

# Wertigkeit der Scherwellen Elastographie (shear wave elastography) als Instrument einer erweiterten Diagnostik von Schilddrüsenknoten

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*Value of Shear wave elastography as a tool for further diagnostic procedure with thyroid nodules*

Zielsetzung:

Die technischen Möglichkeiten der Ultraschall Untersuchungen nehmen in den letzten Jahren zu.

Neben der Real Time Elastographie (RTE) ergeben sich weitere neue Möglichkeiten mittels Share Wave Elastographie in der weiteren Differenzierung von Schilddrüsen-Knoten

Alle hier untersuchten Patienten mit Schilddrüsenknoten durchliefen Ultraschall, Szintigraphie, MIBI Szintigraphie, und Laborkontrollen

Ergänzend wurde daher die Share Wave Elastographie als erweiterte Diagnostik angewendet.  
Gerät: Esaote 9, Programm QElaxto2 b

Shear wave elastography ermöglicht eine quantitative Beurteilung der Elastizität des Gewebes / Schilddrüsenknotens indem die Ausbreitungsgeschwindigkeit der Scherwellen im Gewebe gemessen wird, das Ergebnis wird quantitativ in m/s angegeben.



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The diagram illustrates the Shear Wave Elastography process flow:

- Shear Wave Generation
- Shear Wave Tracking
- Shear Modulus Estimation
- Stiffness Map

Below the flowchart, a schematic shows a probe emitting shear waves (SW) into tissue, with a color scale indicating displacement from -LW to LW. This leads to:

- Tissue Displacement Maps
- Shear Wave Speed ( $c_s$ ) Calculation
- Young's modulus  $E = 3pc_s^2$

A color-coded stiffness map is shown with a scale from 0.0 kPa to 30.0 kPa.

To the right, an image of a GE MyLab ultrasound machine is displayed.

**Additional measurements:**

- Median (MED) in kPa or m/s
- IQR/MED in %

Side these, the software give also additional measurements such as:

- Average (AVG) in kPa or m/s
- Standard Deviation (SD) in kPa or m/s
- Interquartile Range (IQR) in kPa or m/s

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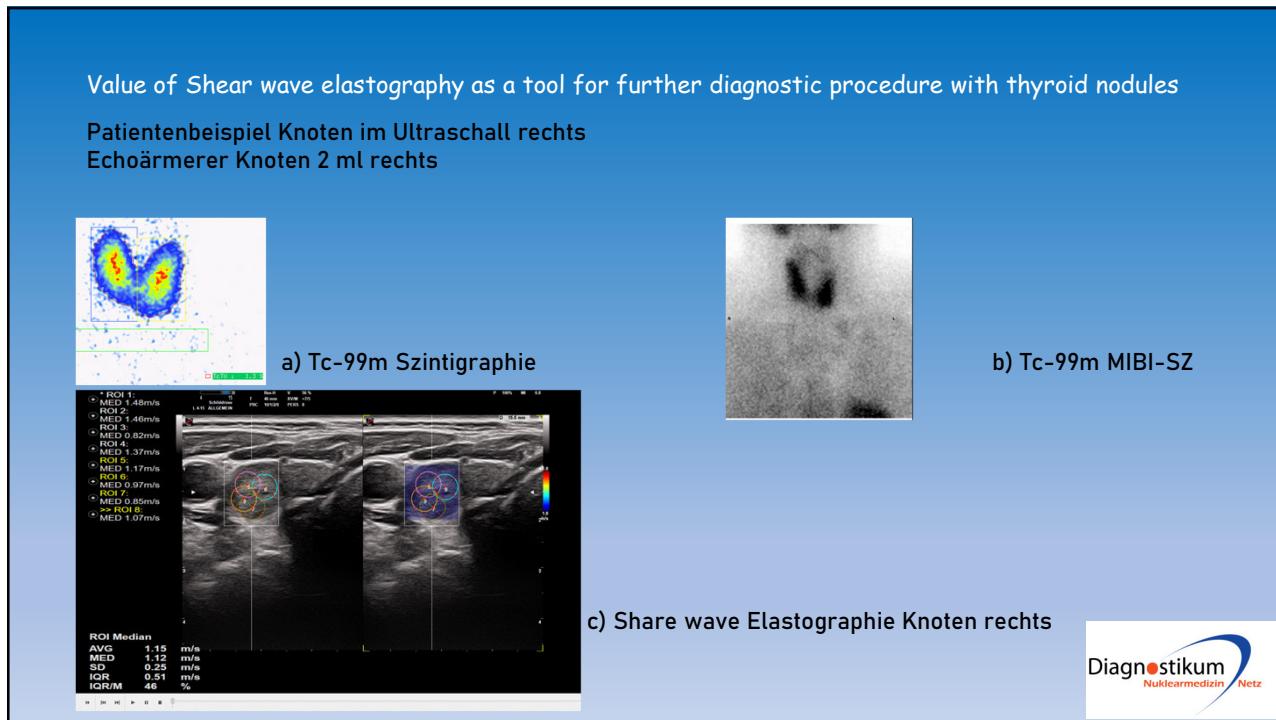
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**a) Doppler-Sonographie**

