

Diagnosis and management of common thyroid problems

Thomas - Management of thyroid disorders

Table 1. Common and Uncommon Cause of Hypothyroidism in Elderly Patients

Common Causes	Uncommon Causes
Autoimmune causes: autoimmune thyroiditis (Hashimoto's); anti-thyroid stimulating hormone receptor blocking antibodies	Transient hypothyroidism: primary adrenal insufficiency; after prolonged thyroxine therapy leading to thyroid-stimulating hormone suppression in a euthyroid patient; sick euthyroid patient; post-iodine exposure
Iatrogenic causes: thyroidectomy; radio-iodine treatment	Iodine-associated causes: iodine deficiency; iodine-induced
Drug-induced causes: amiodarone; lithium; antithyroid drugs (eg, carbimazole, propylthiouracil, methimazole); interferon; interferon-2	Infiltrative disease: Reidel's thyroiditis; hemochromatosis; amyloidosis; scleroderma
Transient hypothyroidism: recovery from subacute or silent thyroiditis; early post-radio-iodine treatment	Secondary hypothyroidism: pituitary or hypothalamic disease

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Hypothyroidism: Diagnosis and Treatment

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Hypothyroidism: Diagnosis and Treatment

A comprehensive account of pathophysiology, clinical features, and investigations in all cases is not within the scope of this review. Those requiring active treatment may need corticosteroids for soft tissue, recent extraocular and optic nerve involvement; given intravenously for greater effect, orbital decompression surgery or radiotherapy alone or in combination. SSKI or Lugol's solution is given for seven to 10 days before surgery for Graves' disease to decrease thyroid vascularity.

Hyperthyroidism

Pregnancy has a profound effect on thyroid gland function, and thyroid disease is common in pregnancy. Current ongoing clinical trials Block replacement therapy during radioiodine therapy Odense University Hospital, Denmark Retuximab in the treatment of Graves' disease Odense University Hospital, Denmark Lanreotide somatuline autogel in thyroid associated ophthalmopathy treatment Ipsen, Paris, France Additional educational resources for healthcare professionals Cooper DS. These products contain both thyroxine and triiodothyronine.

Diagnosis and management of treatment

More severe side effects are relatively rare.

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