

European Thyroid Association

Thyroid Ultrasound Course – 2026

Basic Course in Thyroid and Neck Ultrasound, FNA and
Thermal Ablation



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Basic Ultrasound Course

SUMMARY	
Course opens	01/08/2026
Course closes	04/09/2026
Live course starts	05/09/2026 – 08:00 am
Live course ends	05/09/2026 – 13:00 pm
Venue	Alfandega Congress Center Rua Nova da Alfândega Porto - Portugal
Website	URL: www.thyrosite.com
Target audience	Endocrinologists and other healthcare providers involved in the management of thyroid-related diseases
Attendees	50
Course certification	All participants who have successfully completed the course will receive a “ <i>Certificate of attendance</i> ” issued by the European Thyroid Association

OVERVIEW

The Basic Ultrasound Course is aimed at providing a state-of-the-art of diagnostic neck ultrasound with lectures, interactive clinical case discussion sessions and hands-on ultrasound training sessions. It will focus on the use of ultrasound in diagnosing diffuse thyroid disorders, defining the risk of malignancy of thyroid nodules, examining cervical lymph nodes and identifying parathyroid adenomas, as well as offering an introduction to percutaneous minimally invasive techniques for the treatment of thyroid nodules and selected thyroid carcinomas. The course is specifically designed for beginners or those with limited experience in performing thyroid and neck ultrasonography. Real-time ultrasound examinations will be demonstrated through video clips and on patient volunteers. Dedicated practical sessions will also allow participants to gain hands-on experience in fine-needle aspiration and EchoLaser thermal ablation procedures on phantom models.

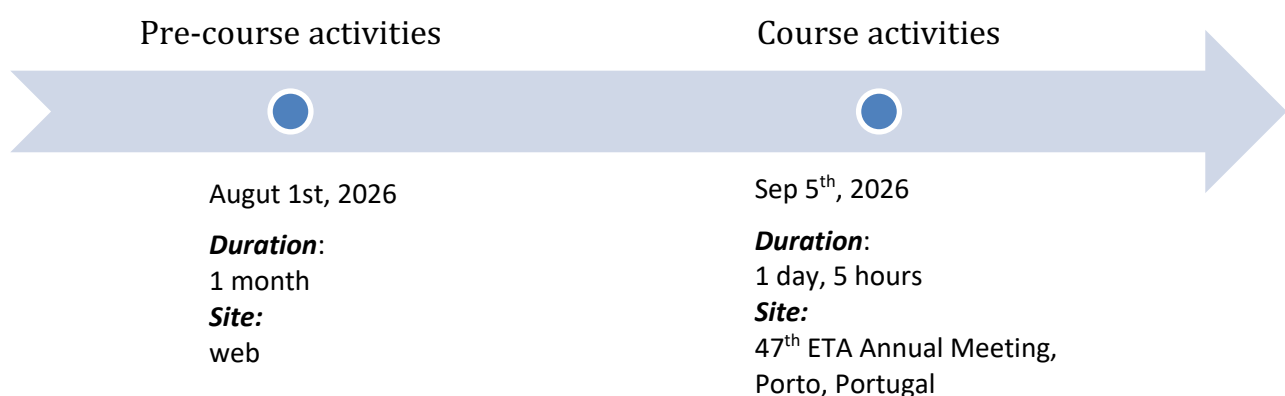
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this educational activity, attendees will be able to:

- Recognize the normal anatomy of the neck
- Recognize the main ultrasound patterns associated with diffuse thyroid disorders
- Identify and measure thyroid nodules
- Recognize and describe the ultrasound characteristics of benign and malignant thyroid nodules
- Classify the risk of malignancy of thyroid nodules by applying a risk stratification system (i.e., EU-TIRADS) and select nodules for fine-needle aspiration biopsy

- Recognize and describe the ultrasound characteristics of benign and malignant cervical lymph nodes
- Recognize and describe the ultrasound characteristics of parathyroid adenomas
- Gain a basic understanding of thyroid ablation techniques, including indications and patient selection criteria
- Perform a diagnostic thyroid ultrasound examination and identify normal neck anatomy
- Perform FNA on phantom
- Perform EchoLaser thyroid ablation procedures on phantom

ACTIVITIES



1. Pre-course activities (*remote event*)

Two months before the live course starts, a pre-course e-learning activity will be proposed to participants. The web-site dedicated to this activity will be hosting slide based lectures the contents of the course. Shifting direct instruction before the live course activities will allow instructors to devote more time to integrate and apply attendees' knowledge during the live event. Time becomes available for

attendees to engage more deeply with content, practice skills, and receive feedback

