TSH, in turn, circulates to the thyroid gland and leads to increased production and release of thyroid hormone. When the hypothalamus and pituitary sense that there is an inadequate amount of thyroid hormone in circulation, TRH and TSH secretion increases and will lead to increased thyroid hormone production. If thyroid hormone levels are high, TRH and TSH release will be inhibited, leading to lower levels of thyroid hormone production and visa versa if thyroid hormone levels are low. This feedback loop requires a normally functioning hypothalamus, pituitary, and thyroid gland, as well as an absence of any interfering agents or agents that mimic TSH action (Born and Boulapep2012).

### **2.1.3 Pathology of the thyroid gland**

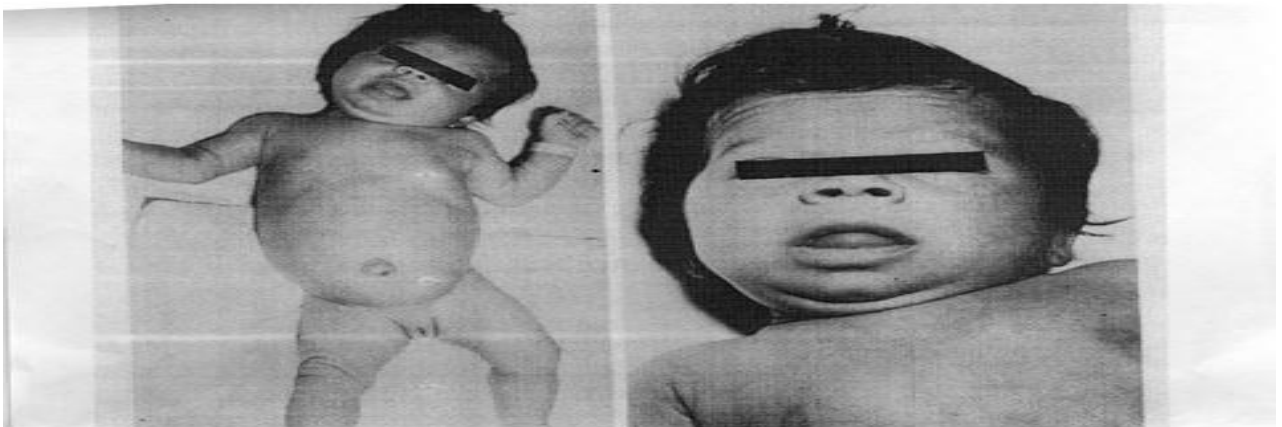
The disease associated thyroid gland classified to Congenital diseases, Nodular Thyroid diseases [include Infective disease], Neoplasia [Adenoma and Carcinoma] and Diffuse Thyroid disease.

### 2.1.3.1 Congenital diseases

Is the condition of thyroid hormone deficiency present at birth, it is a rare condition that leads to severe deficiency of thyroid hormone. The condition may occur because of a problem with the thyroid gland of the baby or lack of iodine in the mother during pregnancy. If untreated for several months after birth, it leads to growth retardation and mental retardation.

#### A-Primary hypothyroidism

Thyroid dysgenesis (aplasia, hypoplasia, ectopic gland), the cause is an inborn error of thyroid hormone synthesis, secretion, or utilization. Maternal goiter, iodine ingestion or radioactive iodine treatment, iodine deficiency (endemic goiter), autoimmune thyroiditis. Other forms of congenital hypothyroidism are thyroid dysgenesis where the thyroid is present but not functioning correctly. Hemigenesis [absence of half of the thyroid gland, usually asymptomatic].



**Figure(2.2) congenital hypothyroidism short neck**

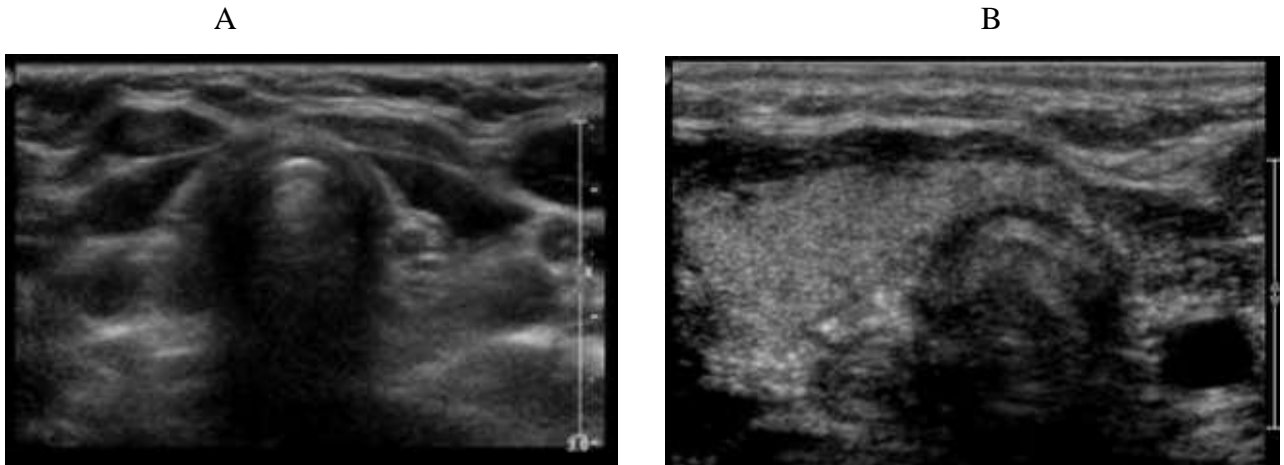
- Accessory or aberrant thyroid glands [also called ectopic thyroid] in which an entire or part of the thyroid is located in another part of the body. Completely ectopic thyroid gland located at the base of the tongue and called lingual thyroid if the thyroid fails to descend to even a higher degree.

## **B- Hypoglossal duct cyst**

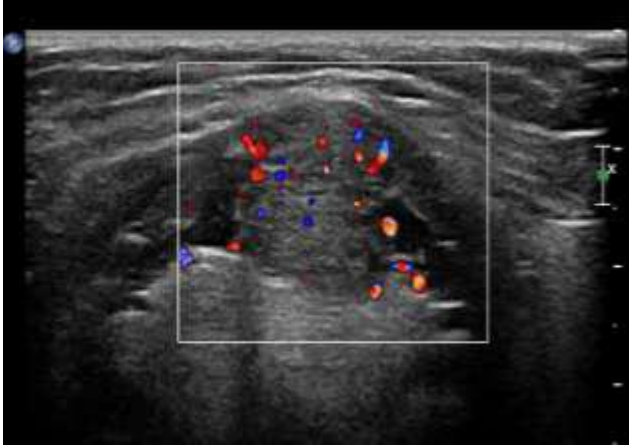
It is fibrous cyst that form from persistent thyroglossal duct show irregular mass or lump which develop from cells and tissues left over after the formation of thyroid gland during developmental stage located lower to hyoid bone at birth may lead to inflammation (Paul.S and Wui.K measurement in ultra sound 2<sup>ed</sup>).

In ultrasound to show presence, absence or abnormal location of thyroid. Measurement of thyroid lobes can be used to differentiate aplasia (absent gland) from goitrous hypothyroidism. Thyroid scintigraphy in combination with ultrasound however gives the clinician maximal information on anatomic status of the thyroid.

It is less sensitive in detecting ectopic thyroid. radionuclide scans are more often used to detect ectopic thyroid tissue (e.g: in a lingual or suprahyoid position) (Rogers.WM 1978).



**Figure(2.3)(A) thyroid Aplasia(B)Hemiagenesis with small left lobe**



**Figure (2.4) Lingual thyroid, the thyroid at the base of tongue**

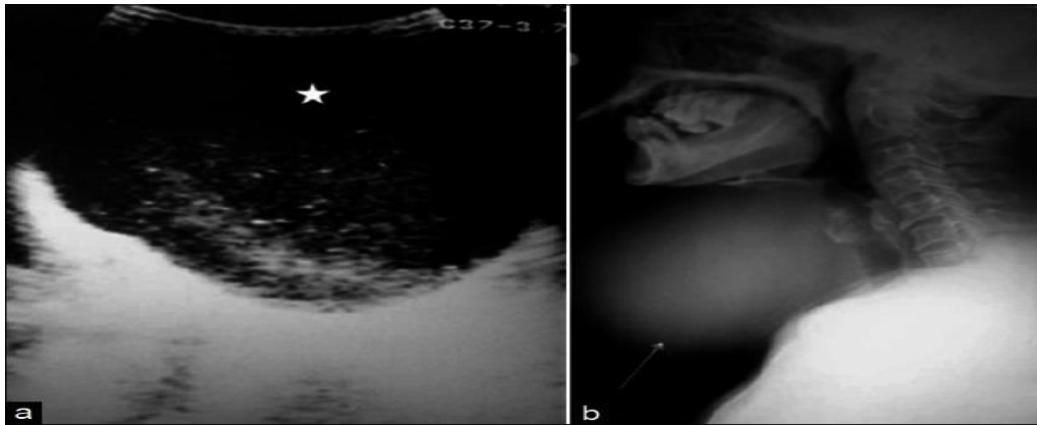


Figure (2.5) Thyroglossal cyst in a patient who presented with midline neck swelling. Ultrasound neck (a) shows a well-defined anechoic cystic lesion with multiple low level internal echoes (asterisk) and posterior acoustic enhancement. Multiple low level internal echoes within the cyst may be due to hemorrhage or infection. X-ray neck lateral view (b) of the same patient shows large, soft tissue/cystic midline swelling (white arrow)

### **2.1.3.2 Nodular thyroid disease**

is relatively common, women affected more frequently than men, Exposure to ionizing radiation increases the incidence of benign and malignant nodules.



Sonographic evaluation; Determine location of palpable neck mass (e.g., thyroid or extrathyroid) Characterize benign versus malignant nodule features Detect occult nodule in patient with history of head and neck irradiation or multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN) type II syndrome Determine extent of known thyroid malignancy Detect residual, recurrent, or metastatic carcinoma Guide fine-needle aspiration of thyroid nodule or cervicallymph nodes Guide percutaneous-thermal ablation of thyroid nodules, parathyroids, or lymph nodes (Uda .D, *et al* 1992).

