

# IAES Clinical Practice Guidelines on Ablative Procedures for Thyroid Nodules

The Indian Association of Endocrine Surgeons (IAES) invites comments and feedback from clinicians, patients, policymakers, allied health professionals, industry stakeholders, and the general public on the *Draft IAES Clinical Practice Guidelines on Ablative Procedures for Thyroid Nodules*.

## Guideline Development Methodology

These guidelines were developed through a **rigorous, transparent, and evidence-informed process**, consistent with internationally accepted principles of guideline development.

A dedicated **Guideline Development Group (GDG)** constituted under IAES defined the scope, target population, and key clinical questions relevant to thyroid ablation in the Indian context. An **adolopment framework** was used, whereby recommendations were:

- **Adopted** from high-quality international guidelines where directly applicable,
- **Adapted** to Indian practice considering local disease patterns, expertise, resources, and feasibility, and
- **Developed de novo** where gaps existed in published evidence or where India-specific guidance was required.

The best available evidence was reviewed, synthesized, and translated into draft recommendation statements.

## Delphi Consensus Process

To ensure expert consensus and methodological robustness, a **two-round modified Delphi process** was undertaken.

- **Expert Panel:**  
The Delphi panel consisted of **18 experts** with recognized experience in endocrine surgery, thyroid disease, and image-guided ablation techniques:

Anukriti Sood	Consultant - Breast and Endocrine Surgery	CK Birla Hospital , Jaipur , Rajasthan
Sabaretnam M	Professor, Breast and Endocrine Surgery	SGPGIMS, Lucknow
Abhishek Krishna	Assistant Professor , Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow
Dr Sarrah Idrees	Assistant Professor , Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Department of Endocrine Surgery, Dr RMLIMS, Lucknow
Dr ShikhilPuzhakkal	Consultant , Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Consultant Endocrine surgeon Baby memorial Hospital kozhikode
Dr Yuvraj Devgan	Consultant , Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Dr Raghuvanhs Sidak healthcare

Siddhartha Chakravarthy N	Senior Consultant , Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Apollo Hospitals Hyderabad
Anjali Mishra	Professor and Head Unit 2, Breast and Endocrine Surgery	SGPGIMS, Lucknow
Dr Shikhil Puzhakkal	Consultant Breast and Endocrine Surgery	Consultant endocrine surgeon
Dr Sunil Malla Bujar Barua	Consultant Endocrine and Breast Surgeon	Hayat Hospital Guwahati
Dr Vikram Singh Chauhan	Consultant Endocrinologist	JHRC, Jabalpur
Dr Sanjeet Kumar	Consultant Endocrinologist	Raipur
Dr Nishtha Yadav	Interventional Radiologist	SSH, Jabalpur
Dr Balaji Srinivasan	Consultant Endocrinologist	Mumbai
Dr Manjunath R Goroshi	Consultant Endocrinologist	Raipur
Dr Aromal	Consultant Endocrine and Breast Surgeon	Kochi, Kerala
Dr Devashish Mishra	Interventional Radiologist	NSCBMC, Jabalpur
Dr Sanjay Kumar Yadav	Asst Prof, Endocrine and Breast Surgeon	NSCBMC, Jabalpur

- **Delphi Round 1:**

Conducted between **06/11/2026 to 20/11/2025**.

Panel members independently rated each draft recommendation for agreement, clarity, and clinical applicability and provided structured qualitative feedback.

- **Delphi Round 2:**

Conducted between **25/11/2025 to 05/12/2025**.

Revised statements incorporating Round-1 feedback were re-circulated to achieve higher convergence and resolve areas of disagreement.

Pre-defined consensus thresholds were applied, and only statements meeting these criteria were retained as final recommendations.

## Public and Stakeholder Consultation

In keeping with IAES's commitment to **transparency, inclusivity, and patient-centred care**, the draft guideline is now being placed in the public domain. All comments received during this consultation phase will be systematically reviewed by the GDG and considered for incorporation into the final guideline.

### Public comment period:

From: **05/01/2026**

To: **20/01/2026**

The final IAES guideline aims to provide **evidence-based, context-appropriate, and pragmatic recommendations** to guide the safe and effective use of thyroid ablation techniques across diverse healthcare settings in India.