

## **THYROID AND PARATHYROID:**

- Prep: None
- Basic Principles: Using high resolution linear transducer, carefully scan both lobes in both the longitudinal and transverse planes. Patient supine with the neck hyperextended. Use a pillow or rolled towel under patient's shoulders if needed.
- The examination should include the following:
  - Measurement of the thyroid gland with a split screen
  - Transverse plane document the upper, mid and lower portions.
  - Longitudinal plane document the lateral, mid, and medial portions.
  - Include transverse cine clips of both sides from superior through inferior portions.
  - Document the isthmus.
  - After thyroid is documented as above then begin to document and measure nodules. Start in the upper pole with #1 and work your way down the gland. All nodules need to be documented with the location and/or a number (#1, #2, etc.) When measuring make sure to use the split screen so all measurements are on one picture and measure in two planes.
    - Measure all solid nodules over 5mm. Comment on your worksheet if you see nodules that are less than 5mm. If multiple cysts are seen you only need to measure the largest cyst.
  - Examine the neck for any masses or adenopathy extrinsic to the thyroid.
- For the Parathyroid:
  - Document the areas posterior and inferior/posterior and superior to the thyroid gland as well.
  - Usually follows a Nuclear medicine scan.