### **A-Hyperplasia of thyroid gland**

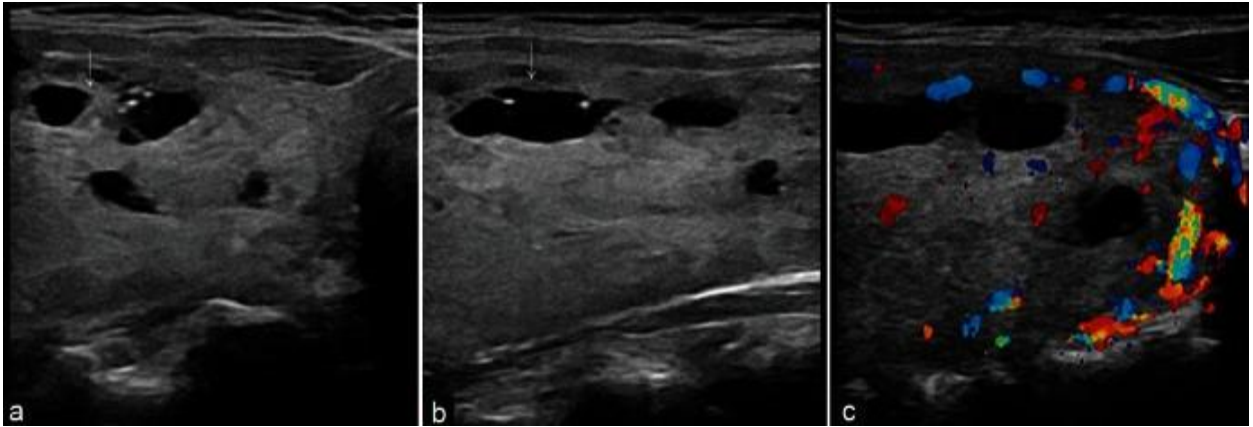
Approximately 80% of nodular thyroid disease is caused by hyperplasia of the gland. Its etiology includes iodine deficiency (endemic), disorders of hormone synthesis (hereditary familial forms), and poor utilization of iodine as a result of medication.

### **B-Goiter**

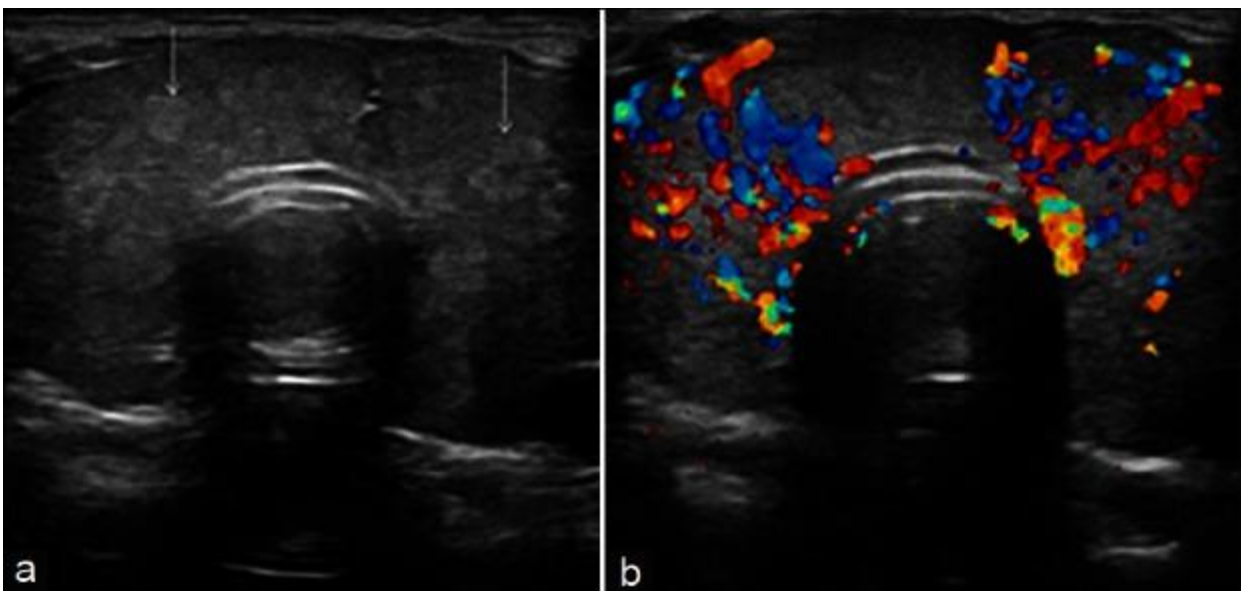
increase of hyperplasia leads to an overall increase in size or volume of the gland. The peak age of patients with goiter is 35 to 50 years, and women are affected three times more often than men. The goiter has five types including diffuse non-toxic (simple) goiter, colloid goiter, endemic goiter, sporadic (dys-hormonogenetic) and multi nodular goiter (Rojeski and Gharib 1985).

In ultrasound show most hyperplastic or adenomatous nodules are isoechoic compared with normal thyroid tissue but may become hyperechoic because of the numerous interfaces between cells and colloid substance<sup>5</sup>. Less frequently, a hypoechoic spongelike or honeycomb pattern is seen. When the nodule is isoechoic or hyperechoic, a thin peripheral hypoechoic halo is typically seen. Perinodular blood vessels are typically detected with color Doppler sonography; with current high-sensitivity Doppler technology,

intranodular vascularity can also be seen. degenerative processes may also lead to the formation of calcifications, which may be either thin, peripheral shells (“eggshell”) or coarse, highly reflective foci with associated acoustic shadows, scattered throughout the gland ( Schlumberger .MJ , *et al* 2003). The multinodular goiter (MNG) is the commonest cause of diffuse asymmetric enlargement of the thyroid gland. Females between 35-50 years of age are most commonly affected. Histologically, colloid or adenomatous form of MNG is common. The ultrasound diagnosis rests on the finding of multiple nodules within a diffusely enlarged gland. A diffusely enlarged thyroid gland with multiple nodules of similar US appearance and with no normal intervening parenchyma is highly suggestive of benignity, thereby making FNA biopsy unnecessary. Most of the nodules are iso- or hyper-echoic in nature; when enlarged provide heterogeneous echo pattern to the gland. These goitrous nodules often undergo degenerative changes that correspond to their USG appearances: cystic degeneration gives anechoic appearance to the nodule, hemorrhage or infection within the cyst is seen as moving internal echoes/septations, colloidal degeneration produces comet-tail artifact, while dystrophic calcification is often coarse or curvilinear. Vascular compression due to follicular hyperplasia leads to focal ischemia, necrosis and inflammatory change. The assessment of nodule vascularity is very useful in differentiating MNG from multifocal carcinoma. Nodule with intrinsic vascularity and other features of malignancy can be targeted for biopsy, in preference to other nodules. [10,11]



**Figure (2.6) Colloid multinodular goitre in a 50-year-old female patient.** Transverse (a) and longitudinal (b) gray-scale ultrasound neck images reveal enlarged thyroid gland having multiple hyperechoic colloid nodules with internal cystic areas (arrows) showing ‘ring down’ sign. Color Doppler image (c) shows increased peripheral vascularity, with some intra goitrous vascularity



**Figure (2.7) Adenomatous multinodular goiter in a 48-year-old patient with thyrotoxicosis.** Transverse gray-scale ultrasound neck (a) shows diffuse enlargement of thyroid gland with multiple small (~5 mm size) echogenic nodules involving both the lobes and isthmus (arrows), with no normal-

appearing intervening parenchyma. Color Doppler sonogram (b) demonstrates diffusely increased parenchymal vascularity. FNA biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of adenomatous multinodular goitre. However, it should be noted that FNA biopsy is not likely to be necessary in a diffusely enlarged thyroid gland with multiple nodules of similar US appearance and no normal intervening parenchyma

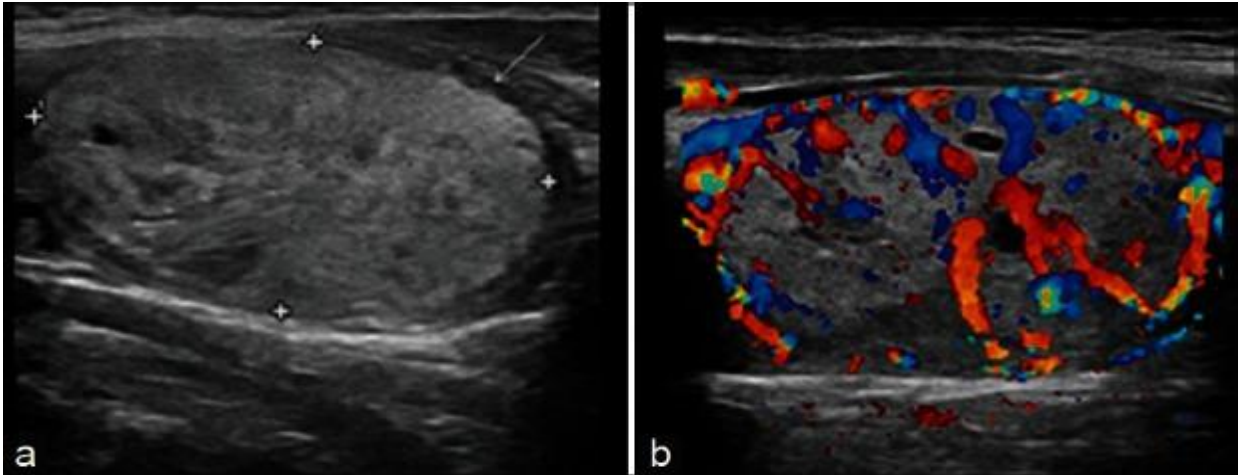
### **2.1.3.3 Neoplasia**

#### **2.1.3.3.1 Adenoma**

more common in women than men. Most result in no thyroid dysfunction, minority hyperfunction, develop autonomy, and may cause thyrotoxicosis.

Most adenomas are solitary, but they may also develop as part of a multinodular process. It may be benign follicular adenoma [is a true thyroid neoplasm, characterized by compression of adjacent tissues and fibrous encapsulation]. Fetal adenoma, Hurthle cell adenoma and embryonal adenoma, each distinguished according to the type of cell proliferation (Park, M, *et al* 2009).

In ultrasound show usually solid masses that may be hyperechoic, isoechoic, or hypoechoic they often have a thick, smooth peripheral hypoechoic halo resulting from the fibrous capsule and blood vessels, which can be readily seen by color Doppler imaging. Often, vessels pass from the periphery to the central regions of the nodule, sometimes creating a “spoke and wheel” appearance (Kakkos, Sk, *etal* 2000).



