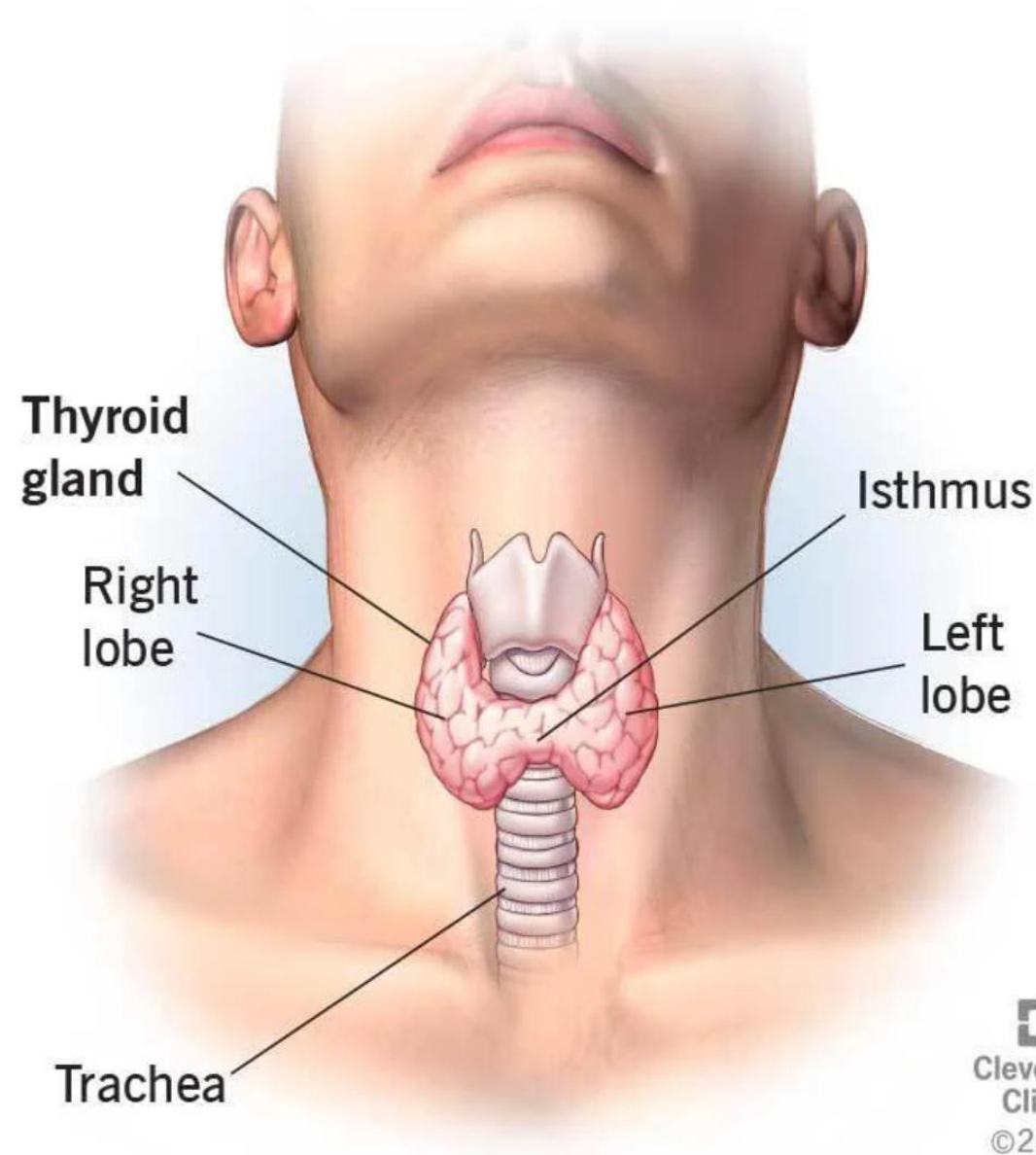


# **Hypothyroidism**

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**Pediatric Endocrinologist**

# Thyroid



# Types of **Hypothyroidism**

## 1. Congenital:

If symptoms appear in the first weeks or months of birth

## 2. Acquired:

If symptoms appear after 2 years.



