# Hypothyroidism

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### Introduction

- About 42 million people in India suffer from thyroid diseases.
- Prevalence of hypothyroidism = 3.9%
- More common in females.
- Second to DM , it is most common endocrine disorder.



#### **Thyroid Hormone Synthesis**

There the following 5 steps in the hormonogenesis

- 1. Trapping of inorganic lodine from dietary lodides
- 2. Activation of lodine to high valance  $I_2$
- 3. Incorporation of  $I_2$  into Tyrosine of Thyroid Globulin
- 4. Coupling of formed MIT and DIT to form  $T_4 \& T_3$
- 5. Proteolysis of Thyroglobulin to release  $T_4 \& T_3$

### **Thyroid Hormone Biosynthesis**



# **The Thyronines**

Mono Iodo Tyrosine Di Iodo Tyrosine Tri Iodo Thyronine Tetra Iodo Thyronine Reverse T<sub>3</sub> Bound hormones

Free T4 and Free T3

- MIT – DIT
- $-T_3$
- -Half life 6 hours
- -T<sub>4</sub> -Half life 7 days
- Metabolically inactive
- Metabolically inactive
- -- Metabolically Active

### **The Thyroxines**

Tri Iodo Thyronine – T<sub>3</sub>

- 10% is from thyroid gland
- 90% derived from conversion of  $T_4$  to  $T_3$

Tetra lodo Thyronine – T<sub>4</sub>

- Is exclusively from thyroid gland

From the thyroid gland

- 80% of hormone secreted is T<sub>4</sub>
- 20% of hormone secreted is T<sub>3</sub>

# **Classification of Hypothyroidism**

#### Primary hypothyroidism(90%)

- high serum thyrotropin (TSH) concentration
- low serum free thyroxine (T4) concentration.

### Secondary (central) hypothyroidism

- Low T4 concentration
- low TSH concentration

#### Subclinical hypothyroidism

- normal free T4 concentration
- elevated TSH concentration.
- Mild hypothyroidism, Preclinical hypothyroidism

### Transient or temporary hypothyroidism

- can be observed as a phase of subacute thyroiditis.
  Consumptive hypothyroidism
- Increase inactivation by 3 iodothyronine deiodinase (D3).

# **Type & Etiology of Hypothyroidism**

- Primary hypothroidism
- Secondary hypothroidism
- Tertiary hypothroidism
- Iatrogenic hypothroidism
- Congenital hypothroidism
- Autoimmune hypothroidism

### **PRIMARY HYPOTHYROIDISM**

- Idiopathic hypothyroidism
- Hashimoto's thyroiditis
- Irradiation of thyroid
- Surgical removal
- Iodine deficiency
- Selenium deficiency
- Drug therapy induce
  - e.g. Amiodarone, Lithium, Interferon,
  - Long term Iodine excess (Wolff-Chaikoff effect)
- Infiltrative Diseases:
  - Amyloidosis
  - Hemochromatosis

### **SECONDARY HYPOTHYROIDISM**

- Pituitary or hypothalmic neoplasm.
- Congenital hypopituitarism.
- Pituitary necrosis (Sheehan's syndrome)
  TERTIARY HYPOTHYROIDISM
- Hypothalamus related pathology IATROGENIC HYPOTHYROIDISM
- After 3–4 months radioiodine treatment
- After Subtotal thyroidectomy

### GOITROGENS

- DRUGS = Sulfonamides , Lithium ,Oral Hypoglycemic drugs
- FOOD = Soybeans , Cabbage

### **CONGENITAL HYPOTHYROIDISM (CRETINISM)**

- Infants appear normal at birth
- Delayed Milestone
- Delayed bone maturation
- Permanent neurologic damage = if treatment is delayed.
- Hypotonia
- Prolonged jaundice
- Feeding problems
- Umbilical hernia
- Enlarged tongue
- Congenital Cardiac malformations are 4 times more common.