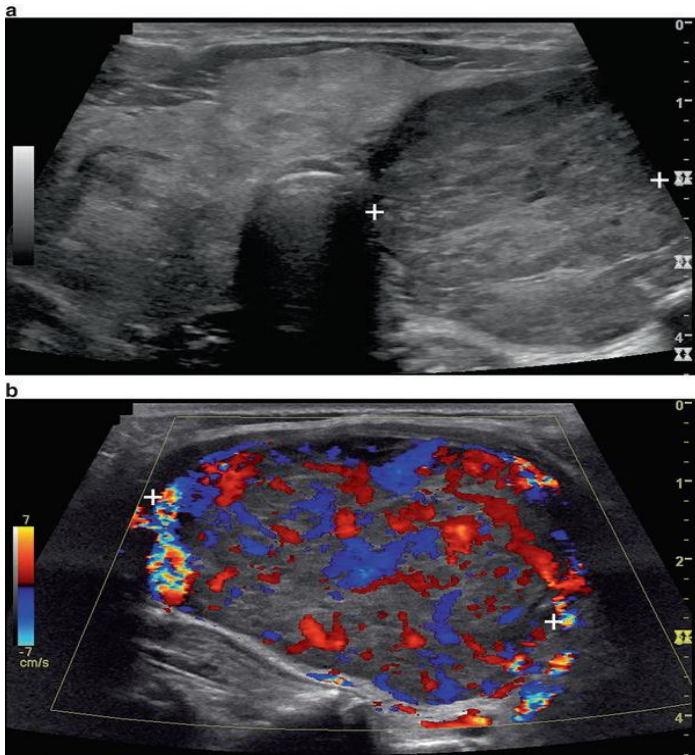
### 2.1.3.3.2 Carcinoma

Most primary thyroid cancers are of epithelial origin and are derived from follicular or Para follicular cells. it is a rare condition, as are metastases to the thyroid. the types of carcinoma is papillary carcinoma (including so-called mixed papillary and follicular carcinoma), medullary carcinoma, Follicular carcinoma and anaplastic carcinomas (Kakkos. Sk ,*et al* 2000).

#### A-Follicular Carcinoma

Second most common form, 10-20%, more in females than Males, average age ( 45 – 55) year, rare in children; minimally invasive follicular carcinomas are encapsulated, and only the histologic demonstration of focal invasion of capsular blood vessels of the fibrous capsule itself permits differentiation from follicular adenoma .spread through the bloodstream rather than the lymphatic.

Sonographic feature Irregular tumor margin Thick, irregular halo Tortuous onchaotic a arrangement of internal blood vessels (Park.M, *et al* 2009).



**Figure (2.9) Follicular cancer with predominant central internal blood flow.**

(a) Transverse gray-scale view shows a large, entirely solid, hypoechoic, intermediate suspicion nodule (cursors) with smooth margins and no calcifications. (b) Longitudinal color Doppler view shows readily detectable blood flow throughout the center of the nodule

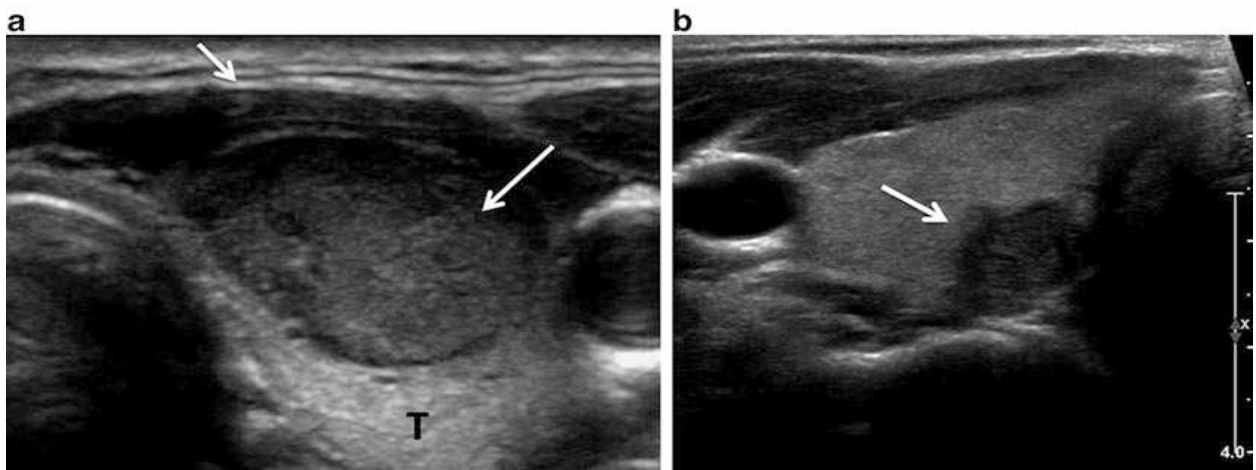
## **B-Papillary Carcinoma**

Commonest thyroid malignancy, Female affected more than male, occur in patients of any age, a patient with PTC may have enlarged cervical nodes and a palpably normal thyroid gland (Grebe and Hay 1997). The sonographic characteristics is Hypoechoogenicity (90% of cases), resulting from closely packed cell content, with minimal colloid substance, microcalcifications, appearing as tiny, punctate hyperechoic foci, either with or without acoustic shadows. In rare but usually aggressive cases of papillary

carcinomas of childhood, micro calcifications may be the only sonographic sign of the neoplasm, even without evidence of a nodular lesion.

- Hypervascularity (90% of cases), with disorganized vascularity, mostly in well-encapsulated forms. Cervical lymph node metastases, which may contain tiny, punctate echogenic foci caused by microcalcifications (Hay, ID, *etal* 2002).

papillary thyroid carcinoma originating in isthmus is most likely to have extra thyroidal extension than those originating from the lobes.



Figure(2.10)Hypoechoic nodules. (a) Transverse view of the thyroid demonstrates a nodule (long white arrow) that is hypoechoic or darker than the surrounding thyroid parenchyma (T) but slightly less hypoechoic than the overlying neck musculature (short arrow). This nodule proved to be a benign hyperplastic nodule on FNA. (b) Transverse view of the right lobe of the thyroid in a different patient demonstrates a hypoechoic nodule which proved to be a papillary thyroid carcinoma. A lobulated border is noted in this lesion.

### **C-Anaplastic Carcinoma**

It is a rare condition, < 5% of thyroid carcinomas, typically a disease of elderly persons, and fatal below one year. In females slightly more than males. Rapidly enlarging bulky neck mass. Large, firm, necrotic mass. Frequently replaces entire thyroid gland and extends into adjacent soft tissue, trachea and

esophagus. they tend not to spread via the lymphatic's but instead are prone to aggressive local invasion of muscles and vessels. Sonographically show Large, hypoechoic mass, encase or invade blood vessels and Invade neck muscles. anaplastic thyroid carcinomas are usually Hypoechoic and often encase or invade blood vessels and neck muscle. Often these tumors cannot be adequately examined by ultrasound because of their large size. Instead computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging.(MRI) of the neck usually demonstrates the extent of disease more accurately(Net .CJ , *et al* 1985).

### **D-Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma (MTC)**

Histology same for sporadic and familial, Solid, lobular or insular growth patterns, Tumor cells round, polygonal or spindle-shaped, Amyloid deposits in many cases. Malignant tumor of thyroid C cells producing calcitonin, 5 % of all thyroid malignancies, common in middle-aged adults In Female than male, Unilateral involvement of gland, with or without cervical lymph node metastases. sonographically is usually similar to that of papillary carcinoma and is seen most often as a hypoechoic solid mass. Calcifications are often seen and tend to be more coarse than the calcifications of typical papillary carcinoma (Chong.GC , *et al* 1975).

### **2.1.3.3.3 Lymphoma**

It is rare condition affected elder women is a rapidly growing mass that may cause symptoms of obstruction such as dyspnea and dysphagia. In 70% to 80% of patients, lymphoma arises from a preexisting chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis. Sonographically lymphoma of the thyroid appears as an extremely hypoechoic and lobulated mass. Large areas of cystic necrosis may occur, as well as encasement of adjacent neck vessels.



On color Doppler imaging, both nodular and diffuse thyroid lymphomas may appear mostly hypovascular or may show blood vessels with chaotic distribution and AV shunts. The adjacent thyroid parenchyma may be heterogeneous as a result of associated chronic thyroiditis (Kasagi K, *et al* 1991).

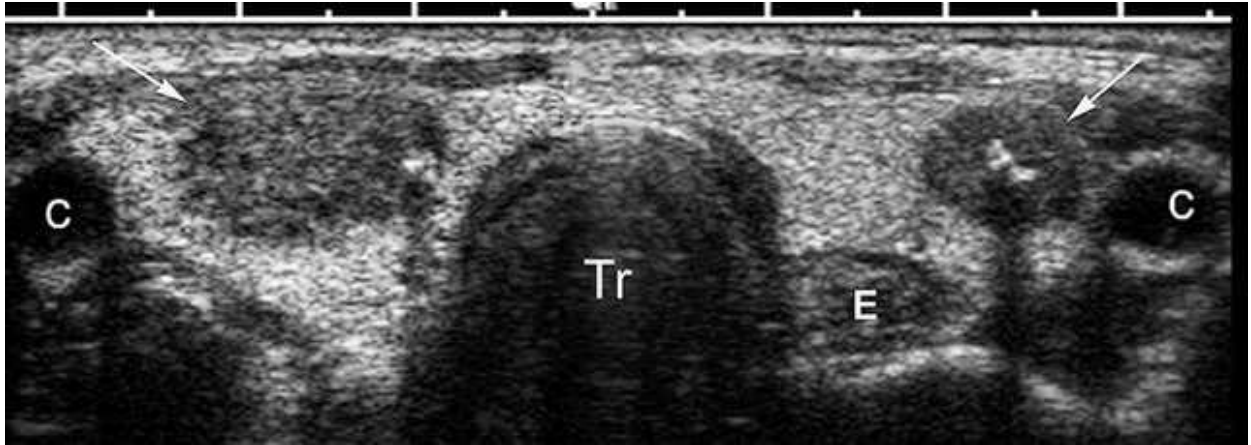


Figure (2.11) Multicentric Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma. Transverse dual image in patient with multiple endocrine neoplasia type II (MEN II) shows bilateral hypoechoic masses (arrows) that contain areas of coarse calcification. C, Carotid arteries; E, esophagus; Tr, trachea

#### 2.1.3.3.4 Thyroid Metastases

Metastases to the thyroid are infrequent, occurring late in the course of neoplastic diseases as the result of hematogenous spread or less frequently a lymphatic route. Metastases usually are from melanoma, breast, and renal cell carcinoma. On sonography, thyroid tumors are solid, homogeneously hypoechoic masses, without calcifications. Fine needle aspiration (FNA) biopsy is the most effective method for diagnosing malignancy in a thyroid nodule.

high-resolution sonography has four primary clinical applications firstly detection of thyroid and other cervical masses before and after thyroidectomy secondly is differentiation of benign from malignant masses on the basis of their sonographic appearance. thirdly guidance for FNA

biopsy and fourthly is Guidance for the percutaneous treatment of nonfunctional and hyper functioning benign thyroid nodules and of lymph node metastases from papillary carcinoma.