The prevalence of hypothyroidism is 1 in 2000

## **Risk factors of Congenital hypothyroid :**

- 1. birth defect**
- 2. female gender**
- 3. Maternal DM**
- 4. Twin**
- 5. preterm**
- 6. mother age >40y**
- 7. Iodine deficiency**
- 8. Excess iodine**
- 9. GA >40w**
- 10. Birth weight <2 kg and >4.5 kg**
- 11. preeclampsia**
- 12. Sexually transmitted diseases in pregnancy**
- 13. Receiving amiodarone, PTU, methimazole , expectorant ....by the mother**
- 14. Environmental factors and environmental pollutants such as insecticides**
- 15. ethnic composition Asian**
- 16. Genetics**

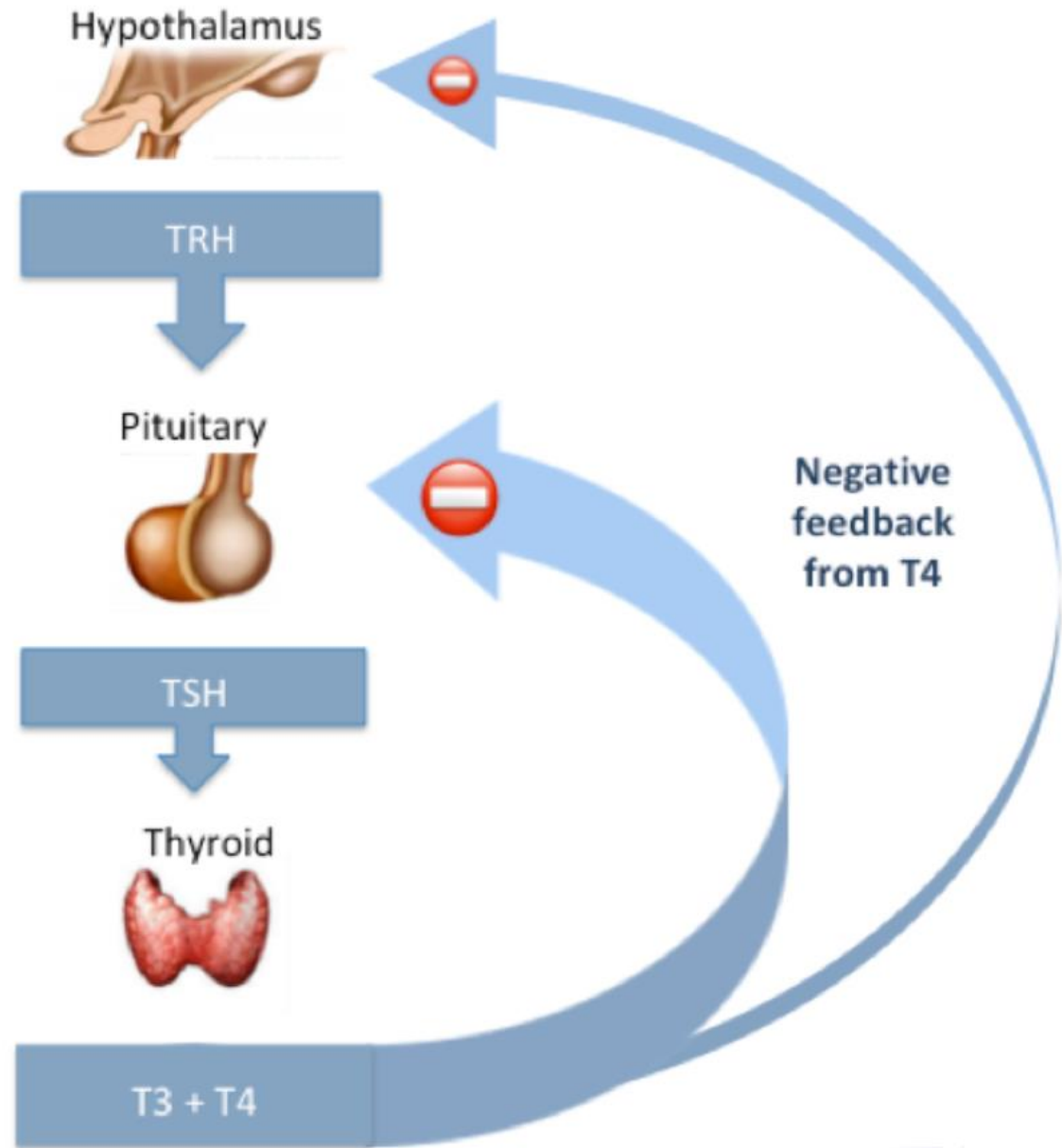
## Screening:

