Thyroid Cancer Diagnostic Algorithmic Tests

I.   The use of a thyroid cancer diagnostic algorithmic test in fine needle aspirates of thyroid nodules is considered **medically necessary** when:

  A. The fine needle aspirate showed indeterminate cytologic findings (i.e., Bethesda diagnostic category III or IV), **AND**

  B. The result of the test would affect surgical decision making.

II. The use of a thyroid cancer diagnostic algorithmic test in fine needle aspirates of thyroid nodules is considered **investigational** for all other indications.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Indeterminate cytologic findings** include Bethesda diagnostic category III (atypia/follicular lesion of undetermined significance) or Bethesda diagnostic category IV (follicular neoplasm/suspicion for a follicular neoplasm)

REFERENCES

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Thyroid Carcinoma. Version 5.2024. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/thyroid.pdf
2. Haugen BR, Alexander EK, Bible KC, et al. American Thyroid Association management guidelines for adult patients with thyroid nodules and differentiated thyroid cancer: The American Thyroid Association Guidelines Task Force on

Thyroid Nodules and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer. Thyroid. 2016;26(1):1-133. doi:10.1089/thy.2015.0020.