Thyroid ultrasound can be useful to determine the extent of disease, for evaluation of nearby structures, used preoperatively to detect an occult, nonpalpable primary focus within the gland. It is the preferred method for follow-up, by detecting residual, recurrent, or metastatic disease in the neck. In patients who have had subtotal thyroidectomy (Scheible .W, *et al* 1979)

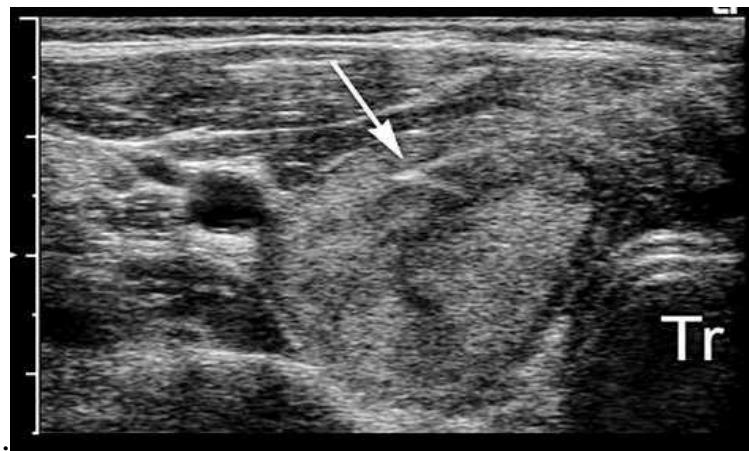


Figure (2.12) Fine-Needle Aspiration of Thyroid Nodule Caused by Follicular Neoplasm. Transverse image shows a large nodule replacing the right thyroid lobe. Tr, Tracheal air shadow. The tip of the 25-gauge needle is highly visible (arrow), and the shaft of the needle is faintly visible.

### **2.1.3.3.5 Differentiation of Benign and Malignant Nodule**

the fundamental anatomic features of a thyroid nodule on high-resolution sonography are as internal consistency (solid, mixed solid and cystic, or purely cystic), echogenicity relative to adjacent thyroid parenchyma, margin, shape and Presence and pattern of calcification (YU .D, *et al* 2014).

### 2.1.3.4 Diffuse Thyroid Diseases

Divided to acute suppurative thyroiditis Subacute granulomatous thyroiditis, hashimoto thyroiditis (chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis), adenomatous or colloid goiter and painless (silent) thyroiditis.

#### 2.1.3.4.1 Acute suppurative thyroiditis

is a rare inflammatory disease usually caused by bacterial infection and affecting children. Sonography can be useful in select patients to detect the development of a frank thyroid abscess. The infection usually begins in the perithyroidal soft tissues. On ultrasound images; an abscess is seen as a poorly defined, Hypoechoic heterogeneous mass with internal debris, with or without septa and gas. Adjacent inflammatory nodes are often present.

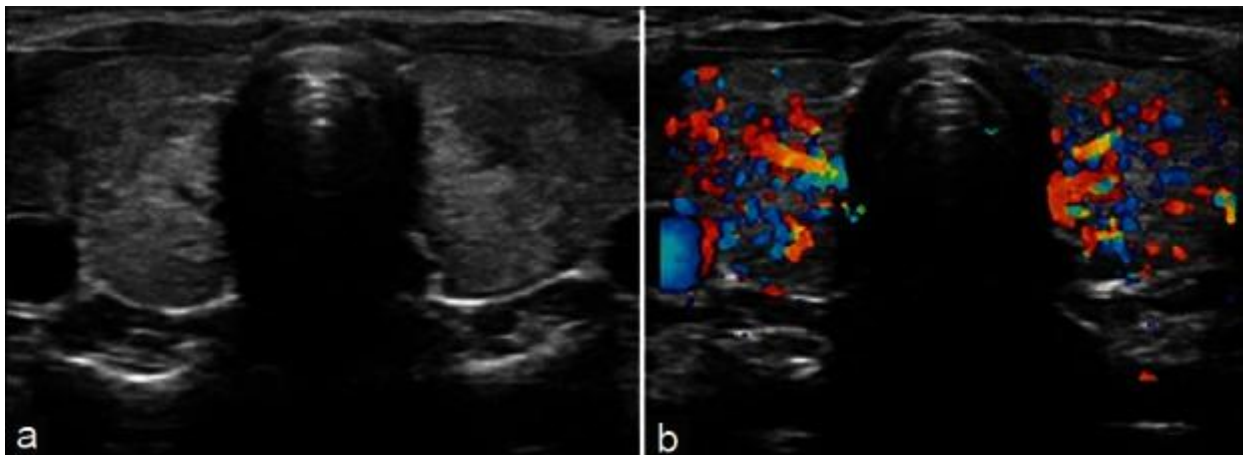


Figure (2.13) Acute thyroiditis in a 12-year-old female patient, who presented with acute onset fever, neck pain and swelling. Transverse gray-scale ultrasound neck (a) shows bilaterally enlarged thyroid lobes with heterogeneous echo pattern. Color Doppler sonogram (b) demonstrates increased parenchymal vascularity in both lobes of the thyroid

#### **2.1.3.4.2 Subacute granulomatous thyroiditis or De Quervain disease**

is a spontaneously remitting inflammatory disease probably caused by viral infection. The clinical findings include fever, enlargement of the gland, and pain on palpation. Sonographically show the gland may appear enlarged and hypoechoic, with normal or decreased vascularity caused by diffused edema of the gland, or the process may appear as focal hypoechoic regions. Although usually not necessary, sonography can be used to assess evolution of de Quervain disease after medical therapy.

#### **2.1.3.4.3 chronic autoimmune lymphocytic thyroiditis, or Hashimoto thyroiditis;**

It is the most common type of thyroiditis. It typically occurs as a painless, diffuse enlargement of the thyroid gland in a young or middle-aged woman, often associated with hypothyroidism. Patients with this autoimmune disease develop antibodies to their own thyroglobulin as well as to the major enzyme of thyroid hormone genesis, thyroid peroxidase.

Typical sonographic appearance of Hashimoto thyroiditis is diffuse, coarsened, parenchymal echo texture, generally more hypoechoic than a normal thyroid. In most cases the gland is enlarged. Multiple, discrete hypoechoic micro nodules from 1 to 6 mm in diameter are strongly suggestive of chronic thyroiditis (Takashima .S, *et al* 1992).

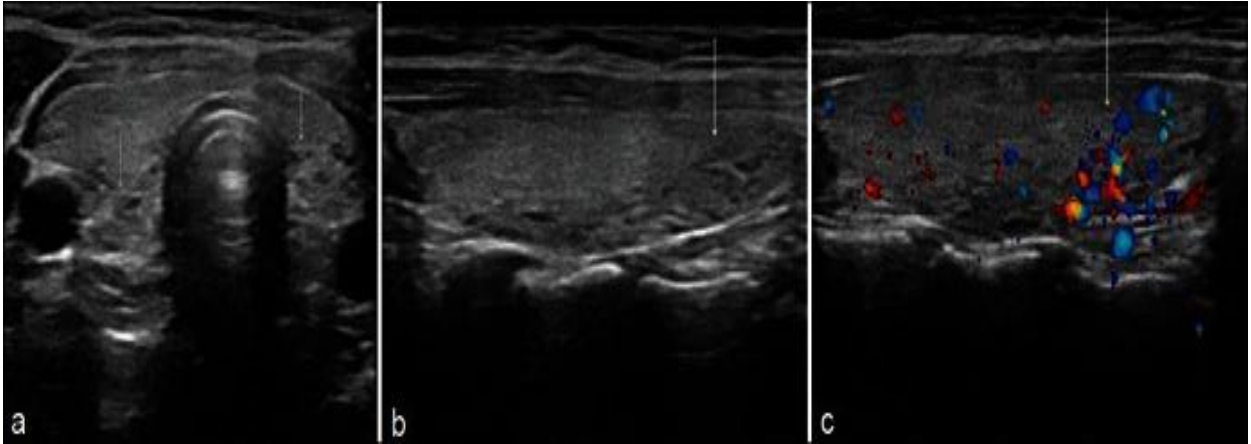
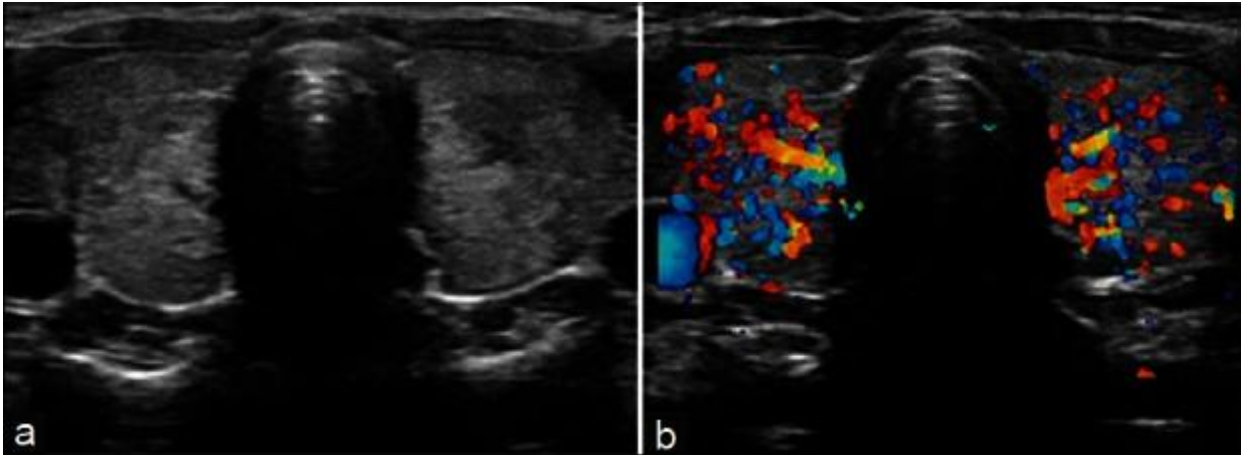


Figure (2.14) Focal Hashimoto's thyroiditis in a 35-year-old female patient, who presented with features of hypothyroidism and had anti-thyroid antibodies positive for the disease. Transverse gray-scale ultrasound neck (a) demonstrates ill-defined heterogeneous hypoechoic areas localized to postero-inferior aspect of thyroid lobes bilaterally (arrows). Longitudinal scan (b) left lobe thyroid (of same patient) clearly depicts the abnormal area which also shows increased vascularity on color Doppler sonogram

#### **2.1.3.4 Painless (silent) thyroiditis**

has the typical histologic and sonographic pattern of chronic autoimmune thyroiditis (hypoechoogenicity, micronodulation, and fibrosis), but clinical findings resemble classic subacute thyroiditis, with the exception of node tenderness. Moderate hyperthyroidism with thyroid enlargement usually occurs in the early phase, in some cases followed by hypothyroidism of variable degree. In postpartum thyroiditis the progression to hypothyroidism is more common. In most cases the disease spontaneously remits within 3 to 6 months, and the gland may return to a normal appearance. Although the appearance of diffuse parenchymal inhomogeneity and micronodularity is typical of Hashimoto thyroiditis, other diffuse thyroid diseases, most frequently multinodular or

adenomatous goiter, may have a similar sonographic appearance ( Carol.M ,*et al* 2011).