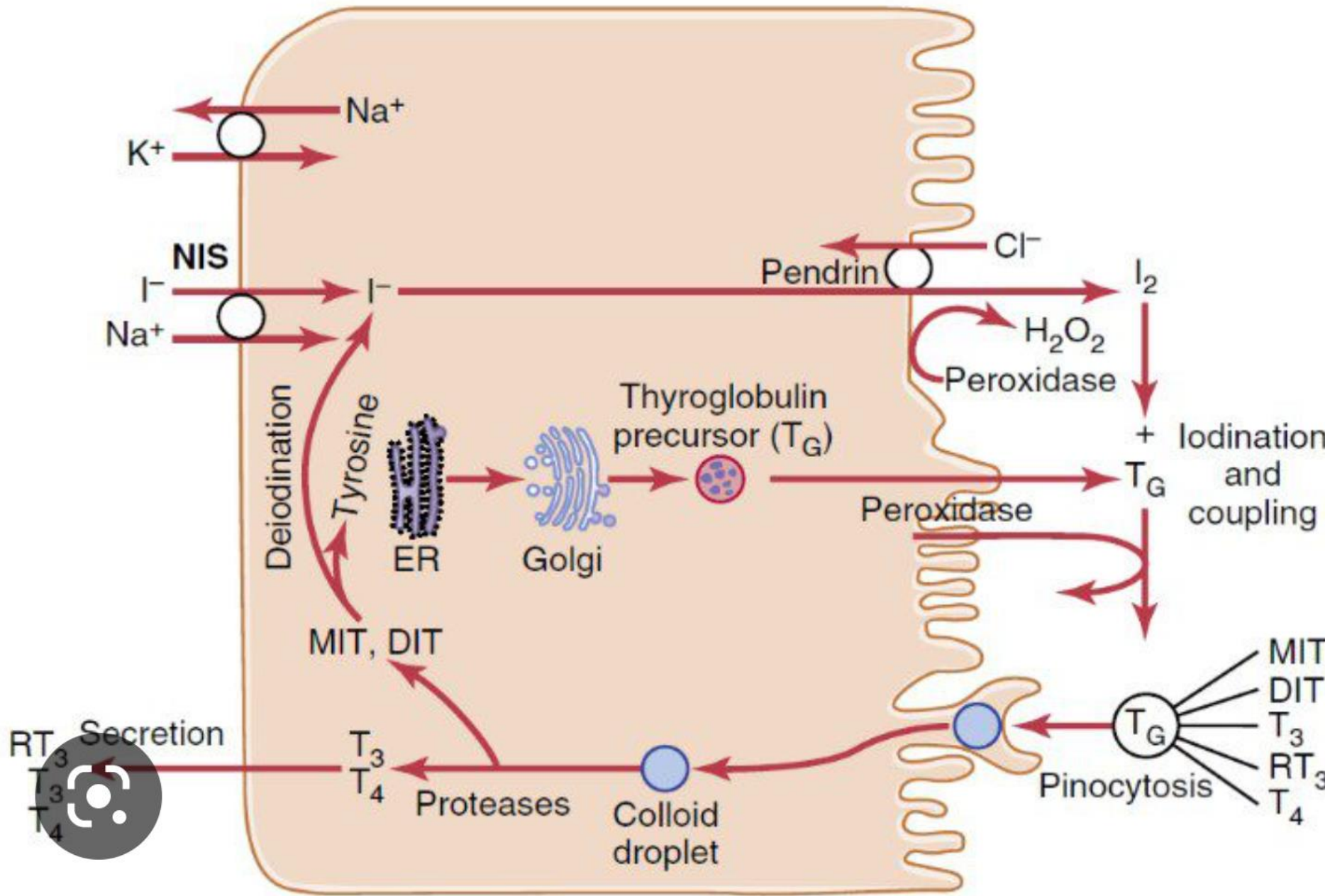
Screening is done on the 3 to 5th day of birth from the soles of the feet

## Who needs re-screening?

- 1) Premature neonates
- 2) Birth weight  $<2 - 2.5$  kg
- 3) GA  $<37$  weeks
- 4) Weight  $>4.5$  kg and GA  $>40$  weeks
- 5) Hospitalization in NICU
- 6) non-thyroidal illness
- 7) Receiving drugs such as dopamine and dexamethasone
- 8) History of receiving or exchanging the blood

# Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Thyroid Axis





- ✓ T3 has a lower serum concentration than T4
- ✓ T3 is more potent than T4 and is the active thyroid hormone
- ✓ T3 has a shorter half life
- ✓ The majority of circulating T3 is derived from peripheral conversion of T4 to T3

# Congenital **Hypothyroidism**

1. **Transient (35 percent)**
2. **Permanent (65 percent)**

## Causes of transient hypothyroidism:

1. **Transfer of anti-thyroid drugs from mother to fetus**
2. **Maternal TRB antibody (TSH blocking antibody)**
3. **Excessive iodine exposure**
4. **Iodine deficiency**
5. **Large hepatic hemangioma**

# Causes of permanent hypothyroidism

1- Defect of thyroid development : agenesia

Hypoplasia

Thyroid ectopy

2- Mutation of genes that play a role in thyroid development (PAX8, TTF2, NKX2, GLIS3, JAG1)

3- Resistance to TSH: Defect in TSH responsiveness, due to mutation of its receptor.

