

**AN OVERVIEW ON HYPERTHYROIDISM: REVIEW**

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**ABSTRACT**

Increased in synthesis and secretion of thyroid hormone from thyroid gland termed as Hyperthyroidism. At other hand excess circulation of thyroid hormone irrespective of source referred as thyrotoxicosis. Graves disease, Toxic multinodular Goiter and Toxic Adenoma are common causes of excessive production of thyroid hormone. In Hyperthyroidism overproduction of thyroid hormone treated by antithyroid medication, radioactive iodine and surgical thyroidectomy. Radioactive iodine ablation popularly used in United State. Antithyroid drug are not used long term in toxic nodular goiter due to high relapse rate of thyrotoxicosis.  $\beta$ -blockers are used for treatment of thyrotoxicosis. Hyperthyroidism and thyroid storm in

pregnancy and post partum period need special treatment and care. It is eight fold more common in female than male, generally occurs in young females of age 20 to 40 years.

**KEYWORDS:** Hyperthyroidism, thyrotoxicosis, antithyroid medication, radioactive iodine, surgery, graves disease.

**INTRODUCTION**<sup>[1,2,3,4]</sup>

As per pathology the term hyperthyroidism in that excess secretion and synthesis of thyroid hormone by thyroid gland. Thyrotoxicosis is excess circulation of thyroid hormone irrespective of source. characterised by normal or high radioactive iodine intake. Thyrotoxicosis without hyperthyroidism is caused by extrathyroidal source of thyroid hormone or by release of performed hormone into circulation with low thyroid radioactive iodine uptake. Hyperthyroidism due to low serum thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) concentration and raised serum concentration of thyroid hormones: thyroxine (T<sub>4</sub>), tri-

iodothyronine(T3), or both. In United State 50% to 80% s of hyperthyroidism cases are due to graves disease. It include other causes as multinodular goiter, toxic adenoma, inflammation of thyroide, eating too much iodine & excess synthetic thyroide hormone. Sign and Symptoms are vary person to person, it include irritability, muscle weakness, heat intollarance, diarrhea, fast heartbeat, enlargement of thyroide, hand tremor and weight loss. In thyroide storm an ifection goes to worsening symptoms as confusion, high tempreature and may lead to death.

Treatment of hyperthyroidism relats to its causes and severity of disease. Hyperthyroidism can be treated by antithyroide medication, radioiodine therapy and thyroide surgery. In radioiodine therapy iodine-131 is taken which used to dominate radioiodine and recovers thyroide over weeks to months. Hyperthyroidism can also be treated with antithyroide medication asmethimazole can temporaly controlls disease,  $\beta$ -blockers also controll symptoms. Surgery used to remove thyroide, is mainly applide on cancerous condition. It commonly occure in women than the men and in age group of 20 to 40.

Thyroide gland located in neck below larynx responsible for secretion of harmones triidothyronine (T3) and thyroxine (T4). As T3 and T4 travel through blood stream to body parts.they are responsible for regulation of energy, is also called as metabolism. pitutary gland controls thyroide function; pitutary produces thyroide stimulating hormone.

Hypothyroidism, due to certain type of thyroiditis lead to hypothyroidism, as thyroid gland damage. radioiodine treatment of grave disease may also lead to hypothyroidism. Such hypothyroidism may treated by regular thyroide hormone testing and oral thyroide hormone supplementation.

### **Theory of Hyperthyroidism<sup>[5,6]</sup> Sign and Symptoms<sup>[7,8]</sup>**

Hyperthyroidism may be asymptomatic or have significant symptoms. Hyperthyroidism mimic other health problem which create problem in diagnosis. There are some common sign and symptoms, such as