Figure(2,15) Acute thyroiditis in a 12-year-old female patient, who presented with acute onset fever, neck pain and swelling. Transverse gray-scale ultrasound neck (a) shows bilaterally enlarged thyroid lobes with heterogeneous echo pattern. Color Doppler sonogram (b) demonstrates increased parenchymal vascularity in both lobes of the thyroid

### **2.1.3.5 Graves disease**

Graves disease is an autoimmune disease, it is a common diffuse abnormality of the thyroid gland and is usually biochemically characterized by hyperfunction (thyrotoxicosis). Its echotexture may be more homogeneous than in diffuse goiter, mainly because of numerous large, intraparenchymal vessels. Furthermore, especially in young patients, the parenchyma may be diffusely hypoechoic because of the extensive lymphocytic infiltration or the predominantly cellular content of the parenchyma, which becomes almost devoid of colloid substance. Color Doppler sonography often demonstrates a hypervascular pattern referred to as the thyroid

inferno. Spectral Doppler will often demonstrate peak systole velocities exceeding 70 cm/sec(Castagnone .D,*et al* 1996).

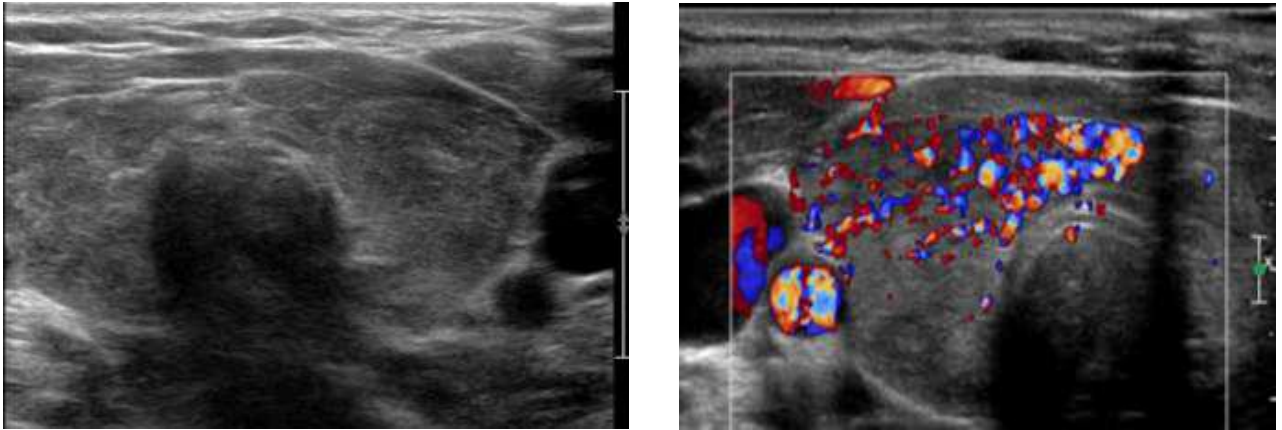


Figure (2.16) graves diseases the thyroid enlarge hypo echoic texture

Figure(2.17) color Doppler flow of graves diseases increasing vascularity

### **2.1.3.6invasive fibrous thyroiditis**

also called Riedel struma is a rarest type of inflammatory thyroid disease is primarily affects women and often progresses to complete destruction of the gland. Some cases may be associated with mediastinal or retroperitoneal fibrosis or sclerosing cholangitis. In the few cases of invasive fibrous thyroiditis examined sonographically show the gland was diffusely enlarged and had an inhomogeneous parenchymal echo texture. The primary reason for sonography is to check: for extrathyroid extension of the inflammatory process, with encasement of the adjacent vessels. Such information can be particularly useful in surgical planning. Open biopsy is generally required to distinguish this condition from anaplastic thyroid carcinoma. The sonographic findings in these two diseases may be identification.

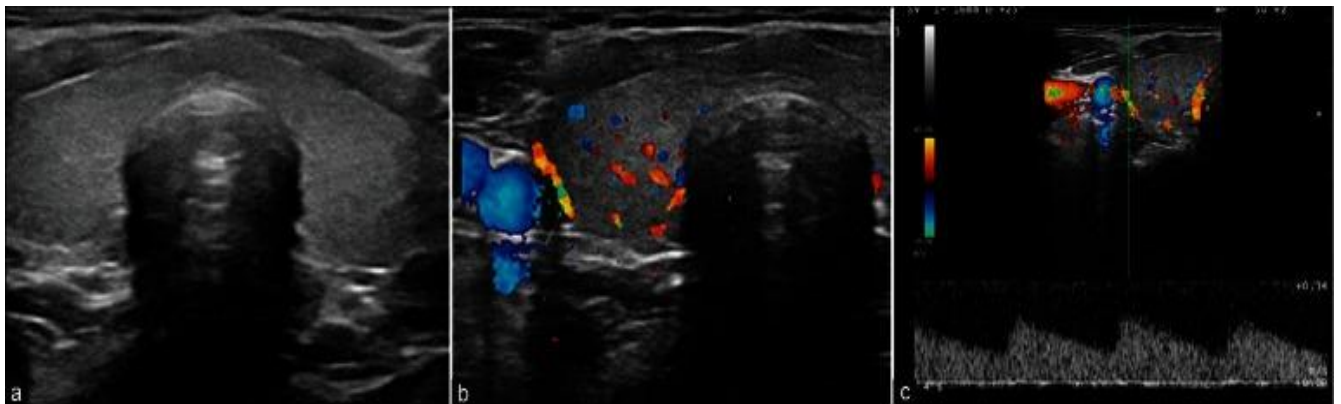


## 2.1.4 Thyroid Ultrasound

The significance of thyroid ultrasound in the assessment of thyroid anatomy and characterization of palpable thyroid abnormalities has progressively increased in the last several years. Thyroid ultrasounds are capable of detecting even thyroid nodules of such a small size as to be of unclear or even no clinical significance; in up to 50% of clinically normal thyroid glands, small (1cm) thyroid nodules can be seen (Carol.M ,*et al* 2011).

### 2.1.4.1 Normal thyroid parenchyma

Has a homogeneous, medium- to high-level echogenicity that makes detection of focal cystic or hypo echoic thyroid lesions relatively easy in most cases. The thin, hyper echoic line around the thyroid lobes is the capsule, ( Carol.M ,*et al* 2011) which is often identifiable on ultrasound.

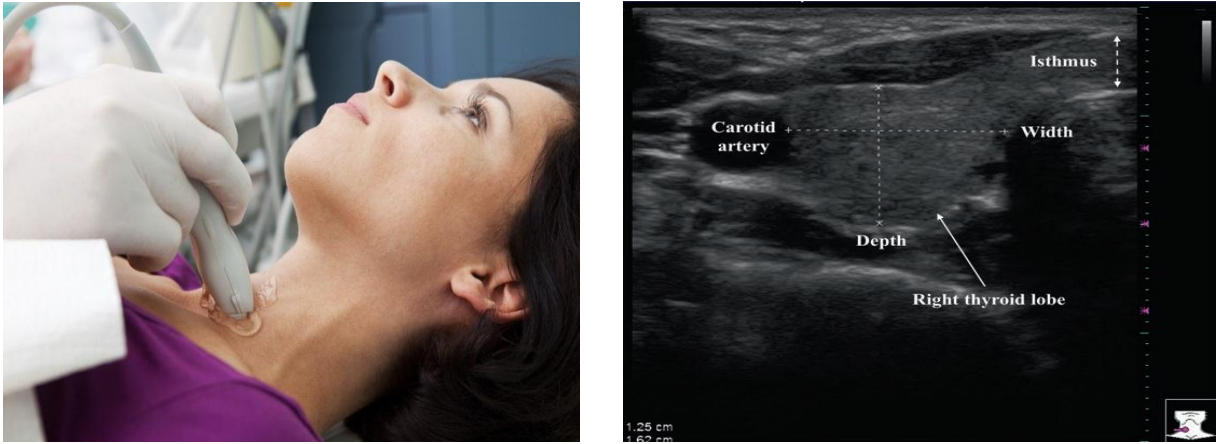


Figure(2.18)Normal thyroid gland. (a) Gray scale ultrasound, transverse scan showing normal thyroid anatomy, (b) Arterial vascularization of the thyroid gland. On color Doppler, the inferior thyroid artery (arrow) is seen, (c) Blood flow pattern in normal thyroid gland. On spectral display, a low resistance flow with a high peak systolic velocity is obtained

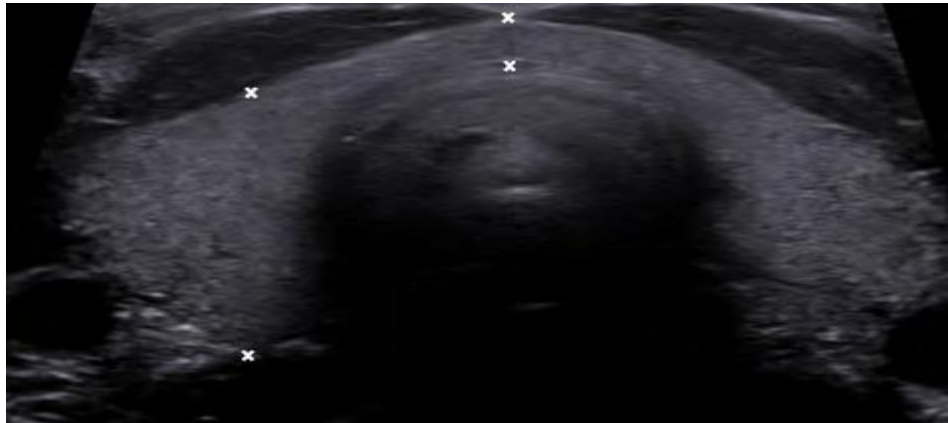


### **2.1.4.2 Scanning technique:**

No preparation, supine position with the neck extended, 7.0–14.0 MHz linear transducer used. transducer held at a 90-degree angle to skin, using only minimal pressure so as not to distort the gland anatomy, transverse and Longitudinal images obtained in the lower half of the neck from the midline. In, transverse scan best done on a split screen, visualizing both lobes per screen. the trachea with its echogenic cartilage rings and air shadows appears in the midline; the echo-free Lumina of the carotid arteries (pulsation) and jugular veins (distension on Valsalva) delineate the lateral aspect. begin with the transducer perpendicular in the transverse plane above the sternal notch; move the transducer superiorly to view the entire gland from inferior to superior aspect; return to image which shows the lobe at its greatest depth and width; and freeze the image. change to other side of the screen, repeat scan on opposite lobe, and freeze. measure the maximal width (mediolateral) and depth (antero posterior) of the transverse section of each lobe, with the depth measurement at a 90-degree angle to the skin surface and the width measurement at 90 degrees to the depth measurement. the measurement should not include the thyroid capsule (hyper echoic to the gland tissue) or the thyroid isthmus. note that the carotid, particularly in a subject with an enlarged thyroid, may indent the posterolateral aspect of the gland.



