An ultrasound score to predict the presence of papillary thyroid carcinoma.

Preliminary report Diseño de una escala ecográfica predictora de malignidad en nódulos tiroideos: Comunicación preliminar

Domínguez, José Miguel
Baudrand, René
Arteaga, Eugenio
Campusano, Claudia
González, Gilberto
Mosso, Lorena
Cavada, Gabriel
Cruz, Francisco
Torres, Javiera
Solar, Antonieta
Arias, Tatiana
Pizarro, Alejandra
Gómez, Marcelo
Fardella, Carlos

Background: Thyroid nodules are common and associated to a low risk of malignancy. Their clinical assessment usually includes a fine needle aspiration biopsy (FNAB). Aim: To identify ultrasonographic characteristics associated to papillary thyroid carcinoma (PTC) and generate a score that predicts the risk of PTC. Material and methods: Retrospective review of all fine needle aspiration biopsies of the thyroid performed in a lapse of two years. Biopsies that were conclusive for PTC were selected and compared with an equal amount of randomly selected biopsies that disclosed a benign diagnosis. Results: One hundred twenty two biopsies of a total of 1,498 were conclusive for PTC. Univariate analysis showed associations with PTC for the presence of micro-calcifications (Odds ratio (OR) 49.2: 95% confidence intervals (CI) 18.7-140.9), solid
predominance (OR 25.1; 95% CI 6-220), hypoechogenicity (OR 23.5, 95% CI 6.5-122.6), irregular borders (OR 17, 95% CI 7.2-42.9), lymph node involvement (O