

Thyroid lesion reclassification could spare patients aggressive treatment

A type of small thyroid lesion with a totally encased center that resembles cancer, has been reclassified as noncancerous by a panel of physicians who reported the change in [JAMA Oncology](#). Patients diagnosed with the downgraded lesion no longer need complete thyroidectomy and radioactive iodine treatment, and they will be spared a lifetime of follow-up monitoring. Industry experts have long called for reclassification of certain breast, prostate and lung lesions to prevent unnecessary treatments, and the thyroid classification may spark changes for management in other areas of oncology.

[The New York Times \(free-article access for SmartBrief readers\)](#) (4/14)