

Table 1: Demographic and clinical characteristics of the 304 consecutive patients who underwent total thyroidectomy in our tertiary referral center and were prospectively assessed.

Characteristic	
Age (years)	51 ± 14
Females	215 (70.5)
Thyroid cancer	166 (54.4)
Lymph nodes present in histology	13 (4.3)
Parathyroid glands present in histology	108 (35.5)
Preoperative calcium (mg/dL)	9.3 (9.1-9.5)
Postoperative calcium (mg/dL) ¹	8.6 (7.9-9)
Percentage of Calcium change	7 (4.2-12)
Postoperative hypocalcaemia ²	84 (27.6)
Preoperative PTH (pg/mL)	65.3 (48-83.1)
Postoperative PTH (pg/mL)	34 (13.6-50)
Percentage of PTH change	48.1 (21-77)

Values are expressed as mean ± standard deviation, number of patients with percentage in brackets, or median with interquartile range in brackets, ¹: the lowest post-operative serum calcium during hospitalization, PTH: parathyroid hormone, ²: defined as Calcium <8 mg/dL.