

# Hyperthyroidism [Thyrotoxicosis]

ACP Meeting  
February 2017  
Colorado Springs

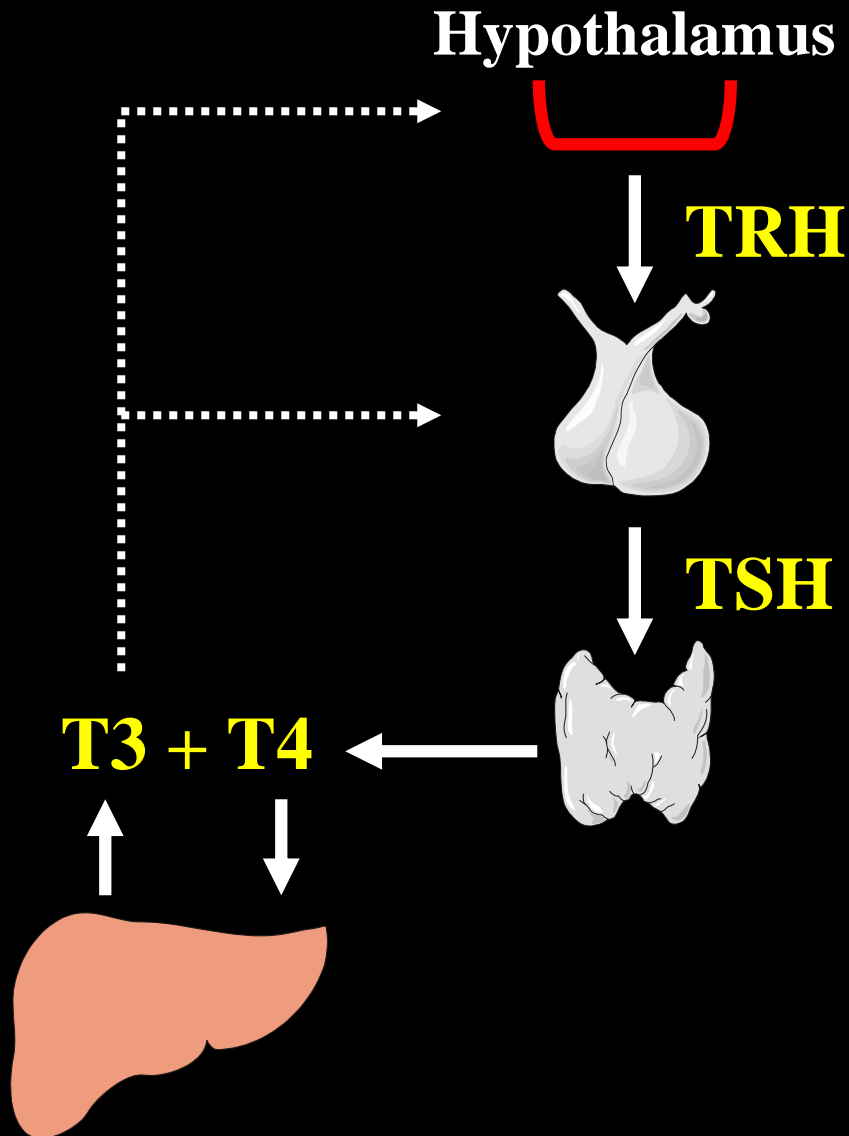
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# Disclosures:

▣ Consultanship: Shire, Sanofi Aventis

# Thyroid Hormone Regulation



# T4 and T3 in the Circulation

Free **T4**    Free **T3**

**T4** - TBG

**T3** - TBG

**T4** - TBPA

**T3** - TBPA

**T4** - Alb

**T3** - Alb

	<b>Bound</b>	<b>Free</b>
<b>T4</b>	99.98%	0.02%
<b>T3</b>	99.70%	0.30%

<b>Assay Accuracy</b>	
<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Not Accurate</b>
Free T4	Free T3
Total T4	
Total T3	

