

The Thyroid

In

Health and Disease

By Mike Burke MS FRCS



The Thyroid

- What is it?
- What does it do?
- An endocrine gland
- Secretes T3 and T4
controls the rate of
chemical reactions in
cells
- How does it work
- ?



TSH  T4

Functional disorders

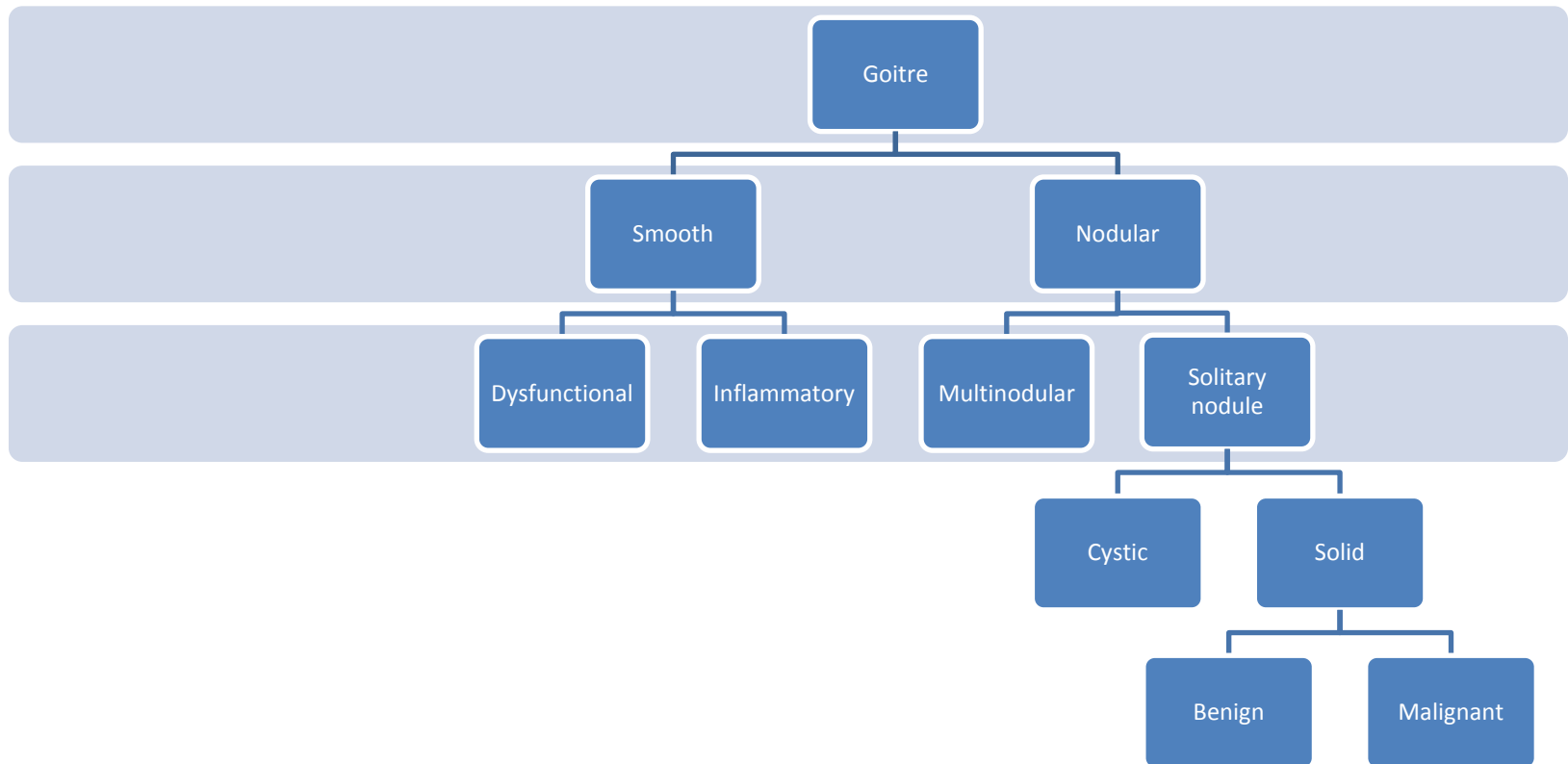
Thyrotoxicosis

- RMR 
- Weight 
- Tachycardia
- Atrial fibrillation
- Heart failure
- Weakness and fatigue
- Irritability
- Disturbed menses
- Diarrhoea