**b) Share wave Elastographie**

**c) Real time Elastographie**

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11 patients were used for the evaluation of the programme. Subsequent thyroid surgery was performed on all patients because of cold nodules.

8 patients had a benign diagnosis (follicular or oncocytic adenoma) and

3 patients had the histologic diagnosis of a thyroid carcinoma (2 papillary and 1 follicular thyroid carcinoma).

In the patients with benign thyroid carcinomas the mean value of the shear wave elastography was  $1,7 \pm 0,8$  m/sec and with the malignant disease  $5,8 \pm 1,6$  m/sec (t-test  $p < 0,002$ ).

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| Alter           | Volumen Knoten | Szintigraphie  | MIBI           | Share wave m/s |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 63              | 10             | Kalt           | Nicht vermehrt | $1,8 \pm 0,2$  |
| 74              | 14             | Indifferent    | Nicht vermehrt | $0,9 \pm 0,5$  |
| 28              | 7              | Indifferent    | Indifferent    | $1,4 \pm 0,7$  |
| 37              | 11             | Kalt           | Nicht vermehrt | $2,1 \pm 0,6$  |
| 45              | 17             | Kalt           | Nicht vermehrt | $1,9 \pm 0,5$  |
| 55              | 6              | Kalt           | Vermehrt       | $1,5 \pm 0,8$  |
| 76              | 11             | Kalt           | Nicht vermehrt | $1,9 \pm 0,7$  |
| 35              | 8              | Kalt           | Vermehrt       | $1,7 \pm 0,9$  |
| $51,6 \pm 16,3$ |                | $10,5 \pm 3,6$ |                | $1,7 \pm 0,8$  |



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| Alter | Volumen Knoten | Szintigraphie | MIBI           | Share wave m/s |
|-------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 75    | 45             | Kalt          | Nicht vermehrt | $6,7 \pm 1,2$  |
| 27    | 10             | Kalt          | Nicht vermehrt | $4,8 \pm 1,8$  |
| 42    | 10             | Kalt          | Indifferent    | $5,2 \pm 1,4$  |

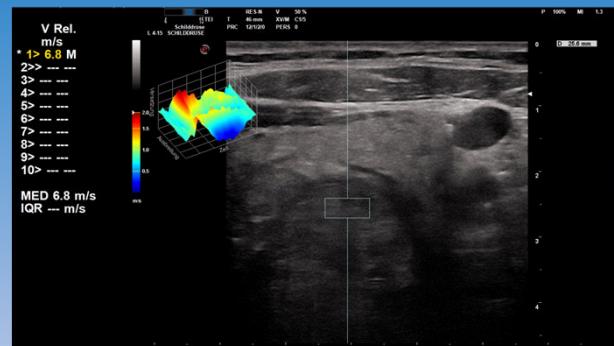
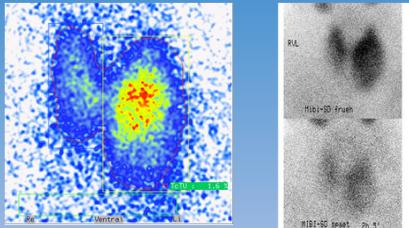
$48 \pm 24,6$        $10,5 \pm 3,6$        $5,8 \pm 1,6$

T-test p < 0,002



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Foll. Schilddrüsen-Karzinom pT3 N1 Mx



So far this parameter could help to distinguish between benign and malignant lesions as shown in comparison to the final histologic findings but must be evaluated in larger patient cohorts.

