

Note 2 – Operative procedure (Core)

The thyroid gland ordinarily is composed of a right and a left lobe lying adjacent and lateral to the upper trachea and oesophagus. An isthmus connects both lobes, and in some cases a pyramidal lobe is present extending cephalad anterior to the thyroid cartilage. Surgical management of thyroid tumours consists of either a lobectomy (removal of a lobe), a hemithyroidectomy (resection of lobe and isthmus), subtotal thyroidectomy or total thyroidectomy. Cases with lobectomy followed by completion thyroidectomy in the same operative procedure should be classified as total thyroidectomies. Other procedures include completion thyroidectomy, central compartment or lateral neck node dissection.