Hypothyroidism

- RMR 
- Weight 
- Slow and tired
- Hair loss
- Constipation

Thyroid enlargement



Diagnosis of Goitre

Clinical examination

Ultrasound

Fine Needle Biopsy

Thyroid function tests

Thyroid antibodies

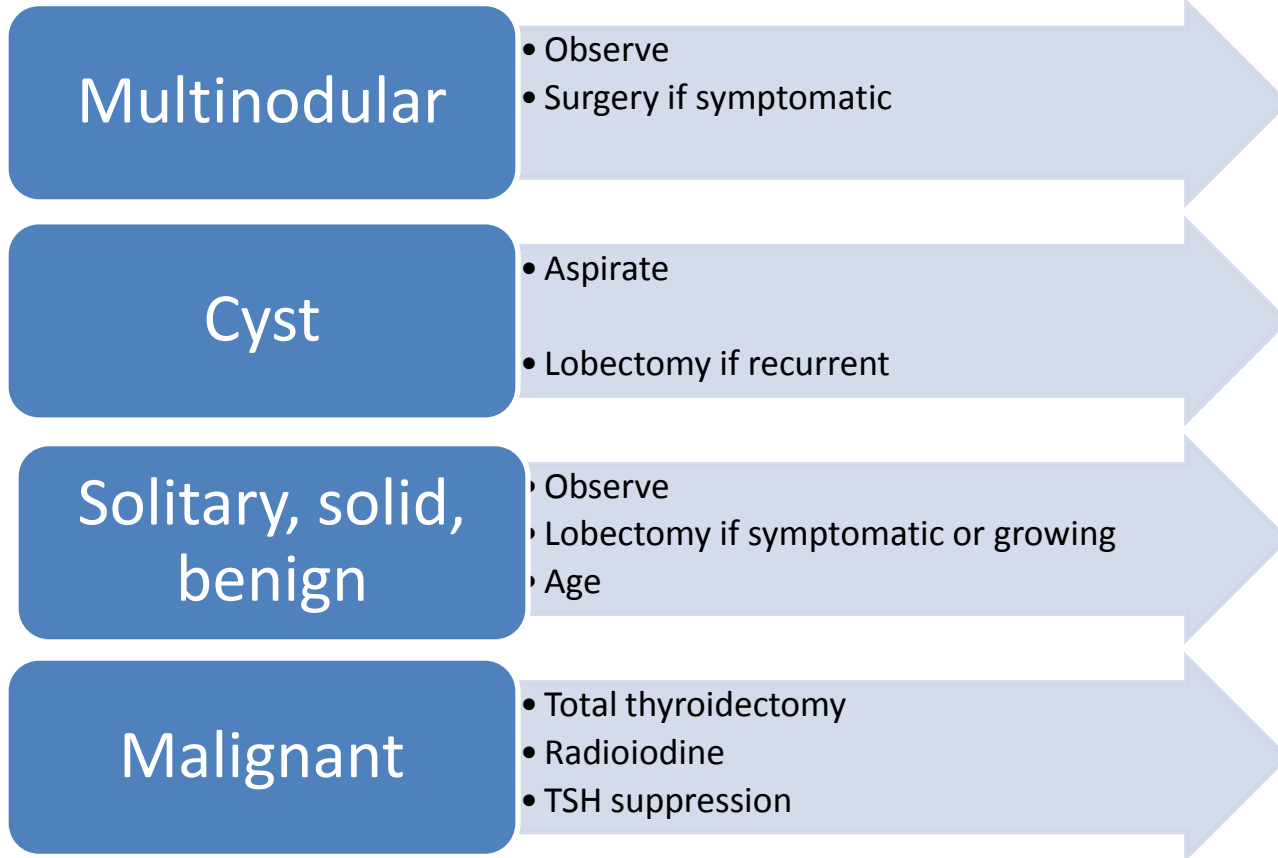
Dysfunctional goitres

- Pregnancy
 - Iodine deficiency
 - Diet
 - GRAVES' DISEASE
- Check TFTs
 - Add iodine
 - Add iodine or change diet
 - Coming up!

Inflammatory goitres

- Hashimoto's disease
 - TFTs
 - Thyroid antibodies
 - observe for
 - hypothyroidism or
 - tumour
- Reidel's thyroiditis

Nodular goitres



Treatment of Graves' Disease

Medical

- Carbimazole or PTU
- 50% relapse

Radio-iodine

- Unless eye signs
- Large goitre
- Patient choice

Surgery

- Failure of medical treatment
- Contraindication to radio-iodine

