

Table 3. Advantages and disadvantages of thyroid imaging techniques in thyroid nodule evaluation.

	Summary of the thyroid imaging techniques				
	Malignancy evaluation	Objectivity	Cost	Ionizing radiation	Availability
Ultrasonography (US)	++	++	++	++	++
US Elastography	++	-	-	++	-
Contrast agents US	+/?	+	-	++	-
Conventional imaging techniques (CT/MRI)	-	++	-	-/+	+
Scintigraphy	-	+	+	-	+
Positron Emission Tomography	+	+	-	-	-
+ / ++	Useful/Very useful		- Non Useful/Disadvantageous		
Computed tomography (CT)/Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)					