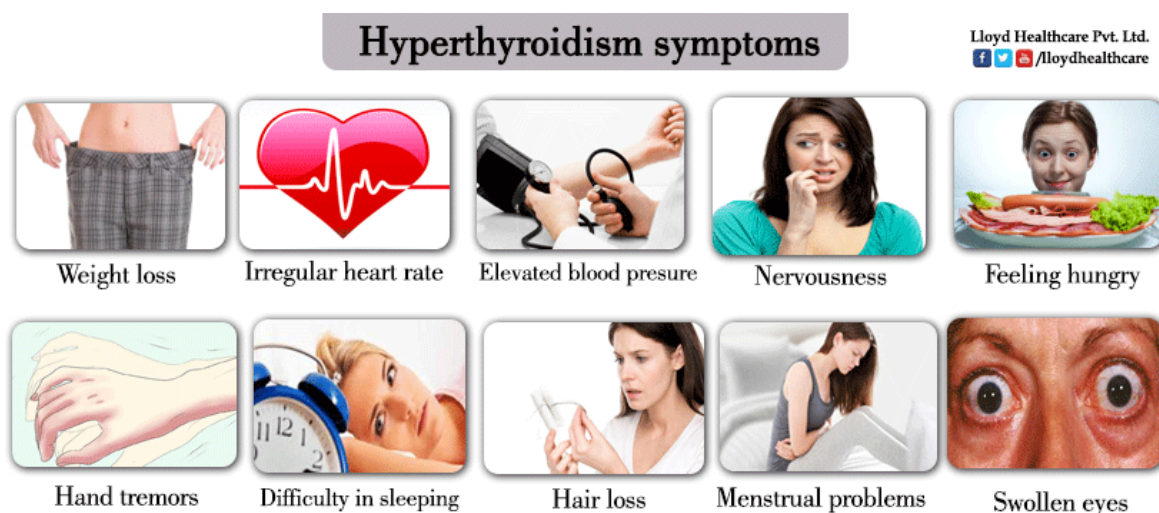
- Irregular heartbeat (arrythmia)
- Rapid heartbeat (tachycardia)-more than 100 beats a minute
- Unintentional weight loss,even though apetite and food intake is same or increase.
- Pounding of your heart (palpitation)
- Increase appetite
- Nervousness, anxiety and irritability

- Tremor-usually a fine trembling in your hand and fingers
- Sweating
- Changes in menstrual pattern
- Increased sensitivity to heat
- Fatigue, Muscle weakness
- Difficulty sleeping
- Skin thinning
- Fine, brittle hair
- Changes in bowel pattern, especially more frequent bowel movements
- An enlarged thyroid gland

Some uncommon problem also seen named graves ophthalmopathy may affect eyes, if you smoke, it makes eyeball protrude beyond normal protective orbits, tissue and muscle behind eye swell, it shows

- Dry Eyes
- Excessive tearing or discomfort in one or both eyes
- Protruding eyeball
- Red or swollen eyes
- Light sensitivity, blurry or double vision
- Inflammation or reduced eye movement

Minor ocular sign may present are eyelid retraction, extraocular muscle weakness and lag



## Thyroid Storm

Thyroid storm is severe form of thyrotoxicosis lead to rapid and irregular heartbeat, high temperature, vomiting and mental agitation. symptoms may not be similar in young, old and pregnant. It occurs by untreated hyperthyroidism and provoked by infection.

## Causes<sup>[8]</sup>

Hyperthyroidism has number of causes, from them major causes are Graves disease, Toxic thyroid adenoma, Toxic multinodular goiter, Inflammation, Postpartum thyroiditis, Struma ovarii. Most commonly entire gland over produces thyroid hormone. At some cases single nodule secretes excess hormone called hot nodule. Inflammation of thyroid i.e thyroiditis also cause hyperthyroidism. In number of clinical condition functional thyroid tissue produces excess of thyroid hormone.

## Major Causes

- **Graves disease:** It is an auto-immune disease. It is one of most common cause worldwide with 50% to 80%. It varies with location i.e 47% in Switzerland to 90% in USA. Due to varying level of iodine in diet. Near about eight times more common in women than men, often found in young females at age of 20 to 40 years.
- **Toxic multinodular goiter**
- **Toxic thyroid adenoma:**

Number of causes occur due to high blood level of thyroid hormone.

- **Amiodarone:** an antiarrhythmic drug, is structurally similar to thyroxine and is just because of over or under activity of thyroid.
- **Postpartum thyroiditis:** In women during the year after they give birth near about 7%. PPT has typical phases from them first is hyperthyroidism and the hyperthyroidism in this case get corrected within week or months without need for treatment.
- **Thyroiditis:** Is inflammation of thyroid. Different kind of thyroiditis are seen which include Hashimoto's thyroiditis and subacute thyroiditis. It is associated with excess secretion of hormone but leads to gland dysfunction and goes to hormone deficiency as hypothyroidism
- **Struma Ovarii:** It is form of monodermal teratoma which contains thyroid tissue goes to hyperthyroidism.
- Iodine consumption in excess amount from algae such as kelp.
- Oral intake of excess thyroid hormone tablet is possible

- Thyrotoxicosis may occur due to taking excess thyroid hormone in supplement like levothyroxine. Hypersecretion of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) is only because of pituitary adenoma.

## DIAGNOSIS<sup>[9,10,11,12]</sup>

Hyperthyroidism can be diagnosed by

- **Medical history:** In examination doctor detects slight tremor in fingers, as they get extended, reflexes are not normal i.e. overactive, changes in eye and warm, moist skin. Doctor also examines thyroid gland as you swallow, if it is enlarged, bumpy or tender. He will also check pulse if it's rapid or irregular.
- **Radio iodine uptake:** In this test a small oral dose of radioactive iodine is taken to measure how much will collect in thyroid gland. It will be checked after four, six or 24 hours to measure iodine in thyroid absorbed.

