



## International School of Thyroid Ultrasonography

University of Pisa, Italy





## Live educational course dates

The **International School of Thyroid Ultrasonography “Advanced practical thyroid ultrasound course: Focus on diagnostic elastosonography and laser treatment of thyroid nodules”** will be held on the following dates:

First course:	14-15 February 2014
Second course:	16-17 May 2014
Third course:	17-18 October 2014

## Background and aims

Thyroid nodules are a common clinical finding, with an estimated prevalence from 3% to 7% at palpation. Prevalence of non-palpable nodules at thyroid ultrasound (US) in the general population is much higher; moreover, many patients with palpable thyroid nodule have additional nodules at US (15-35%). The great majority of thyroid nodules are benign, with less than 5% being malignant (i.e. carcinomas). While cytological examination of fine needle aspirates is the gold standard for discriminating malignant nodules, thyroid conventional US patterns have high specificity but low sensitivity in the diagnosis of carcinomas. Elastosonography is a new technique which employs US to provide an estimation of nodular stiffness and is being developed for getting a better accuracy in diagnosis. Also, alternative treatment modalities for benign thyroid nodules, such as laser therapy, a novel mini-invasive treatment, are currently being tested, to overcome the limits of medical therapy and to avoid unnecessary thyroid excision.

Serono Symposia International Foundation (SSIF) is collaborating with the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Endocrine Unit # 1, Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, of the University of Pisa, Italy, in organizing an advanced course on thyroid ultrasonography focusing on new modalities for the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid nodules that will be exploring the practical aspects of US-guided diagnostic elastosonography and laser therapy in the management of thyroid nodules.

The main objectives of this live educational course are to review the latest news in thyroid ultrasound diagnostic criteria and applications in presence of thyroid nodules and to teach tools for use in daily clinical practice regarding the execution of diagnostic elastosonography and laser treatment for benign nodules.

## Learning objectives

After attending this live educational course, learners will have up-to-date knowledge on thyroid ultrasonography and on its novel applications such as elastosonography and laser treatment for benign nodule, thus being able to:

- Recognize US patterns of thyroid nodules suggestive of malignancy
- Refine the execution methods for fine needle aspiration biopsy on thyroid nodules
- Apply novel alternative interventional approaches to treat benign thyroid nodules

## Target audience

Endocrinologists, radiologists, internists, and any other healthcare professional involved in the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid nodules.

## Accreditation

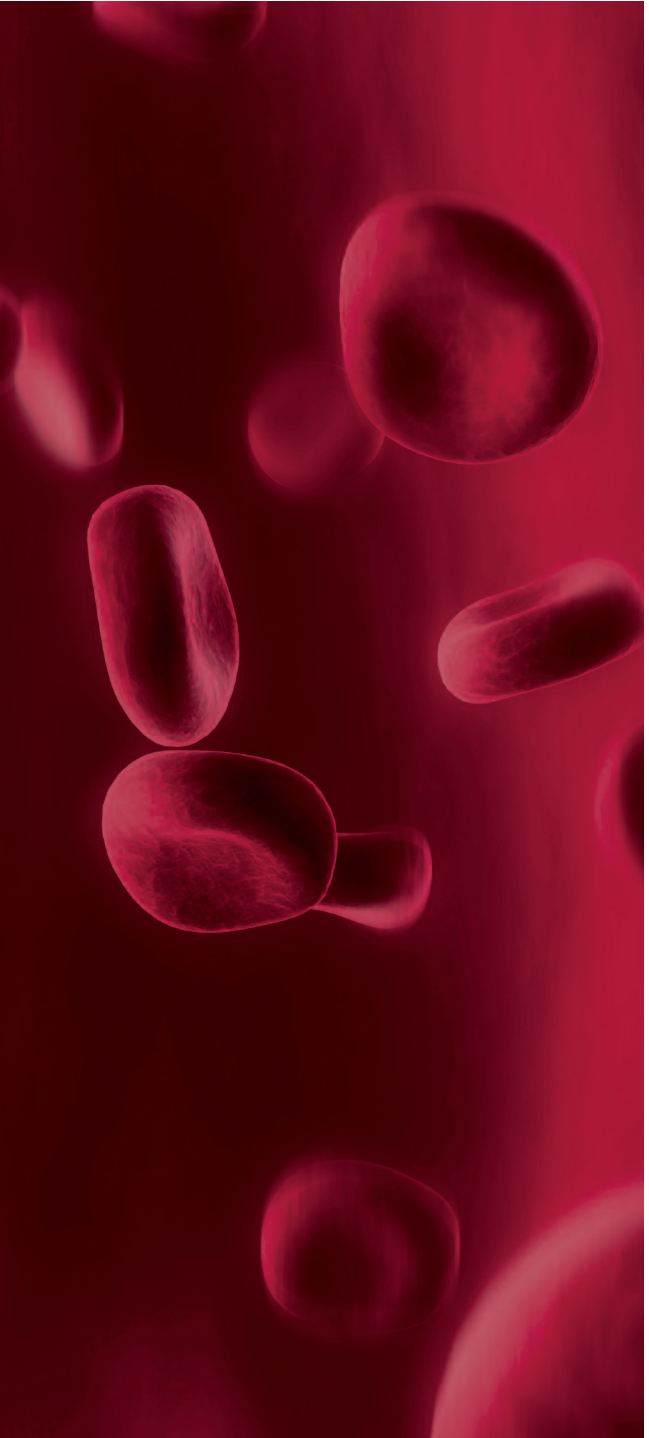
An application has been made to the EACCME® for CME accreditation of the Sersono Symposia International Foundation course “**International School of Thyroid Ultrasonography**” to be held in Pisa, Italy on 14-15 February 2014, 16-17 May 2014 and 17-18 October 2014.