4- Defect in thyroid hormone synthesis(dyshormonogenesis): defect in the transfer of iodine into follicular cells (NIS mutation)

5- Defect in iodine transport from follicular cell into colloid: Pendred syndrome

6- Defect in iodide organification: thyroid peroxidase (TPO) defect

hydrogen peroxidase (DUOX2) defect

7- Defect in thyroglobulin production(TG) synthesis

8- Deiodination defect: iodotyrosine deiodinase (IYD) defect

9- Thyroid hormone transport defect : mutation in monocarboxylate transporter8(MCT8)

10- Thyroid hormone resistance: mutations in alpha or beta thyroid hormone receptor gene( Resistance at the pituitary or systemic resistance)

11- Central hypothyroidism: hypothalamus or pituitary problems

## **Changes in TSH at birth:**

**Normally, at birth, TSH increases suddenly due to changes in the environmental conditions**

**It reaches to 100 half an hour after birth, and this increase in TSH leads to increases T3 to 300 and T4 to 16 about 4 hours after birth.**

**Then 24 hours later, a sharp drop in TSH occurs. Within 5 to 7 days, its value reaches less than 10 (TSH more than 10 after 2 week is considered high)**

**T3 concentration reaches its normal level at the end of the first week (less than 200). T4 concentration will take about 2 weeks to reach its normal level of about 10 to 12. In premature neonates, there is a sudden increase in TSH and the subsequent increase in T3 and T4 at birth, but it is less and more delayed than in term neonates.**

**T4 concentration in Umbilical cord is directly related to gestational age and birth weight (premature neonates have temporary hypothyroxenemia).**

## ❑ Hypothyroidism symptoms:

can be symptomatic or asymptomatic.

In most cases, it is asymptomatic at birth.

The birth weight and height are normal, but the head circumference is slightly increased due to mixedema.

## ❑ In symptomatic cases, the symptoms include the following:

1. coarse crying
2. Feeding problems
3. wide fontanel
4. Hypotonia
5. Hypothermia
6. Dry skin
7. Reduction of sweating
8. prolonged jaundice
9. Nasal obstruction
10. Apnea
11. Loud breathing
12. Umbilical hernia
13. Constipation
14. Edema in extremities
15. Low pulse
16. Heart murmur
17. Cardiomegaly
18. Pericardial effusion without symptoms
19. Narrow palpebral fissure
20. Swollen eyelid
21. Open mouth
22. Big tongue
23. far down the hairline on the forehead
24. Epiphyseal dysgenesis



B



C



## The method of dealing with screening results based on the results of the primary TSH test on filter paper

01

TSH<5: normal

03

TSH 10-20: we will do blood sampling in 2 weeks  
If in the second test TSH>10 we will start treatment.

02

TSH 5-10: second screening from the heel on the filter paper.

04

TSH>20: we take blood sampling, but in these cases, we do not wait for the test results, and start the treatment.

**Confirmatory tests from blood:**

**T4 or Ft4**

**TSH**

**T3RU**

**T4 is low , TSH is high:**

**primary hypothyroidism**

**T4 is normal , TSH is high: subclinical hypothyroidism**

**if TSH is between 5 -10: the tests are repeated 2 to 4 times at intervals of 2 to 4 weeks(f/u for 3months), and the treatment was done for the following cases:**

- 1. TSH remains more than 7.5**
- 2. Rising TSH in follow up testing**
- 3. The patient has symptoms of hypothyroidism**
- 4. The patient has goiter**
- 5. In syndromic cases such as Down syndrome**

**If the TSH 10-20: the test is repeated in 2 weeks old , and if TSH is still >10, we started treatment**

**If TSH>20: immediate treatment**

### **T4 is low , TSH is normal:**

- 1. TBG reduction: 1 in 10000 births in boys,xlinked, decrease t4 but normal free t4 and tsh. increase T3RU. does not require treatment**
- 2. ill neonates**
- 3. taking drugs such as dopamine or Dexa**
- 4. premature neonates (hypothyroxinemia)**
- 5. Central hypothyroidism**
- 6. primary hypothyroidism with a delayed increase in TSH**