### **Cretinism Face**

- Dry & Thin Hair
- Short & Low nasal bridge
- Periorbital puffiness
- Large Head
- Short Forehead
- Big & Hypertrophy tougue
- Big Lips



#### **AUTOIMMUNE HYPOTHYROIDISM**

Subclinical hypothyroidism

#### Hashimoto's thyroiditis

- Anti TPO antibody & Anti TG antibody
- lymphocytic infiltration of the thyroid
- Mild to moderate fibrosis.
- Atrophy of the thyroid follicles

### **Atrophic thyroiditis**

- Fibrosis is much more extensive
- Represents end stage of Hashimoto's thyroiditis Modifying Environmental Factor :
- Chronic exposure to high iodine diet

# **Associated conditions**

- > Other Autoimmune disorders: (Most Common)
  - Type 1 Diabetes mellitus
  - Addison's disease
  - Pernicious anemia
  - Vitiligo
  - Celiac disease
  - Rheumatoid Arthritis
  - Systemic Lupus Erythematous

# **CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

#### A generalized slowing of metabolic processes.

- Cold intolerance
- Constipation
- Weight gain
- Fatigue
- Slow movement
- Slow speech

#### Accumulation of Matrix Glycosaminoglycans (GAG)

- Myxedema
- Coarse hair and skin
- Puffy facies
- Enlargement of the tongue
- Hoarseness.

### **Common signs and symptoms**

<u>Symptoms</u> **Decrease Appettite Cold Intolerance Horseness of Voice** Weight Gain **Eyelid edema Constipation** Forgetfulness Slow speech Weakness **Decrease Sweating** 

Signs Bradycardia Myxedema Goiter Goiter Depression Facial edema Cold Skin Dry & Coarse skin Pallor

### **CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

#### • General

- Weight Gain
- Goiter
- Cold Intolerance
- Skin & Subcuteneous issue
  - Coarse & Dry Skin
  - Puffiness of face
  - Myxoedema
  - Minimum sweating
  - Alopecia
  - Non Pitting Edema
- Cardiac
  - Bradycardia
  - Cardiomyopathy
  - Cardiac Failure
  - Pericardial & Pleural effusion

- Neuromuscular
  - Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
  - Slurred speech
  - Horseness of voice
  - Ataxia
  - Muscle Cramp
  - Myopathy
- Respiratory
  - Shortness of Breath
  - Sleep apnea
- Hematological
  - Iron deficiency anemia
  - Perniciac anemia

### **CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS**

#### • G.I.T.

- Constipation
- Ascites

#### Reproductive System

- Menorrhagia
- Infertility
- Decrease Libido

#### • Psychiatrics

- Depression
- Dementia
- Psychosis
- Developmental
  - Growth retardation
  - Delayed Puberty
  - Mental retardation

- Metabolic
  - Hyponatremia
  - Hypercholesterolemia
  - Hypertriglyceridemia
- Miscellaneous
  - Hoarseness of voice because of vocal cord thickening
  - Hyperlipidemia
  - Xanthomas

# Laboratory Evaluation

### **Thyroid Function Tests**

- Total T4 (thyroxine), Total T3 (triiodothyronine)
- Free T4 , Free T3
- TSH
- Iodine Uptake Test
- Anti-Thyroid Antibodies
- Anti TPO Antibody
- FNAC of nodule

# **Thyroid Antibodies**

- Anti Microsomal (TM) Antibodies
- Anti Thyroglobulin (TG) Antibodies
- Anti Thyroperoxidase (TPO) Antibodies
- Anti Thyroxine Antibodies
- Thyroid Stimulating (TSA) Antibodies
- High TPO Ab = Hashimoto's thyroiditis
- High Anti thyroxine Ab = Peripheral resistance to Thyroxine
- High TSA (TSI) = Graves' Hyperthyroidism

### **Tests of Thyroid Function**

Test	<b>Reference Ranges*</b>
TSH	0.3- 4.0 mU/ L
Τ4	4- 11 μg/ dL
Free T4	0.7- 2.1 ng/ dL
Т3	75- 175 ng/ dl
Free T3	0.300 – 0.7 ng / dl



### Treatment

- Treatment of choice is Thyroxine
- TSH measured = 6 to 8 weeks interval
- Adults =1.7 microgm/kg/day (100 microgram/day)
- Elderly = 1.0 microgm/kg/day ( 50 75 microgram/day)
- Children may need up to 4 microgm /kg/day
- Increase in increments of 25 microgm every four weeks until TSH returns to normal.
- If Serum albumin low
  - Decrease dose by 20%.

### **Over - and Under- Dose Replacement Risks**

#### > Over-replacement Risks

- Reduced bone density/osteoporosis
- Tachycardia, arrhythmia : Atrial fibrillation
- In elderly or patients with heart disease, angina, arrhythmia, or myocardial infarction

#### > Under-replacement Risks

- Continued hypothyroid state
- Long-term end-organ effects of hypothyroidism
- Increased risk of hyperlipidemia

# **Recovery after L-Thyroxine**





After 2 years on Eltroxin (T4) only **2014** After 3 years on T4 and T3