Sersono Symposia International Foundation (SSIF) adheres to the principles of the Good CME Practice Group (gCMEp).



All Sersono Symposia International Foundation programmes are organized solely to promote the exchange and dissemination of scientific and medical information. No forms of promotional activities are permitted. This programme is made possible thanks to an educational grant received from ESAOTE.





## Scientific organisers

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Serono Symposia International Foundation designed this programme in partnership with the University of Pisa.



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

### We value your opinion!

We are continually trying to develop and improve our educational initiatives to provide you with cutting-edge learning activities.

During this conference you will be asked to answer a **real-time survey** and after this educational event you will be receiving an online survey to help us to better tailor our future educational initiatives.

**We thank you for participating!**

## Scientific secretariat

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Serono Symposia International Foundation  
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# Scientific programme

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## Day 1 Friday

- 9.00 **Welcome and presentation of the learning objectives of this live educational course**
  - 9.30 **Introduction: Thyroid ultrasonography today**  
Neck anatomy, basics of ultrasonography, how to perform neck and thyroid ultrasonography
  - 11.00 **Coffee break**
  - 11.30 **Ultrasonography of thyroid nodules for the assessment of risk of cancer**
  - 13.00 **Lunch**
  - 14.00 **Real-time elastosonography in nodular thyroid disease**
  - 15.00 **Interactive discussion of clinical cases**
  - 16.00 **Coffee break**
  - 16.30 **Practical session**  
Learners to perform ultrasonography and real-time elastosonography on patients
- End of the first day**



## Day 2 Saturday

- 9.00 Live case illustrations**  
Laser treatment of patients with multi nodular goiter and thyroid nodules – live session
- 10.30 Coffee break**
- 11.00 Indications for laser treatment in nodular goiter or thyroid nodules**
- 13.00 Lunch**
- 14.00 Ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration biopsy (FNA): indications and execution techniques**
- 15.30 Practical Session**  
Learners to perform thyroid ultrasonography on patients and ultrasound guided FNA on substitute subject or other models and FNA on patients – live session
- 17.00 Questions, answers and conclusion of the live educational course**

# General information

## Venue

These live educational courses will take place at the:

### University of Pisa

Endocrine Unit # 1

Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine

Via Paradisa, 2

56124 Pisa, Italy

## Language

The official language of the course will be English.

## Registration fee

The registration fee is € 600,00.

This fee includes:

- Scientific sessions
- Educational materials
- Certificate of attendance

### For any registration and accommodation need please contact:

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## Take a look at the new SSIF website

- Visit the Endocrinology and Metabolism section of the new Sero Symposia International Foundation (SSIF) website.

[www.endocrinology-and-metabolism.seronosymposia.org](http://www.endocrinology-and-metabolism.seronosymposia.org)

- Register to access free e-learning activities and receive updates on new events and resources.

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