

Ethanol Ablation of Cystic Neck Masses

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Ethanol is a cost-effective and potent sclerosing agent, inducing rapid cellular dehydration and protein denaturation. Ethanol ablation (EA) has been reported as safe and effective in treating various cervical cystic lesions and has been widely used as first-line therapy for cystic or predominantly cystic benign thyroid nodules, with a therapeutic success rate of 92%. Additionally, EA has shown favorable outcomes in parathyroid cysts, lymphatic malformations, thyroglossal duct cysts, branchial cleft cysts, and ranula. This lecture will present you the techniques and clinical outcomes of EA for the non-neoplastic cystic neck masses including ranula, lymphatic malformations, and branchial cleft cyst. Review will be focused on the individual difference or characteristics of the cervical cystic lesions in terms of technical success and better clinical outcome.