A high uptake of radioiodine shows that thyroid gland produces too much thyroxine. Mostly seen caused is Graves disease or hyperfunctioning thyroid nodule. If anyone has hyperthyroidism and his radioiodine uptake is low this indicates that thyroxine stored in gland leaking into bloodstream, it will be confirmation to thyroiditis.

- **Thyroid scintigraphy:** This test is used to characterize hyperthyroidism and thyroiditis. This test procedure involves two tests performed in connection with each other, such as iodine uptake test and scan with gamma camera. In uptake test administration of dose of radioactive iodine, iodine-131, iodine-123. Iodine-123 is preferable due to its more favorable radiation dose. Gamma photon energy is more controlled to imaging with gamma camera.

In typical way pills or liquid containing sodium iodide administered orally, which contain small amount of iodine-131, amounting to less than a grain of salt. At least two hours fast of no food before and 1 hour after ingesting pill is necessary. Excess radioiodine that does not get absorbed in thyroid gland is eliminated by body in urine. People with allergy to diagnostics radioiodine can be given antihistamine. After 24 hours the person returns to have level of radioiodine uptake measured by device placed against neck which measures radioactivity emitted from thyroid. 4 minutes are required for test to measure uptake percent by machine software. Scanning is done where images taken of contrasted thyroid gland with gamma camera.

- **Blood test:** Thyroxine and thyroid stimulating hormone get measured in blood test to

confirm diagnosis. High level of thyroxine and negligible amount of TSH shows an overactive thyroid. The level of TSH is important because it's the hormone that signals thyroid gland to produce more thyroxine. This test is particularly useful for older adults who does not have classic symptoms of hyperthyroidism.

If a person taking biotin then the thyroid blood test may give false result. Biotin-vitamin B supplement that also found in multivitamin. Person has to report doctor if he is taking biotin or multivitamin supplement with biotin. It ensures test accuracy, stop taking biotin before 12 hours to blood sample to test.

If blood test determines hyperthyroidism, doctor will recommend radioiodine uptake test, Thyroid scan and Thyroid ultrasound.

- **Thyroid Ultrasound:** Thyroid images are collected with high frequency sound waves. Ultrasound are better at detecting thyroid nodule than other tests and shows no exposure to any radiation.

## **Treatment**<sup>[13,14,15,16,17,18]</sup>

Treatment of hyperthyroidism include various factors; Antithyroid drug,  $\beta$ -blockers, Diet, Radioiodine, Surgery and Alternative medicine.

### **1. Antithyroid Drug**

Antithyroid drug i.e. thyrostatics inhibit production of thyroid hormone. Thyrostatic drugs are methimazole Antithyroid drug, carbimazole and propylthiouracil. The mechanism of thyrostatics which inhibit iodination of thyroglobulin by thyroperoxidase leads to formation of triiodothyronine (T<sub>3</sub>). Conversion of mostly inactive form of T<sub>4</sub> to active form of T<sub>3</sub> prevented by propylthiouracil which also work outside thyroid gland. Thyroid tissue substantially contains thyroid hormone, to get effect thyrostatics require a week and the dose carefully titrated over period of month, with regular doctor visits and blood test to inspect result. In early treatment high dose is required but in case too high dose used frequently, symptoms of hypothyroidism may develop, the accurate titration of dose is difficult to get and so sometime block and replace attitude is taken. In process of block and replace antithyroid drug taken in sufficient quantity for complete block of thyroid hormone.

### **2. Radioiodine**

Dr. Saul Hertz was first pioneer to radioisotope therapy used radioiodine-131. Radioactive iodine-131 is given orally in the form of pills or liquid on one time basis. Its frequent action

destroy function of hyperactive thyroid gland. In this treatment iodine-131 chooses active cell in thyroid and destroy them, reaches to thyroid gland mostly or completely inactive. This isotope of radioactive iodine used in ablative treatment which is more potent than that of diagnostic radioiodine has biological half life of 8-13 hours.  $\beta$  particle emitted by iodine-131 damages the tissue at short range and has half life of 8 days. People those not responding to first dose are given an additional radioiodine treatment of larger dose. Thyroid cell pick up iodine readily and overactive cell also pick up iodine more readily local destruction is seen and no widespread side effect with this therapy. It has been 50 years over radioiodine ablation is used, the only reason for not using it are pregnancy and breastfeeding. As per thyroid function is reduced replacement hormone therapy taken orally each day.