Themes

- Normal head and neck ultrasound anatomy (45 min)
 - Discuss the anatomy of the neck and identify the important landmarks - [Rose Ngu](#)
 - How to execute a thyroid ultrasound examination? Instruction for beginners - [Tamás Solymosi](#)
 - Tips on ultrasound machine set-up - [Gilles Russ](#)
- Sonographic assessment of thyroid nodules (60-90 min)
 - Sub-module A (30-45 min):
 - Identify and measure thyroid nodules - [Steen J Bonnema](#)
 - Recognize ultrasound characteristics of benign and malignant nodules that have predictive value in deciding treatment - [Enrico Papini](#)
 - Sub-module B (30-45 min):
 - EU-TIRADS - [Gilles Russ](#)
 - Discuss the current guidelines for biopsy of nodules - [Cosimo Durante](#)
- Ultrasound of diffuse thyroid disorders/goiter (30 min)
 - Review ultrasound patterns seen in autoimmune thyroiditis, including pseudo-nodules - [Tamás Solymosi](#)
- Sonographic assessment of cervical lymph nodes (30 min)
 - Recognize ultrasound characteristics of benign and malignant lymph nodes (30 min) - [Camille Buffet](#)
- Sonographic assessment of parathyroid adenomas (30 min) - [Andrea Frasoldati](#)
 - Review the anatomical variations in the location of parathyroid glands

- Recognize the ultrasound appearance and features of parathyroid adenomas
- Fine needle aspiration biopsy (60 min)
 - Sub-module A (30 min) - [Tamás Solymosi](#)
 - Discuss the variety of techniques of performing the procedure
 - Techniques to optimize fine-needle aspiration biopsy
 - Recognize the importance of good slide preparation techniques for cytological analysis and knowledge of liquid-based cytology and thyroglobulin assessment
 - Sub-module B (30 min) - [Fernando Schmitt](#)
 - Classification systems
- Thyroid ablation techniques (60 min)
 - Sub-module A: An introduction to thyroid ablation techniques (20 min) - [Enrico Papini](#)
 - Thyroid ultrasound for directed ablative therapies
 - Selecting the right patients for ablative therapy
 - Ablation for thyroid nodules: Radioiodine ablation (RAI), ethanol/chemical ablation, radiofrequency ablation, high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU), laser thermal ablation and nanosecond pulse frequency ablation, with a focus on the pros and cons
 - Sub-module B: Optimizing outcomes, equipment and setup for laser thermal ablation (20 min) - [Catarina Saravia](#)
 - How to increase effectiveness
 - The role of hydrodissection in both cases and the energy level used
 - The role of hydrodissection in both cases, energy level used
 - Sub-module C: Future directions (20 min) - [Marcin Motyka](#)
 - Thyroid cancers/lymph nodes and remnant ablation
 - Parathyroid adenomas

- Clinical cases (30 min) - [Tamás Solymosi](#), [Magdalena Kaminska](#), [Mateusz Obal](#) and [Grzegorz Sokolowski](#)

2. Course activities (*live event*)

Live course activities will allow attendees to apply the knowledge they have acquired in the pre-course activities, by addressing clinical challenges. The setting should promote peer discussion, and feedback and direction from instructors. The course activities will include:

- **Kickoff event**

The kickoff event introduces the course goals and the agenda – [Cosimo Durante](#), [Alicia Hubalewska-Dydejczyk](#), [Francisca Marques Puga](#), [Tamas Solymosi](#)

Duration: 10 min

- **Activity #1**

- A presenting author introducing clinical cases and asking questions – [Cosimo Durante](#)
- Audience televoting on questions
- Expert panels reacting to the answers – [Alicia Hubalewska-Dydejczyk](#), [Ana Paula Marques](#), [Marcin Motyka](#), [Maria João Oliveira](#), [Francisca Marques Puga](#), [Tamas Solymosi](#)

Duration: 80 min

- **Activity #2**

- Clinical cases in small subgroups (n=10) with a tutor
- Then all subgroups join, and one member of each subgroup presents the case to the whole group

Tutor: André Carvalho, Cláudia Freitas, Ana Paula Marques, Fernando Mendonça, Marcin Motyka, Sandra Paiva, Luis Raposo, Cristina Ribeiro, Gustavo Rocha, Catarina Saravia.

Duration: 120 min

- **Hands-on sonography training**

Real-time ultrasound examinations will be performed on patient volunteers. Dedicated phantom-based hands-on sessions will provide practical training in fine-needle aspiration and EchoLaser thermal ablation procedures.

Real-time ultrasound tutors: André Carvalho, Cláudia Freitas, Fernando Mendonça, Marcin Motyka, Sandra Paiva, Luis Raposo, Cristina Ribeiro, Gustavo Rocha,

FNA/EchoLaser thermal ablation tutors: Fabio Maino, Catarina Saravia

Duration: 90 min

FACULTY

Ultrasound Course Board

Cosimo Durante, Alicia Hubalewska-Dydejczyk, Francisca Marques Puga, Tamas Solymosi

Pre-course activities Faculty

Steen J Bonnema, Camille Buffet, Cosimo Durante, Andrea Frasoldati, Magdalena Kaminska, Marcin Motyka, Rose Ngu, Mateusz Obal, Enrico Papini, Gilles Russ, Catarina Saravia, Fernando Schmitt, Grzegorz Sokolowski, Tamás Solymosi.

Course activities Faculty

André Carvalho, Cosimo Durante, Cláudia Freitas, Alicia Hubalewska-Dydejczyk, Fabio Maino, Ana Paula Marques, Fernando Mendonça, Marcin Motyka, Maria João Oliveira, Sandra Paiva, Francisca Marques Puga, Luis Raposo, Cristina Ribeiro, Gustavo Rocha, Catarina Saravia, Tamás Solymosi.