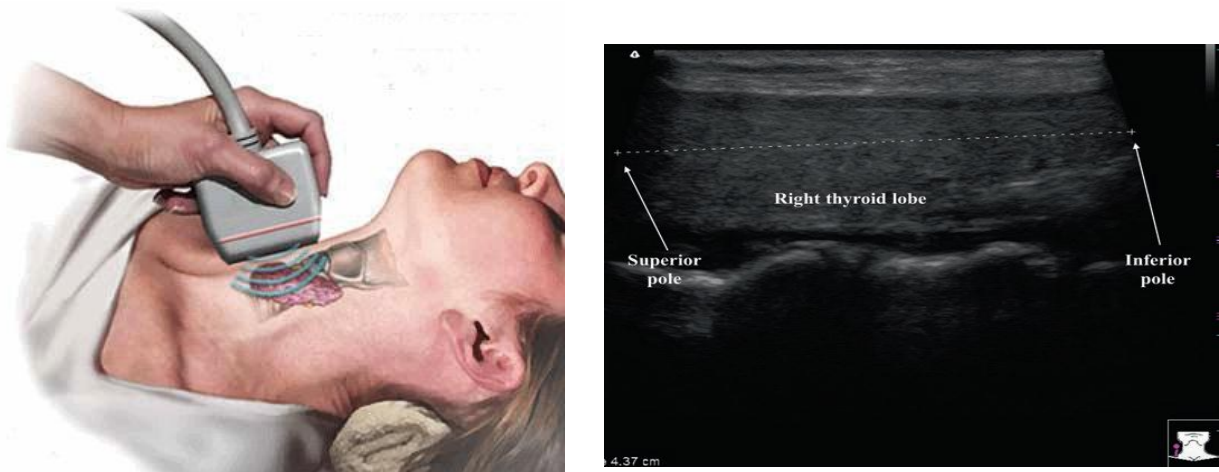
**Fig.( 2.19) Measurement of width and depth of the right lobe on the transverse view.**



**Fig (2..20) Transverse image at the level of the thyroid isthmus, with a depth measurement of the isthmus, and a depth measurement of the right lobe.**

Secondly done Longitudinal Scan One thyroid lobe is measured per screen. The strap muscles appear anteriorly as hypoechoic structures relative to the thyroid. Posterior to the medial portion of the thyroid, the trachea with its echogenic cartilage and air shadows is often seen. Posterior to the lateral portion of the thyroid, venous structures and the common carotid appear as anechoic tubular structures. begin with the transducer perpendicular in the sagittal

plane above the sternal notch, move the transducer superiorly to view the entire gland from inferior to superior and medial to lateral aspect, return to image which shows the lobe at its greatest length (craniocaudal), and freeze to obtain the greatest length, because of the inferior convergence of the lobes, the transducer is often oriented with its superior end slightly diverging from the midline. measure the maximal length of the longitudinal section of the lobe. repeat scan on opposite lobe and again measure the maximal length of the longitudinal section. if the length of the gland exceeds the length of the transducer, the longitudinal measurement is done by splitting the lobe length in two scans, measuring to an internal (preferable) or external landmark, and summing the measurements to obtain the length.



**Fig.( 2.21) Measurement of length of the right lobe in sagittal view**

**Table (2.1) show the measurement of thyroid gland in different age**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Anteroposterior diameter</b>
<b>Newborn</b>	<b>18_20mm</b>	<b>8_9mm</b>
<b>1year</b>	<b>25mm</b>	<b>12_15mm</b>
<b>Adult</b>	<b>40_60mm</b>	<b>13_18mm</b>

The mean thickness of the isthmus is 4–6 mm .

BSA reference is recommended. The volume usually large in iodine deficiency regions and in patient suffering from acute hepatitis or chronic renal failure and small in patient suffering from chronic hepatitis or treated with thyroxin or radio activeiodine(Born and Boulapep 2012).

## **2.2 Previous studies:**

This descriptive study deals with the ultrasound finding of thyroid isthmus thickness.

This study from Van and Dr Muhittin Ülker Emergency and Traumatology Education and Investigation Hospital, Department of Radiology, Ankara, Turkey (İsmet Taş 2010) A total of 251 volunteers without any complaint or physical examination finding regarding the thyroid disease were included in the study in which 105 man and 146 women, age range between 15 and 78. Patients with prior thyroid disease history or the patients in whom nodule, heterogeneity or agenesis were discovered in the ultrasound examination were excluded from the study. They investigated any relation between the dimension, volume, or the thickness of isthmus of the thyroid gland and length, age, gender, BMI, or BSA. Relations between the parameters mentioned above and volume or dimensions of the thyroid gland has been investigated by many investigators, who have reported various results. Moreover, the volume of the thyroid gland varies from nation to nation. BSA was correlated with total thyroid volume, right lobe volume, left lobe volume, all dimensions of the thyroid and isthmus thickness.

Wojciech Kosiak, Dominik Święton, Maciej 2010 study presented the reference values for thyroid isthmus thickness in prepubertal healthy children. Ultrasound evaluation of the isthmus seen to be very useful in the diagnostic process and monitoring of thyroid diseases, especially the diffuse ones. In our study, we evaluated isthmus thickness in a healthy population of prepubertal children from a seaside region. A total of 402 healthy children (214 boys and 188 girls) aged 7–12 years, underwent ultrasound examinations of the thyroid. We propose the following maximum values for isthmus depth: from 2.6 mm for

boys at the age of 7–9 years to 3.3 mm for those aged 10–12 years and from 2.7 mm to 3.5 mm for girls, respectively.

Hyung-sun won and seung-hohan (2013) in adult Korean cadavers reported that location and morphometric characteristics of the thyroid isthmus. One hundred thyroid isthmuses of adult Korean cadavers (gender 58 males and 42 females, mean age 62.9 years, range 19–94 years) were used for this study. The distances from the inferior border of the cricoid cartilage to the superior and inferior margins of the isthmus were  $4.9 \pm 3.7$  and  $20.8 \pm 5.8$  mm, respectively. The width, height, and thickness of the thyroid isthmus were  $11.1 \pm 6.2$ ,  $15.9 \pm 5.8$  and  $3.4 \pm 1.7$  mm, respectively. The thyroid isthmus was located on the 2nd to 4th, 1st to 3rd, and 1st to 4th tracheal rings, in 22, 18 and 18 % of the specimens, respectively. These results are expected to further the current knowledge of the location and morphometry of the thyroid isthmus and provide helpful information for surgical procedures in this region.

Abu sadatmohammednurunn, university of Toronto 2013 morphometric study of the isthmus of thyroid gland in bangladshicadaverthe sample size( 60) and age group (10->50) and the isthmus was cut of thyroid gland . the isthmus of thyroid gland found 82.2% casesmorphological difference was found with increasing age but not with sex .

In other study Sultana 2011 north south university morphometric bangladshi (48 male 12 female in 11-70 years ) there was insignificant difference of isthmus of thyroid gland among different age(in age under19 and above to50) .and significant at age (19 -45).

Another study about agenesis of thyroid isthmus in patient with graves disease and solitary nodules (Omer Faruk,MohamedAsikandMuammerKaraayvaz)That reported the geneticfactors,mutations in the geneand defect in embryological development seen to play an important role in thyroid isthmus agenesis.They

take 41 year –old was admitted to the endocrinology department with a history of palpation .the history relieved graves’ disease ,in surgery operating findings s confirmed that the right and left lobes were completely separated due to isthmus agenesis.

Another study for thyroid isthmus done by Hanhn SY et al 2009 .Ultrasound findings ofpapillary thyroid carcinoma originating in the isthmus . comparison with lobe originating papillary thyroid carcinoma .48patientsofpapillarythyroidcancer located in isthmus and 96 patient of papillary thyroid cancer located in lobes.allofthemhad undergone preoperative ultrasound of the neck. Total thyroidectomy with by lateral central lymph node dissection and postoperative follow-up for at least two years.

EunSookKo and JungHee Shin2014Ultrasound finding s of papillary carcinoma originating in the isthmus comparison with lobe originating papillary thyroid carcinoma ,noted that the papillary thyroid carcinoma originating in isthmus is most likely to have extra thyroidal extension than those originating from the lobes.

# **Chapter three**

## **Materials and methods**



## **Chapter three**

### **Material and Methods**

#### **3.1 Materials**

##### **3.1.1 study design**

This descriptive study research .designed to evaluate isthmus thickness in different age(between 18-30years) and comparing with thyroid volume.using ultrasound B-mode scan for thyroid .

##### **3.1.2 study area**

This study was conducted in Almasoudia Hospital , at the Algazira State .Republic of Sudan .

##### **3.1.3 Study duration**

This study is conducted during the period extending from December 2018 to March 2019.

##### **3.1.4 Study subjects**

###### **3.1.4.1 Inclusion criteria**

All volunteers examine for thyroid ultrasound scan and their result were normal echo texture without nodule or any masses affected it .

The sample include both gender in age between (18-20)years.

### **3.1.4.2 Exclusion criteria**

Any volunteer have abnormal thyroid,elderly ,children and age below 18 year and above 30 years were excluded from this study .

### **3.1.5 Sample of study**

This study was conducted on 51 person (11 male and 40 female) with normal thyroid condition in age between (18-30) years .

### **3.1.6 Ultrasound equipment**

The ultrasound device is Mindary 1100 is a black-and-white system with linear probe 7-9 MHz and personal computer for data storage and analysis.

### **3.1.7 Sampling technique**

The study samples were selected by convenience technique.

## **3.2 Methods**

### **3.2.1 Scanning technique**

In this research This is the first scanning technique using linear probe in the following sequences :the patient lying supine , with pillow,underneath the shoulders to extend the neck slightly , allowing the head to rest on the examination table . the normal thyroid gland is uniformly echogenic relative to the over line strap muscles of the neck .

