



**THYROID SCINTIGRAPHY-A NEEDLESS
INVESTIGATION IN SOME CASES-A**
single centre experience in a country
where thyroid diseases are endemic

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THYROID SCINTIGRAPHY-A NEEDLESS INVESTIGATION IN SOME CASES- A single centre experience in a country where thyroid diseases are endemic

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Objective:

The purpose of this study is to assess whether thyroid scan was ordered according to its indications in patients with thyroid diseases.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional study which was carried out at Atomic Energy Medical Centre, Karachi. All patients referred to our thyroid clinic from medical, surgical or ENT department were included in the study.

Results:

140 patients were prospectively included as study population. Female to male ratio was 9:1. They all underwent thyroid scintigraphy. Among these only 59 patients had true indication for thyroid scintigraphy. In remaining 81 patients thyroid scintigraphy revealed normal sized thyroid gland or diffuse goiter that did not give any additional information which would alter the treatment plan.

Conclusions:

Thyroid scintigraphy is conventional investigation performed in all patients with suspicion of thyroid disease. It should only be carried out in patients who possess true indication for thyroid scan. Routine use of thyroid scintigraphy in euthyroid patients should be discouraged.