





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- ◆ **GENERAL ASPECTS OF THYROID GLAND**
 - **Anatomy: weight range from 12 to 30g**
 - **Located in the neck, anterior to the trachea**
 - **Produces: T4 & T3 (active hormone)**
 - **Regulation: “negative Feed-back” axis**

THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- THYROID GLAND REGULATION "negative Feed-back" axis

(negative effect)

- Hypothalamus

(TRH positive effect)

- Pituitary gland

(TSH, positive effect)

- Thyroid gland

T3 & T4



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Thyroid hormones:

– **T4: (Thyroxine) is made exclusively in thyroid gland**

- **Ratio of T4 to T3 ; 5::1**
- **Potency of T4 to T3; 1::10**
- **T4 is the most important source of T3 by peripheral tissue deiodination “ T4 to T3 “**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Thyroid hormones:

– **T3: (Triiodothyronine) main source is peripheral deiodination:**

- **Ratio of T3 to T4 ; 1::5**
- **Potency of T3 to T4; 10::1**
- **T3 is the most important because more than 90% of the thyroid hormones physiological effects are due to the binding of T3 to Thyroid receptors in peripheral tissues.**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ **PHYSIOLOGY EFFECTS
OF THYROID HORMONES**

◆ **THEY ARE NOT ESSENTIAL
FOR LIFE, BUT ARE
EXTREMELY HELPFUL**





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ **THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS:**

- **Affects every single cell in the body**

- **Modulates:**

- **Oxygen consumption**

- **Growth rate**

- **Maturation and cell differentiation**

- **Turnover of Vitamins, Hormones, Proteins, Fat, CHO**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ MECHANISMS OF THYROID HORMONE ACTION

- Act by binding to Nuclear receptors, termed Thyroid Hormone Receptors (TRs), Increasing synthesis of proteins
- At mitochondrial level increases number and activity to increasing ATP production
- At Cell membrane increases ions and substrates transmembrane flux



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

- CALORIGENESIS**
- GROWTH & MATURATION RATE**
- C.N.S. DEVELOPMENT & FUNCTION**
- CHO, FAT & PROTEIN METABOLISM**
- MUSCLE METABOLISM**
- ELECTROLYTE BALANCE**
- VITAMIN METABOLISM**
- CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM**
- HEMATOPOIETIC SYSTEM**
- GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM**
- ENDOCRINE SYSTEM**
- PREGNANCY**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

– CALORIGENESIS

- **Controls the Basal Metabolic Rate (BMR)**

– CHO METABOLISM

- **Increases:**

- **Glucose absorption of the GI tract**
- **Glucose consumption by peripheral tissues**
- **Glucose uptake by the cells**
- **Glycolysis**
- **Gluconeogenesis**
- **Insulin secretion**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

– **GROWTH & MATURATION RATE**

– **C.N.S. DEVELOPMENT & FUNCTION**

- **“ESSENTIAL”** in the newborn to prevent development of **“CRETINISMS”** & to a normal **“IQ”**
- **Modulation of brain cerebation**
- **Mood modulation**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

- FAT & PROTEIN METABOLISM

- **Increase lipolysis and lipid mobilization with:**

- **Cholesterol**
- **Triglycerides**
- **Free fatty acids**

– MUSCLE METABOLISM

- **Modulates;**
 - **Strength & velocity of contraction**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

– ELECTROLYTE BALANCE

- **Low Thyroid hormones could induce hyponatremia**

– VITAMIN METABOLISM

- **Modulates vitamin consumption**

– HEMATOPOIETIC SYSTEM

- **Could induce anemia**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

– CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

- **Hyperthyroidism, increases:**
 - **Heart rate & myocardial strength**
 - **Cardiac output**
 - **Peripheral resistances (Vasodilatation)**
 - **Oxygen consumption**
 - **Arterial pressure**

- **Hypothyroidism, reduces:**
 - **Heart rate & myocardial strength**
 - **Cardiac output**
 - **Peripheral resistances (Vasodilatation)**
 - **Oxygen consumption**
 - **Arterial pressure**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ THYROID HORMONE EFFECTS

– GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

- **Modulate bowel movements and absorption**

– ENDOCRINE SYSTEM

- **Modulates pituitary axis, affecting GH, ACTH, FSH, LH, so-on**

– PREGNANCY

- **Modulates growth rate and affects lactation**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ DIVIDED INTO:

- **THYROTOXICOSIS (Hyperthyroidism)**
 - **Overproduction of thyroid hormones**
- **HYPOTHYROIDISM (Gland destruction)**
 - **Underproduction of thyroid hormones**
- **NEOPLASTIC PROCESSES**
 - **Benign**
 - **Malignant**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ LABORATORY EVALUATION

