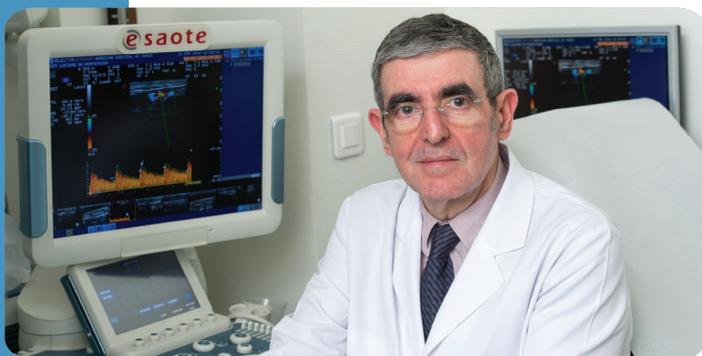


## EchoLaser Club at ETA 2014

The **ETA 2014 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** will take place in Santiago de Compostela, located in Galicia. This region of the North West of Spain has a well-known relationship with thyroid disease since iodine deficiency and endemic goitre were historically present in broad areas.



Thermo ablation has serious advantages in order to approach this situation.

For laser benign thyroid disease, EchoLaser is a unique tool that allows to perform pre-treatment diagnostic evaluations, to plan the procedure, to perform under real time guidance and post-treatment follow up. In most of our own countries, we have already introduced this procedure in our hospitals and clinics for thyroid treatment.

In all previous congresses one of the main topics was "Diagnostic and Interventional Therapy". This discussion will also follow in Compostela. This congress is a good opportunity within the EchoLaser Club, providing a full view of the new minimally invasive surgery technologies for Thyroid application. In this occasion, with the support of Esaote and Elesta, we can meet together for a EchoLaser Meeting in Esaote Booth for a "Expert" discussion.

The aim of this meeting is to share in a friendly way our experiences and to see the preliminary result of our European Clinical Trial on Laser Ablations Benign Thyroid Nodule.

Looking forward to seeing you in Santiago de Compostela. Best regards,

**Hervé Monpeyssen**

hm-endocrino@wanadoo.fr

### See You There:

**6-10 September**  
Santiago de  
Compostela, Spain  
**ETA 2014**  
**38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
[www.eta2014.org](http://www.eta2014.org)

In Europe, the necessity to decrease health costs and the will to reserve surgery to malignant or severe diseases, determined the progress of alternative solutions for benign thyroid diseases lesions.

Minimally invasive surgery represents today a growing attractive clinical application opportunity, as we started prioritizing time of recovery from surgery and healthcare systems look for an optimization of surgical interventions total cost.

## European EchoLaser Club

Created in Paris, October 2013 by a group of Endocrinologists and Radiologists.

- **To promote** the echo-guided laser ablation procedures at a European level in order to decrease the number of unnecessary surgical interventions.
- **To spread** the knowledge concerning the role of laser ablation procedures in clinical practice
- **Membership of EchoLaser Club** is open to all Esaote/Elesta EchoLaser Users
- **Membership of EchoLaser Club** can be recognised to all who are active in the field of Minimally Invasive Therapies and, in particular, of echoguided Laser Ablation performed by means of EchoLaser systems
- **Today more than 100 members** participate to EchoLaser club activities



## International School of Thyroid Ultrasonography

### Background and aims of the course

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. Elastasonography 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. Moreover, 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, 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 diagnostic elastasonography and conventional US laser therapy in the management of thyroid nodules. The main objectives of this 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 elastasonography and laser treatment for benign nodules.

### Learning objectives

After attending the course, participants will have updated knowledge on thyroid ultrasonography and on its novel applications such as elastasonography 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 Serono Symposia International Foundation (<http://www.seronosymposia.org/>) course "International School of Thyroid Ultrasonography" to be held in Pisa, Italy on 16-17 May 2014 and 17-18 October 2014.



Dott.ssa Teresa Rago  
rago@endoc.med.unipi.it

April 2014



### Advanced practical thyroid ultrasound course: focus on diagnostic elastasonography and laser treatment of thyroid nodules

University of Pisa, Italy

on 16-17 May 2014 and 17-18 October 2014

Last February Dr. Teresa Rago held the first sessions of the Advanced practical thyroid ultrasound course for 2014. The course has been a success with high level scientific topics and high participant's satisfaction. The course, once again early overbooked, is always characterized by several sessions of theory (PPT) and practice (MyLab70XVG in EchoLaser config) with normal patients for the daily routine (B-Mode, CFM-PWD analysis, Elastography assessment and Laser thermo-ablation).

Esate supports this CME course with an educational grant and with Ultrasound and Laser Therapeutic systems in collaboration with Elesta.

For full details on such International School 2014 courses, see link [http://www.esate.com/modules/core/page.asp?p=SCHOOL\\_ENDOCRINOLOGY\\_2014](http://www.esate.com/modules/core/page.asp?p=SCHOOL_ENDOCRINOLOGY_2014)

#### Esate S.p.A.

International Activities:  
Via di Caciolle 15  
50127 Florence, Italy  
Tel. +39 055 4229 1  
Fax +39 055 4229 208  
[www.esate.com](http://www.esate.com)



#### Elesta s.r.l.

Via Baldanzese 17  
50041 Calenzano, Italy  
Tel. +39 055 8826807  
Fax +39 055 7766698  
[www.elesta-echolaser.com](http://www.elesta-echolaser.com)

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