Clinical review is required for adult members (age ≥18). The medical necessity criteria are outlined below.


**Goiter**
ONE of the following must be met:
1. Airway compromise by imaging
2. Esophageal compression by imaging
3. Recurrent laryngeal nerve compression by endoscopy

**Noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features (NIFTP)**
Patient had diagnosis of noninvasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features (NIFTP).

**Thyroid cancer by fine needle aspiration (FNA)**
The patient has papillary thyroid cancer, the tumor size by imaging is less than or equal to 4 cm, and NONE of the following:
1. Tumor > 4 cm in diameter by imaging
2. Known metastases
3. Extrathyroidal extension
4. Poorly differentiated cytology
5. Bilateral lobe disease
6. Head or neck or whole body radiation by history
7. Radioactive iodine (RAI) therapy planned

**Thyroid nodule by fine needle aspiration (FNA)**
ONE the following must be met:
1. Bethesda I x2 samples and ONE of the following:
   a. Ultrasound (US) findings suggestive of malignancy with ONE or more of the following:
      i. Microcalcifications
      ii. Nodule hypoechogeticity
      iii. Irregular margins
      iv. Intranodular vascularity
      v. Taller than wide shape
   b. ONE of the following:
      i. Thyroid cancer by family history
      ii. Known hereditary thyroid cancer-related genetic mutation
      iii. Head or neck or whole body radiation by history
      iv. Nodule growth or nodule > 4 cm by imaging
      v. Cervical lymphadenopathy by physical examination or imaging
      vi. Compression of adjacent structures or recurrent laryngeal nerve compression by physical examination or testing
      vii. Symptoms of compression including hoarseness or dysphagia or dysphonia or dyspnea
      viii. Patient prefers surgery
2. Bethesda II and ONE of the following:
Authorization criteria:
Thyroidectomy, Partial

For Medicare Plus BlueSM, Blue Care Network commercial
and BCN AdvantageSM

a. Ultrasound (US) findings suggestive of malignancy with ONE or more of the following:
   i. Microcalcifications
   ii. Nodule hypoechoogenicity
   iii. Irregular margins
   iv. Intranodular vascularity
   v. Taller than wide shape

b. ONE of the following:
   i. Nodule growth or nodule > 4 cm by imaging
   ii. Compression of adjacent structures or recurrent laryngeal nerve compression by
      physical examination or testing
   iii. Symptoms of compression including hoarseness or dysphagia or dysphonia or
dyspnea

3. Bethesda III, IV or V AND NONE of the following:
   a. Tumor > 4 cm in diameter by imaging
   b. Known metastases
   c. Extrathyroidal extension
   d. Poorly differentiated cytology
   e. Bilateral lobe disease
   f. Head or neck or whole body radiation by history
   g. Radioactive iodine (RAI) therapy planned

References
Change Healthcare’s InterQual® 2022 Thyroidectomy, Partial