Thyroidectomy is a surgical method by which the whole thyroid or a part of it is removed. Surgery (thyroidectomy to remove the whole thyroid or a part of it) is not extensively used because most common forms of hyperthyroidism are quite effectively treated by the radioactive iodine method, and because there is a risk of also removing the parathyroid glands, and of cutting the recurrent laryngeal nerve, making swallowing difficult, and even simply generalized staphylococcal infection as with any major surgery. Some people with Graves' may opt for surgical intervention. This includes those that cannot tolerate medicines for one reason or another, people that are allergic to iodine, or people that refuse radioiodine.

**Find more about related issues**

**Diagnoses**

**Hyperthyroidism**
Condition that occurs due to excessive production of thyroid hormone by the thyroid gland.
Learn more at: [www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/hyperthyroidism](http://www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/hyperthyroidism)
Thyroid disorders
A medical condition impairing the function of the thyroid.
Learn more at: www.fertilitypedia.org/therapy/diag/thyroid-disorders