It is much higher success rate than medication which is principal advantage of radioiodine treatment. The disease under treatment is responsible for dose of radioiodine chosen, the success rate of hyperthyroidism resolution vary from 75% to 100%. One of the expected side effect of radioiodine with grave disease is development of lifelong hypothyroidism, require daily treatment with thyroid hormone. Occasionally people require more than one radioactive treatment, depend on disease type present, size of thyroid and initial dose given. Those people having grave disease as grave ophthalmopathy are cautioned against radioactive iodine-131 treatment which worsen existing thyroid eye disease. People having mild or no ophthalmic symptoms may mitigate risk with six week course of prednisone.

As the 78% people treated for thyrotoxicosis and 40% of them with toxic multinodular goiter or solitary toxic adenoma by radioiodine gives outcome as swing from hyperthyroidism to easily treatable hypothyroidism. Result of radioactive iodine treatment is destruction of thyroid tissue, there is transient period of days to week when symptom of hyperthyroidism actually worsen following radioactive iodine therapy, all this scenario happen due to release of thyroid hormone into blood stream due to radioactive iodine mediated destruction thyroid cell contain thyroid hormone, treatment with  $\beta$ -blocker useful during this period. In some cases, neck tenderness or soar throat may become obvious after few days, If inflammation in thyroid is develops or produces discomfort in neck or throat area, it is transient and not associated with a fever. Breastfeeding women should discontinue breastfeeding at least for a week or longer as radioactive iodine treatment goes on, as small amount of radioactive iodine may found in breast milk even several week after the radioactive iodine treatment. Increase sensitivity to radioiodine therapy on ultrasound scan as more



uniform because densely packed large cell.

### 3. SURGERY

Surgery not widely used because most common form of hyperthyroidism are treated by radioactive iodine method, because there is risk of removing parathyroid gland and cutting recurrent laryngeal nerve, difficulty in swallowing difficult and it may goes to staphylococcal infection as with any major surgery. Surgery may attempted to thoes people who can not tolarate medicine for one reason or another, people with iodine allery, people those refuse radioiodine. people with toxic nodule treatment typically removal or injection of nodule with alcohol.

### 4. DIET

Those people having autoimmune hyperthyroidism should not use food with high iodine, like edible seaweed and kelp. people health perspective, the general introduction of iodised salt in US in 1924 results in lower disease, goiters, improved lives of children whoes mother does not have eaten enough iodine during pregnancy which may lower IQs of their children.

### 5. $\beta$ -BLOCKERS

There are some common symptoms of hyperthyroidism like trembling, palpitation and anxiety are mediated by increase in  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor on cell surface. Typical use of  $\beta$ -blockers is treating blood pressure, reduce rapid pulse associated with sensation of palpitation and decreasing treamor and anxiety. Until hyperthyroidism characterised with radioiodine test beta blockers give temporary relief from hyperthyroidism. These drug do not treat hyperthyroidism or any of its long term effect, but they treat or reduce symptoms of condition. Some minimal effect on production of thyroide harmone comes with propanol, it kindly performs two role in treatment of hyperthyroidism. L-propanol leads to beta blokage treat symptoms associated with hyperthyroidism like palpitation, anxiety, heat tolarance and tremor. D-propanol inhibite thyroxine deiodinase then block conversion of T4 to T3, provide somewhat therapeutic effect. Other beta blockers treat only symptoms of hyperthyroidism.

### Etiology and Pathogenesis<sup>[19]</sup>

The endogenous cause of hyperthyroidism are toxic multinodular goiter, graves disease, toxic adenoma and painless thyroiditis. In united state graves disease is common cause of hyperthyroidism. Risk factor for grave disease include female sex and personal or family history of an autoimmune disorder. In united state toxic multinodular goiter is second



common cause of hyperthyroidism and most common cause in older persone is iodine deficiency. As time passes, nodules aries from frequent replication of clonogenic cell that lead to somatic activating mutation of TSH receptor. Toxic adenoma is single nodule. Opposite to these three disorder painless or transient thyroiditis leads to destruction of thyroid follicle via an autoimmune mechanism and release of thyroide harmone in blood circulation. Painless thyroiditis gain by childbirth or use of medication like lithium, interleukin-2, interferon alfa and amiodarone. In first trimester of pregnancy gestational hyperthyroidism devlope due to stimulatory action of placental beta human chorionic gonadotropin that structural features with TSH.

## CONCLUSION

The purpose of this review article is to acquire knowledge of disease condition i.e Hyperthyroidism. In this reveiw article we try to discuss sign and symptoms of hyperthyroidism, its cause, diagnosis and treatment. We describe some commone and some typical sign and symptoms. In causes major description of grave disease and other related to high blood level of thyroide harmone. further diagnosis is evaluated with different technique like scintography, blood test, ultrasound thyroide, radio iodine uptake. We focus on treatment gives various option like radio iodine,  $\beta$ -blockers, antithyroide drug, surgery and diet. Etiology and pathology also explained.

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