### **T4 is low ,TSH is low:**

**central hypothyroidism**

**treatment unless the neonate is premature or has a non-thyroidal illness.**

**treatment:**

**Levothyroxine : 10 - 15 micro /kg/ day**

**If T4 <5 : 15 micro /kg/ day**

**Levothyroxine should be taken on an empty stomach and nothing should be eaten for 30 to 60 minutes afterwards.**

**vomiting less than 30 minutes after taking: the medicine must be repeated.**

**Levothyroxine should not be taken with:**

- 1. soya based formula**
- 2. Iron or calcium supplements, which should be at least 4 hours apart.**
- 3. Colic drops like simethicone**

**Treatment goal: Keeping T4 and free T4 in the upper limit of NL range and TSH in the lower limit of NL range.**

**Ftee t4(1/4-2/3),t4(10-14),tsh(0/5-2/5)**

**Treatment monitoring intervals: 0-6 months: Every month**

**6-12 months: Every two months**

**1 - 3 years old :every 3 months**

**>3 years old: every 3 - 6 months**

**Tests should be repeated every 4 - 6 weeks after changing the drug dose.**

**To monitor the treatment at the age of 3 years, the treatment is temporarily stopped for 1 month: if T4 is low and TSH is high, this is permanent hypothyroidism and levothyroxine should be continued.**

**If the tests are normal, it is probably transient and follow-up will be done.**

**In cases of thyroid developmental defects such as agenesis, hypoplasia or thyroid ectopy, or in cases where TSH is still high despite treatment with levothyroxine in the first year of treatment, there is no need to stop the drug at 3 years of age , Because these cases are permanent and must be treated for the rest of their lives**

# Prognosis

**diagnosis and treatment of congenital hypothyroidism in the first few weeks of life is necessary to prevent irreversible brain damage and will cause normal growth and development.**

**In cases of severe involvement and low T4, severe skeletal delay, or in cases that treatment is started late, despite treatment, some degrees of IQ reduction and neuro-cognitive deficits such as hypotonia, attention deficit and speech problems may remain.**

**10% of cases have sensorineural hearing loss.**

**follow up:** Audiologists, echocardiography, Kidney ultrasound, Dental examination, Examination of growth and development ,Neurological examination is necessary for follow-up.

# Acquired hypothyroidism

Prevalance:

0/1- 0/2%

## **Cause of acquired hypothyroidism:**

**Hashimoto's thyroiditis**

**APS syndroms**

**Iodine deficiency (endemic goiter)**

**Medicines (such as lithium, aminodarone,...)**

**Consumption of goitrogenic foods for a long time**

**Infiltration in thyroid gland (amyloidosis and sarcoidosis and ...)**

**After thyroid surgery or iodine therapy**

**Transient hypothyroidism( post partum thyroiditis, subacute thyroiditis**

## Hashimoto thyroiditis:

### Autoimmune thyroiditis

the thyroid gland is diffusely large and nodular, with infiltration of lymphocytes.

Firm, nontender and diffuse goiter

Female predominance

Positive family history in 25-35%

Rare before 3 years of age

The age of onset is most commonly after 6 years old

association with other autoimmune disease like diabetes mellitus type 1, Addison's

hypoparathyroidism, mucocutaneous candidiasis (autoimmune polyglandular syndrome)

Common in syndromes like Down and Turner

### Symptoms of Hashimoto's thyroiditis:

- ✓ Puffy appearance, Edema of limbs
- ✓ Pale and cool skin (due to reduced blood supply to the skin)
- ✓ Hypercarotenemia
- ✓ skin dryness
- ✓ Slow wound healing
- ✓ Easy bruising due to increased capillary fragility
- ✓ Dry and brittle hair and hair loss, Brittle nails
- ✓ Increased sensitivity to cold
- ✓ constipation
- ✓ sleep apnea
- ✓ depression, Memory and concentration disorders
- ✓ hearing loss
- ✓ numbness

- ✓ Delayed puberty and ovulation
- ✓ Delay bone age
- ✓ Ovulation disorders
- ✓ Decreased libido
- ✓ Fertility reduction
- ✓ Increase in spontaneous abortion
- ✓ Increase in premature births

Metabolic changes:

Macrocytic anemia

Hypercholesterolemia

Hyperprolactinemia

Elevated CPK

**Diagnosis:**

Elevated TSH level, positive Anti TPO and Anti Tg

Sonography: thyroid gland is diffusely large with micronodular pattern ,hypoechoic and heterogeneous echotexture

No need to biopsy or scan for diagnosis

**Treatment:**

levothyroxine

Follow up: every 6-12 months



**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