A highly frequency (10-15MHZ)liner transducer is used .the highest frequency is used while still allowing adequate sonographic penetration .

The technique was applied according to standard protocol of scanning (Hyung.S., *et al* 2013).

### **3.2.2 Data collection**

Demographic data were obtained from all participants direct interview and data sheet was designed which include many variables of ages, isthmus thickness, right lobe volume (depth, weight and length) and left lobe volume (depth, weight and length) and total volume of thyroid.

The data collected in the data sheet and then storage in the computer in form of Excel sheet.

### **3.2.3 Statistical analysis**

All data were analyzed by using statistical package for social science (SPSS) version 16, the results was expressed as mean  $\pm$  SD, T-test was used to compare between means and the levels of significance was detected at P\*value of  $< 0.05$ .

### **3.2.4 Method of interpretation**

-The measurements was done by one sonologist with experience of one year

-The measurement were evaluated once

-The relation between values of isthmus thickness were evaluated in different age (between 18-30 years) and compare it with thyroid volume.

### **3.2.5 Ethical consideration**

Permission of this study was approved by completely ethical , permission of hospital managers was taken before the beginning ,verbally consent and direct questionnaire from participant .

# **Chapter four**

## **The Results**

## Chapter four

### The Results:

**Table (4.1) frequency distribution of age**

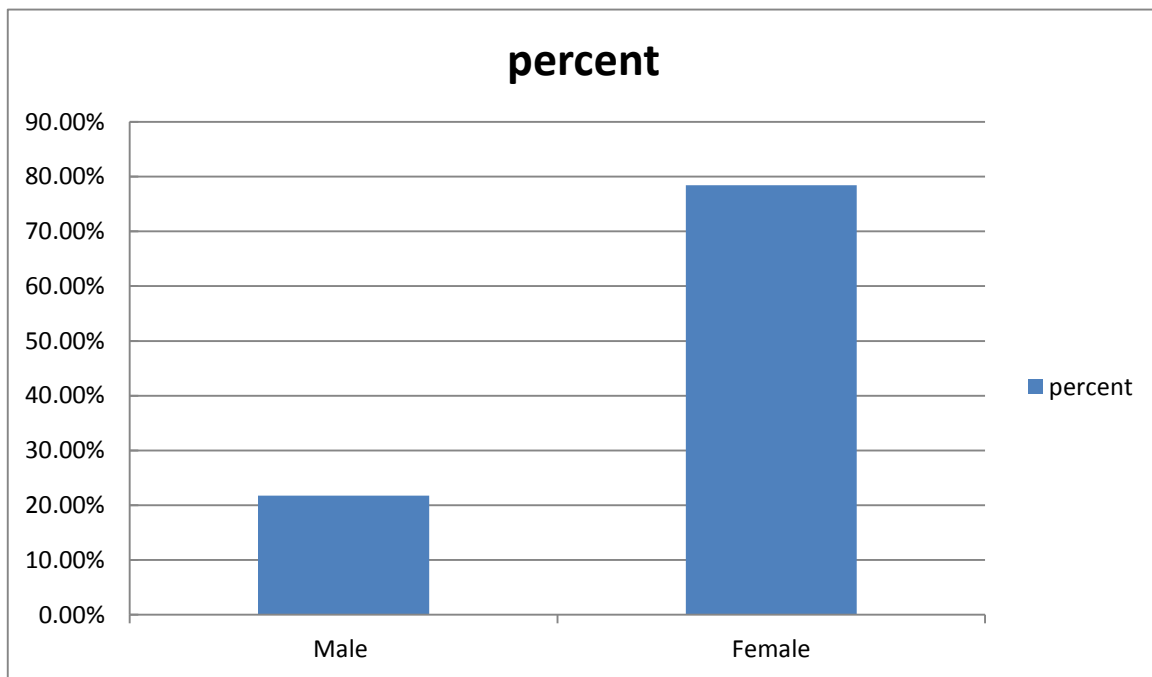
Age	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
18-22year	24	47.1	47.1	47.1
23-27year	20	39.2	39.2	86.3
28-30year	7	13.7	13.7	100.0
Total	51	100.0	100.0	



**Figure (4.1) frequency distribution of age**

**Table (4.2) frequency distribution of gender**

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	11	21.6	21.6	21.6
Female	40	78.4	78.4	100.0
Total	51	100.0	100.0	



**Figure (4.2) frequency distribution of gender**

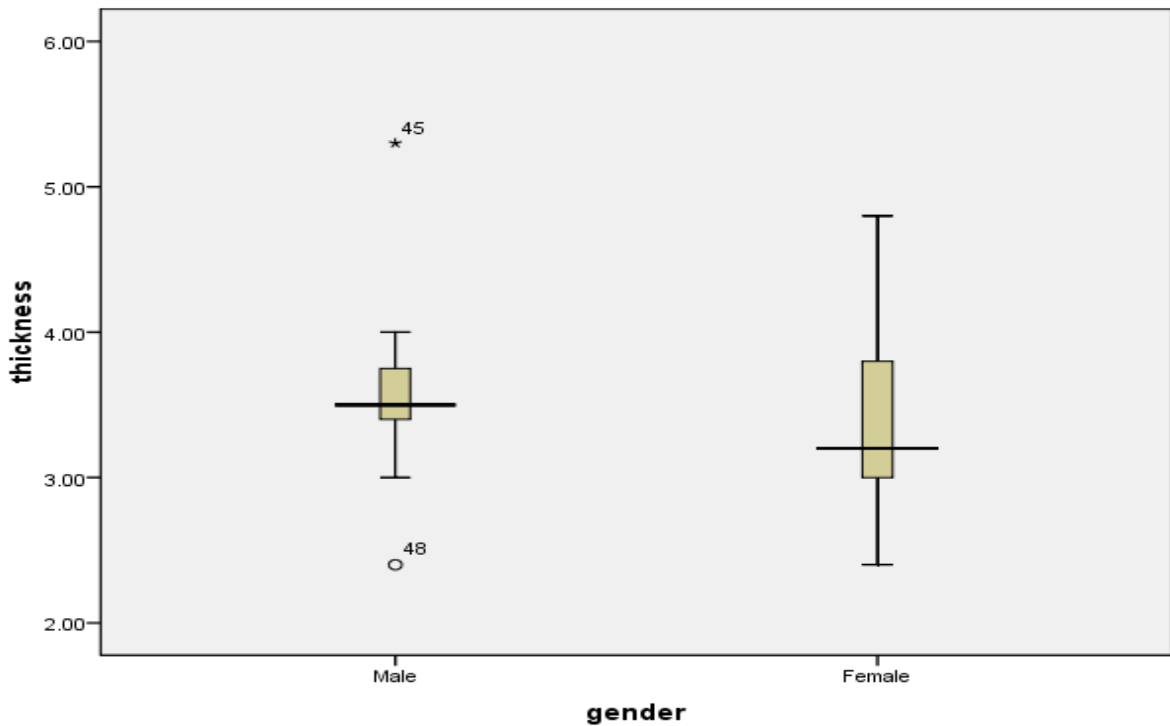
**Table (4.3) descriptive statistic (age and thickness) minimum, maximum, mean± Std. Deviation**

Variables	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	51	19.0	30.00	23.2	2.96
Length of right lobe	51	2.20	4.10	3.18	0.32
Width	51	0.90	2.10	1.33	0.28
Depth	51	0.70	3.20	1.38	0.35
Volume of right lobe	51	10.5	64.3	30.7	10.5
Length left lobe	51	2.40	4.30	3.30	0.29
Width left	51	1.00	1.90	1.31	0.21
Depth left	51	0.90	1.90	1.45	0.25
Volume left	51	14.7	52.2	33.4	9.92
thickness	51	2.40	5.30	3.40	0.60
Valid N (listwise)	51				

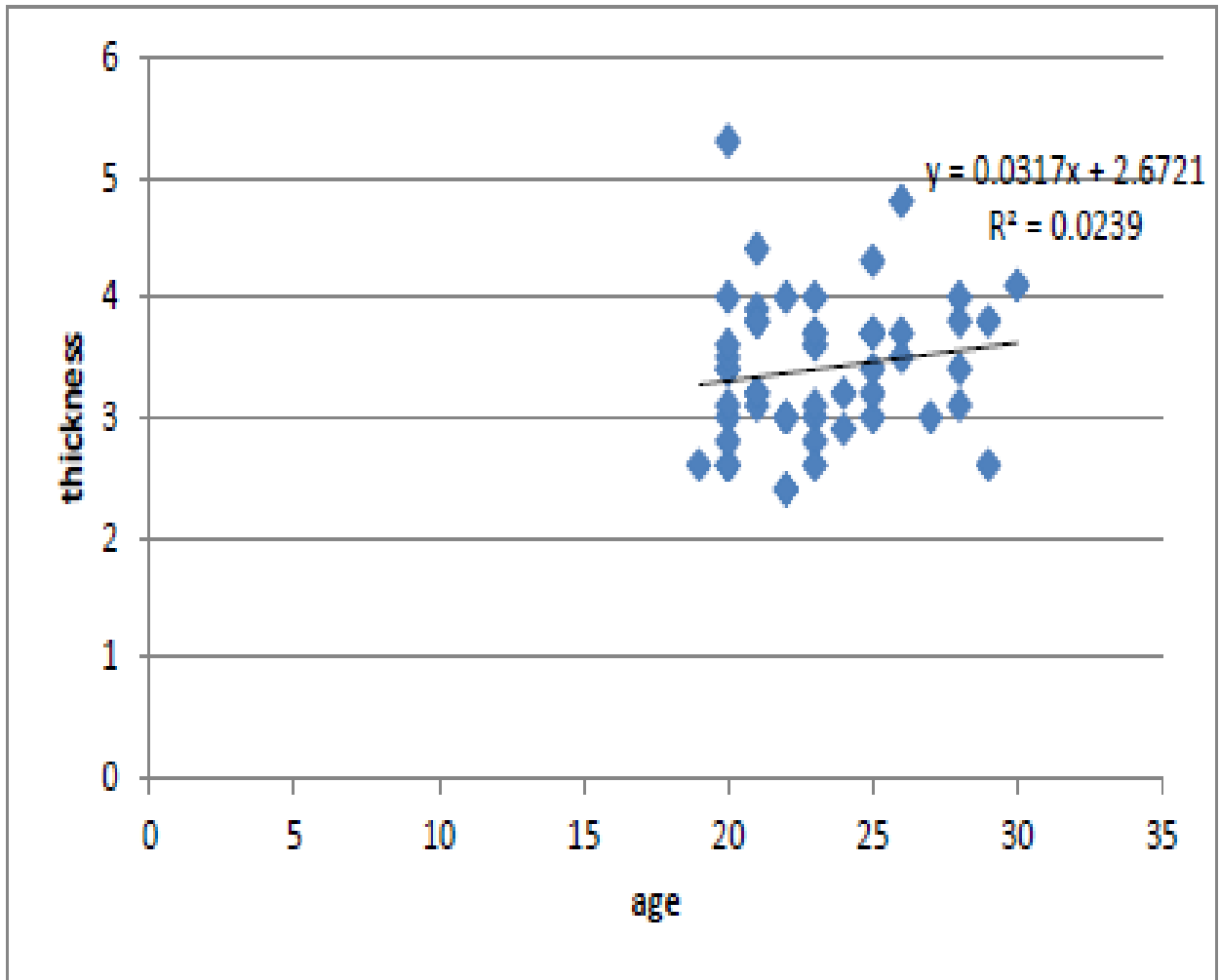


**Table (4.4) Compare mean thyroid volume and isthmus thickness in different age group**

Age		Isthmus thickness	Right volume	Left volume	p> 0.01
18-22 years	Mean	3.33	29.3	29.3	
	Std. Deviation	0.68	11.9	9.57	
23-27 years	Mean	3.44	32.8	37.2	
	Std. Deviation	0.53	10.0	8.17	
28-30 years	Mean	3.54	29.6	36.3	
	Std. Deviation	0.54	5.28	11.5	
Total	Mean	3.40	30.7	33.4	
	Std. Deviation	0.60	10.5	9.92	