TSH normal, practically excludes abnormality

- **If TSH is abnormal, next step: Total & Free T4 & T3**
- **TSI (Thyroid Stimulating Ig)**
- **TPO (Thyroid Peroxidase Ab)**
- **Antimitochondrial Ab**
- **Serum Tg (Thyroglobulin)**
- **Radioiodine uptake & Thyroid scanning**
- **FNA, Fine-needle aspiration**
- **Thyroid ultrasound**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- ◆ **TSH High usually means Hypothyroidism**
 - **Rare causes:**
 - **TSH-secreting pituitary tumor**
 - **Thyroid hormone resistance**
 - **Assay artifact**
- ◆ **TSH low usually indicates Thyrotoxicosis**
 - **Other causes**
 - **First trimester of pregnancy**
 - **After treatment of hyperthyroidism**
 - **Some medications (Esteroids-dopamine)**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ **THYROTOXICOSIS:**

- is defined as the state of thyroid hormone excesss**

◆ **HYPERTHYROIDISM:**

- is the result of excessive thyroid gland function**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Abnormalities of Thyroid Hormones

– Thyrotoxicosis

- Primary
- Secondary
- Without Hyperthyroidism
- Exogenous or factitious

– Hypothyroidism

- Primary
- Secondary
- Peripheral



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Causes of Thyrotoxicosis:

– Primary Hyperthyroidism

- Grave's disease
- Toxic Multinodular Goiter
- Toxic adenoma
- Functioning thyroid carcinoma metastases
- Activating mutation of TSH receptor
- Struma ovarii
- Drugs: Iodine excess



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

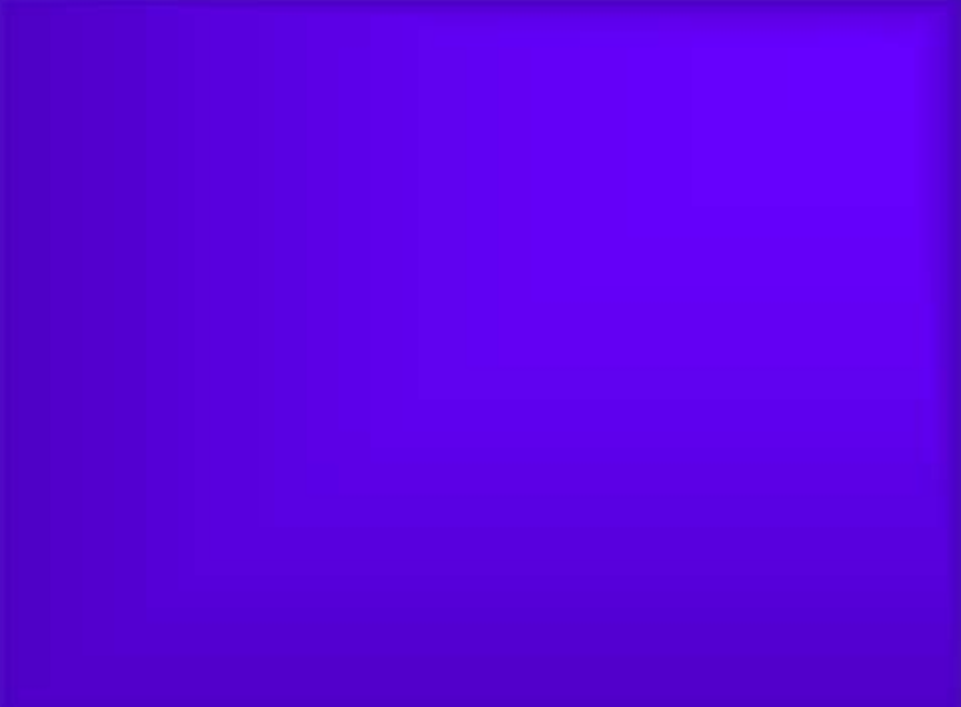
◆ Causes of Thyrotoxicosis:

– Thyrotoxicosis without hyperthyroidism

- Subacute thyroiditis
- Silent thyroiditis
- Other causes of thyroid destruction:
 - Amiodarone, radiation, infarction of an adenoma
- Exogenous/Factitia

– Secondary Hyperthyroidism

- TSH-secreting pituitary adenoma
- Thyroid hormone resistance syndrome
- Chorionic Gonadotropin-secreting tumor
- Gestational thyrotoxicosis



THYROTOXICOSIS

◆ Symptoms:

