

Mayo Clinic Minute: Treating thyroid nodules without surgery

Video	Audio
Marius Stan, M.D. Endocrinology Mayo Clinic	"Radiofrequency ablation, which many people might simply call a RFA, is a way of targeting a specific part of the thyroid, an abnormal part, by delivering high energy into that specific area of the thyroid and destroying it."
	Mayo Clinic endocrinologist Dr. Marius Stan says patients with enlarged, benign thyroid nodules are good candidates for RFA.
	"Most of these patients will have an inch and a half to two inches thyroid nodules in diameter that we think are reaching the point where a problem is present or is likely going to be present."
	(Nat sound of procedure)
	Along with retaining thyroid function, there are other advantages.
	"And the benefit is that we can do it in the outpatient setting, without the scar on the neck."
	Dr. Stan says Mayo Clinic is one of the leading U.S. institutions to research using RFA to treat thyroid cancer.
	"We hope that this will also be able to destroy a thyroid cancer very specifically, as opposed to a surgical approach that would eliminate part of the thyroid."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jason Howland.