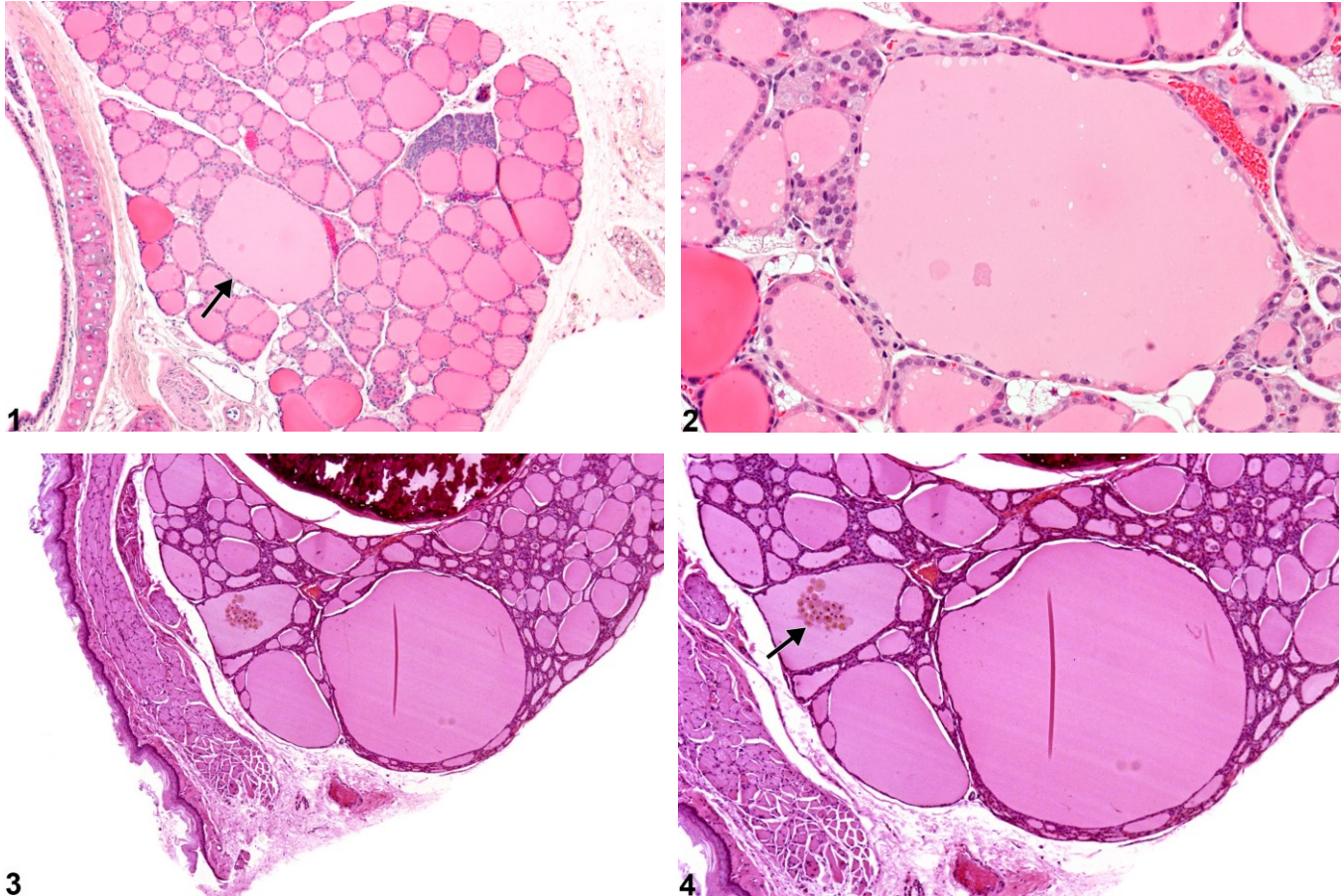




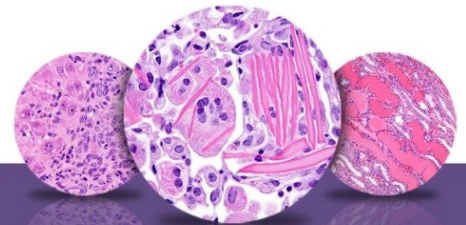
# NTP Nonneoplastic Lesion Atlas

## Thyroid Gland, Follicle – Dilation



**Figure Legend:** **Figure 1** Thyroid gland, Follicle - Dilation in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. There is a single dilated follicle (arrow). **Figure 2** Thyroid gland, Follicle - Dilation in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. This higher magnification of Figure 1 shows the flattened epithelium lining the dilated follicle. **Figure 3** Thyroid gland, Follicle - Dilation in a male F344/N rat from a chronic study. There is dilation of several adjacent follicles. **Figure 4** Thyroid gland, Follicle - Dilation in a male F344/N rat from a chronic study. Higher magnification of Figure 3 shows the flattened epithelium of the dilated follicles and pigmented macrophages in one of the follicles (arrow).

**Comment:** One or more dilated follicles occur as a common and age-associated change in mouse and rat thyroids. Affected follicles may have pale (Figure 1 and Figure 2) or absent colloid, and exfoliated cells may be present in the lumen. The dilated follicles are frequently seen at the periphery of the thyroid gland (Figure 3 and Figure 4). Dilated follicles are lined by low cuboidal to flattened epithelium.



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**Recommendation:** Documentation and grading of dilated follicles are recommended. The diagnosis should indicate whether the dilation is bilateral, with a severity grade based on the more severely affected thyroid gland. The presence of cells within the lumens of the dilated follicles need not be diagnosed separately unless warranted by severity.

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