- **Hyperactivity**
- **Irritability**
- **Dysphoria**
- **Heat intolerance & sweating**
- **Palpitations**
- **Fatigue & weakness**
- **Weight loss with increased appetite**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Polyuria**
- **Sexual dysfunction**

◆ Signs:

- **Tachycardia**
- **Atrial fibrillation**
- **Tremor**
- **Goiter**
- **Warm, moist skin**
- **Muscle weakness, myopathy**
- **Lid retraction or lag**
- **Gynecomastia**
- * **Exophthalmus**
- * **Pretibial myxedema**





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ **Differential diagnosis:**

- **Panic attacks**
- **Psychosis**
- **Mania**
- **Pheochromocytoma**
- **Hypoglycemia**
- **Occult malignancy**



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Treatment:

- **Reducing thyroid hormone synthesis:**
 - **Antithyroid drugs (Methimazole, Propylthiouracil)**
 - **Radioiodine (^{131}I)**
 - **Subtotal thyroidectomy**
- **Reducing Thyroid hormone effects:**
 - **Propranolol**
 - **Glucocorticoids**
 - **Benzodiazepines**
- **Reducing peripheral conversion of T4 to T3**
 - **Propylthiouracil**
 - **Glucocorticoids**
 - **Iodide (Large oral or IV dosage) (Wolf-Chaikoff effect)**

THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Treatment: Special considerations:

– Thyrotoxic crisis or Thyroid storm:

- It's a life-threatening exacerbation of thyrotoxicosis, accompanied by fever, delirium, seizures, coma, vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice.
- Mortality rate reaches 30% even with treatment

• It's usually precipitated by acute illness, such as:

- Stroke, infection, trauma, diabetic ketoacidosis, surgery, radioiodine treatment

- Propylthiouracil IV or Nasogastric tube
- Radioiodine (^{131}I)
- Propranolol
- Glucocorticoids
- Benzodiazepines
- Iodide (Large oral or IV dosage) (Wolf-Chaikoff effect)





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ HYPOTHYROIDISM

– Primary

- Autoimmune (Hashimoto's)
- Iatrogenic Surgery or ^{131}I
- Drugs: amiodarone, lithium
- Congenital (1 in 3000 to 4000)
- Iodine deficiency
- Infiltrative disorders

THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ Hashimoto's Thyroiditis or Goitrous thyroiditis



– Mean annual incidence:

- Women 4:1000 Men 1:1000
- Risk factors; TPO antibodies (90%)
Japanese, previous history, high I intake
- Average age: 60
- Frequently associated to other autoimmune disorders such as: AR, SLE, Sjogren's so-on.
- Treatment: Levothyroxine





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ CONGENITAL HYPOTHYROIDISM

◆ Prevalence: 1 in 3000 to 4000 newborns

– Cause: Dysgenesis 85%

– Dx: Blood screening (TSH &/or T4)

◆ Treatment:

– Supplemental Tx. With Levothyroxine is “essential” for a normal C.N.S. Development and prevention of mental retardation



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

◆ HYPOTHYROIDISM

– Secondary

- Pituitary gland destruction
- Isolated TSH deficiency
- Bexarotene treatment
- Hypothalamic disorders

– Peripheral:

- Rare, familial tendency

HYPOTHYROIDISM

◆ Symptoms:

- Tiredness
- Weakness
- Dry skin Sexual dysfunction
- Dry skin
- Hair loss
- Difficulty concentrating

◆ Signs:

- Bradycardia
- Dry coarse skin
- Puffy face, hands and feet
- Diffuse alopecia
- Peripheral edema
- Delayed tendon reflex relaxation
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Serous cavity effusions.



THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- ◆ **SPECIAL TREATMENT CONSIDERATIONS**
- ◆ **Myxedema coma**
 - **Reduced level of consciousness, seizures**
 - **Hypotension/shock**
 - **Hypothermia**
 - **Hyponatremia**
- ◆ **Usually in elderly hypothyroid pts.**
- ◆ **Usually precipitated by intercurrent illnesses that impairs ventilation**
- ◆ **It's an Emergency with a high mortality rate**
- ◆ **Treatment: Lyotironine(T3) or T4, Hydrocortisone, external warming, IV fluids**





THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- ◆ **SPECIAL TREATMENT CONSIDERATIONS**
- ◆ **Elderly patients**
- ◆ **Coronary Artery Disease**
- ◆ **Poor adrenal gland reserve**
- ◆ **Childrens**
- ◆ **Pregnancy**
- ◆ **Emergency surgery (Non thyroid related)**

THYROID GLAND DISORDERS

- ◆ **THYROID GLAND NEOPLASIAS**
- ◆ **Out of the focus of this lecture**

