Reviewer’s report

Title: Treatment of hyperfunctioning thyroid nodules by percutaneous ethanol injection: 2-year follow up

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Reviewer: Prof Enio Martino

Level of interest: A paper whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions

This paper reports the effectiveness of percutaneous ethanol injection for the treatment of toxic and pre-toxic thyroid adenoma, confirming previous studies. Although the study is not new, it is well performed, clearly written and increases the data on PEI therapy. The authors should point out (although they say a few words at p. 10) that PEI is an additional treatment for "hot" thyroid nodules, particularly when surgery or radioactive therapy are not feasible. The notion that PEI has been used for the treatment of cystic or cold thyroid nodules is redundant in this paper and can be omitted. Caution should be recommended for the use of PEI in multinodular toxic goiter, since it is well known that relapse of the "hot" nodule can occur. Table I is redundant and can be omitted. The reference list should include the paper of Lippi et al. (J Clin Enocrinol Metab 1996) that reports a large experience with PEI.

Competing interests:

None declared.