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Letter to the Editor

Letter to the editor: "Coexistent thyroid nodules in patients with graves' disease: What is the frequency and the risk of malignancy?"

Respected Sir,

It was quite interesting to read the article "Coexistent Thyroid Nodules in Patients with Graves' disease: What is the Frequency and the Risk of Malignancy?" in which the authors have found that overall rate of malignancy in patients with Graves' disease to be 6% in a retrospective study.

Papillary thyroid cancer has been found to be more frequent in younger individuals with Graves' disease.[1] We would like to know if the authors found any such relationship in their cohort?

Also, tall cell variant of papillary thyroid cancer has been found to significantly more common in patients with Graves' disease.[2] It would be interesting to know if the authors could find some of them in their study as well.

The period of study is quite impressive (about 17 years). We would like to know the proportion of patients who progressed and the long term outcome as higher incidence of cumulative metastatic disease has been found in papillary thyroid cancer associated with Graves' disease.[3]

Radio-iodine therapy is likely to affect the histology and the post-therapy changes may mimic papillary thyroid cancer. Besides, there is a likelihood of false negative histological diagnosis after the radio-iodine therapy.[4] Have the authors taken it into account in their study? If yes, then how many patients had received radio-iodine therapy before surgery in their study and how did it affect the results?

Thank you.

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