**Figure (4.3) plot box shows mean isthmus thickness in different gender**



**Figure (4.4) scatter plot shows relationship between age and isthmus**

**Thickness in hall sample**

**Table (4.5) correlation between the isthmus thickness and total Volume**

		thickness	Total volume
thickness	Pearson Correlation	1	.299*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.033
	N	51	51
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

**Chapter five**  
**Discussion, Conclusion,**  
**Recommendations**

## Chapter five

### Discussion, Conclusions and Recommendation

#### 5.1 Discussion

This is descriptive study aim to Evaluate the normal thyroid isthmus thickness in Sudanese adults by using ultrasonography, I take 51 person (40 female and 11 male) which having normal thyroid.

Table (4-1) and table(4-2) showed the frequency distribution of age , the frequency of age is (51) and valid percent of it is 100 ,also explained by figure .

Table (4-2) showed frequency distribution of gender , (male and female ) the frequency distribution of male (11) and valid percent is (21.6) ,the female frequency is (40) and valid percent (78.4) also explained by figure .

Table (4-3) showed descriptive statistic of variables include age, isthmus thickness, the (length, width, depth and volume) of right and left lobe separately. it was found to be the mean volume of right lobe (30), the mean of isthmus thickness is (3.4) and mean volume of left lobe is (33). the measurements related to normal value which was mentioned in literature review (Diagnostic ultrasound ,4<sup>th</sup> edition 2011)

Table (4-4) to comparing between thyroid volume of right and left lobe and isthmus thickness in different age . show the total mean of isthmus thickness, right volume and left volume is (3.40 , 30.7 , 33.4 ) and stander deviation (0.606 , 10.5 , 9.92 ) respectively , take the ( P. value > 0.01 \* ) .

There is significant difference between the isthmus thickness by increasing of age and there is difference between the right and left lobe according to

age. This agrees with Ismat et al 2010 reported that the isthmus thickness increasing with age and the right lobe of thyroid is bigger than the left lobe.

Figure (4-3) plot box shows mean isthmus thickness in both genders.

Figure (4-4) scatter plot shows linear relationship between age and isthmus thickness in hall sample(51).

As the age increase the isthmus thickness was also increased. (This find agree with Barrere et al from France 2009 reported that : there is positively correlated with age). it increased by 0.039mm starting from 2.7mm in any five years.

Table (4.5) correlation between isthmus thickness and total volume show significant correlation at ( 0.05 level (2-tailed ) ). (This agree with Hegedus et al 2011 reported that there is positively correlation between the isthmus thickness and thyroid volume).

## 5.2 Conclusion

➤ This study was done to measure the isthmus thickness in Sudanese adults and compare it with age and volume of thyroid. The study took 51 volunteers without any complaining or physical examination finding regarding the thyroid disease were included in the study, in which 11 male and 40 female, The range of age between 18-30 years. The result shows that isthmus thickness increases with age. It increases by 0.03 mm starting from 2.7 mm in any five years. There is a significant correlation between isthmus thickness and total volume at the 0.05 level. The study recommended making the examination of the thyroid ultrasound to be as a routine approach for early detecting any abnormality, and increasing the number of samples also taking another parameter like body surface area and body mass index.

### **5.3 Recommendation:**

- Making the examination of the thyroid ultrasound to be as a routine approach for early detecting any abnormality.
- The measurement were done by one sonologist taking one reading ,for standardization result the researcher recommended done another research by two sonographer with two readings and compare between them .or one sonographer take two or more measurement and gives the means between them for proper result.and increasing the number of samples.
- This is just high line study ,More research should be performance take large sample and other parameters like :body surface area (BSA) ,body mass index (BMI) , height and weight .
- Comparing between gender (male and female )taking equal number sample for them .
- More research should be performance take the relation ship between thyroid isthmus and smokers or oral contraceptive drug.
- further study about the use of ultrasound comparing to nuclear medicine.



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# Appendices

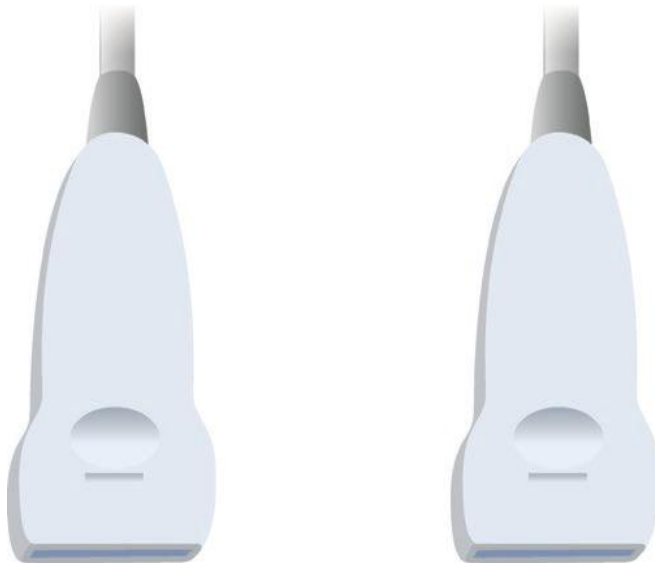


## Appndex (2)

### Ultrasound equipment:



**A- DP1100 PLUS Portable ultrasound system from MindaryMedical**



**B:Linear probe using for imaging thyroid by ultrasound**



## Appendix(3)

### Cases



A

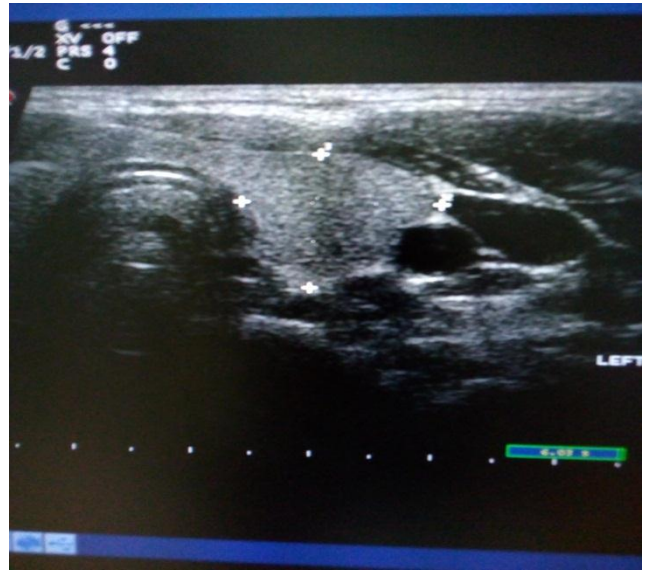


B

Image NO (A,B) show transverse view of thyroid (A: measuring thyroid isthmus thickness(2.8cm) in girl 23 years )ultra sound finding show normal thyroid and thyroid isthmus .



C

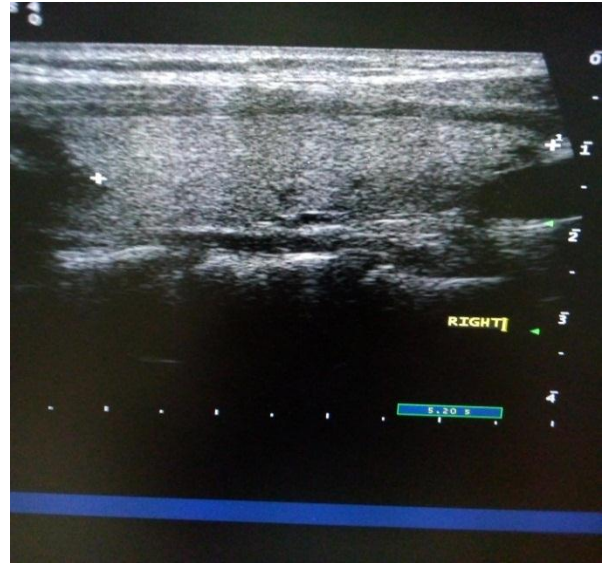


D

Image (C,D) same volunteer measuring depth(1.6-1.2 cm) and width(1.6-1.4) of right and left lobe respectively .



E



F

Image (E,F) same volunteer measuring the length of right(3.1cm) and left lobe (3.4cm)respectively .



A



B

Image NO 2 (A,B) show transverse view of thyroid (A: measuring thyroid isthmus thickness(3.7cm) in girl 25 years ) ultra sound finding show normal thyroid andnormal thyroid isthmus.



C



D

Image (C,D) same volunteer measuring depth (1.5-1.6 cm) and width (1.3-1.4cm) of right lobe and left lobe respectively .





E



F

Image (E,F) same volunteer measuring the length of right and left lobe (3.3-3.4cm) respectively .



A



B

Image NO3 (A,B) show transverse view of thyroid (A: measuring thyroid isthmus thickness(3.7cm) in male 25 years ) ultra sound finding show normal thyroid and thyroid isthmus.



C



D

Image (C,D) same volunteer measuring depth (1.3-1.2 cm) and width (1.2-1.4 cm) of right lobe and left lobe respectively.





E



F

Image (E,F) same volunteer measuring the length of right and left lobe (3.4 -3.4cm ) respectively.