



Rush University System for Health

Thyroid Radiofrequency Ablation Therapy

Thyroid radiofrequency ablation (RFA) is a non-surgical treatment for thyroid nodules that provides an alternative option to surgery for patients with symptomatic or enlarging benign thyroid nodules. Instead of being performed in the operating room, thyroid RFA can be done in a clinic setting. As a result, this procedure does not leave a scar or require anesthesia, providing patients with other comorbidities with a safer alternative to surgery.

Thyroid RFA is a new safe, effective and innovative therapy that can shrink thyroid nodules by up to 90% in a durable fashion. Outcomes from thyroid RFA procedures have been studied for several years and have a complication rate lower than surgery. Our team at Rush will closely follow the outcomes to ensure the highest quality of care and the best results for our patients.

This procedure will be performed in collaboration with a multidisciplinary team of providers, including medical endocrinologists and primary care clinicians. We also have a highly skilled support staff of nurses and medical assistants who are trained to assist in performing this procedure.

Who is an ideal candidate for this procedure?

The ideal patient for thyroid RFA would have one of the following conditions:

- Benign thyroid nodules that are enlarging
- Symptoms of neck compression from the enlarged thyroid
- Cosmetic issues related to an enlarged thyroid

Thyroid RFA is also an excellent therapy to treat an overactive nodule, otherwise known as a “hot” thyroid nodule, which may cause a hormone imbalance in the body.

Conditions we treat

- Compression symptoms associated with a large thyroid gland
 - Changes in voice
 - Choking
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Difficulty with certain neck or arm positions
 - Neck discomfort
 - Neck pressure
 - Trouble swallowing
- Cosmetic deformity of the neck due to a thyroid goiter
- Enlarged, benign thyroid nodules
- Overactive thyroid nodules (toxic/hot nodules)
- Thyroid goiter

Learn more:
rush.edu/RFA

Why refer your patients here?

First-rate care: *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Rush University Medical Center's Cancer Center and its otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery program as among the best in the nation.

Latest treatments: Rush is the first hospital in Chicago to offer thyroid RFA for the treatment of benign thyroid nodules.

Clinical trials and groundbreaking therapies: Our physicians are leaders in cutting-edge clinical and basic scientific research, including clinical trials aimed at improving treatment for a variety of conditions and shaping the future of ENT care.

Our Team



Mihir Bhayani, MD

Clinical expertise

Head and neck surgery
-Thyroid biopsy, molecular biopsy, radiofrequency ablation, surgery and ultrasound



Sean Wrenn, MD

Clinical expertise

Endocrine surgery
-Thyroid biopsy, molecular biopsy, radiofrequency ablation, surgery and ultrasound

Locations

Rush University Medical Center

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To learn more or to refer a patient for thyroid radiofrequency ablation, contact the following individuals:

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