**Alb: Albumin**

**TBG: Thyroxine Binding Globulin**

**TBPA: Thyroxine Binding Prealbumin (Transthyretin)**

# Thyroid Function Testing

**Screening / Case Finding**

TSH

**↑ TSH**

**Hypothyroidism**

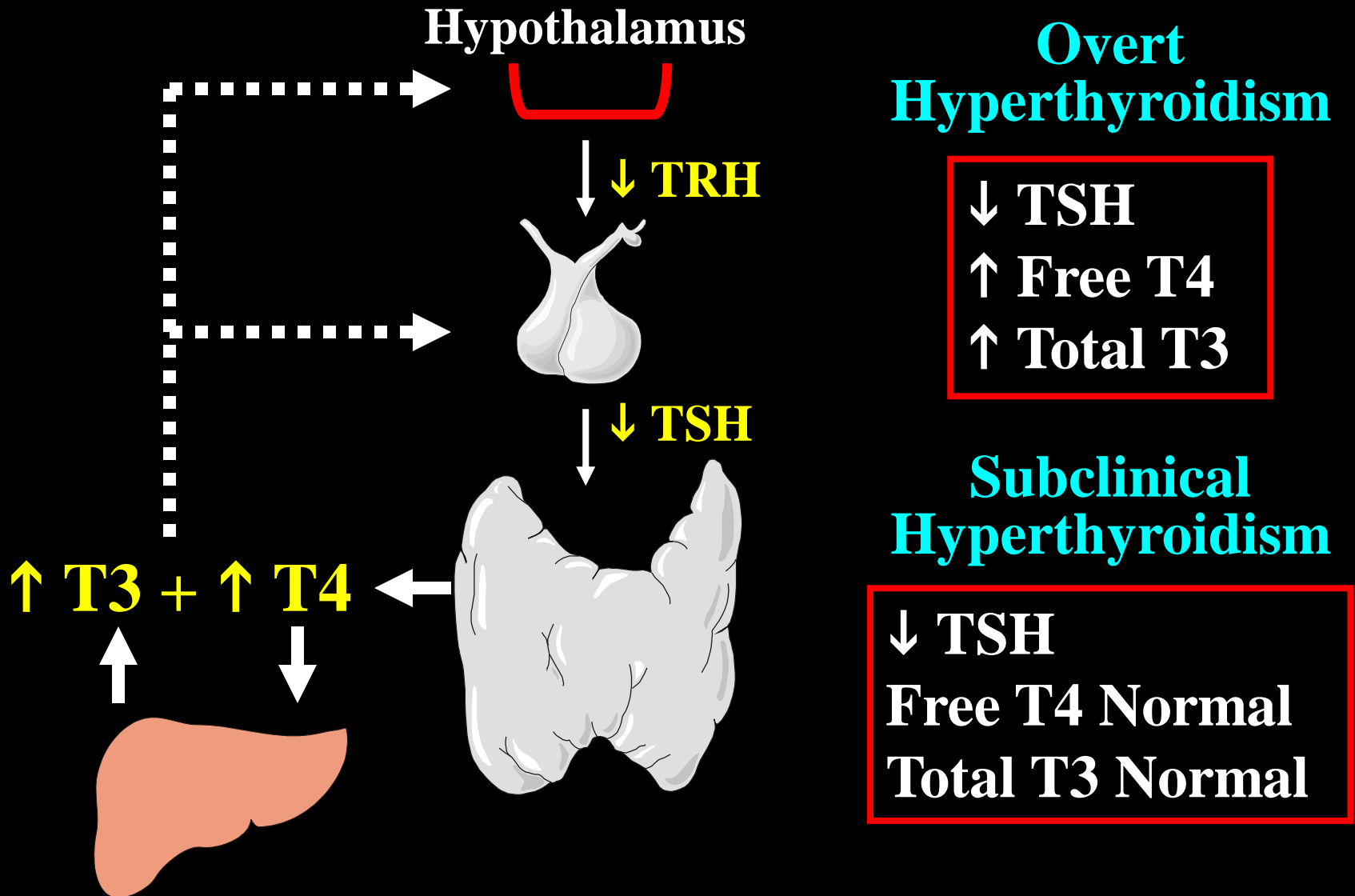
**Free T4**

**↓ TSH**

**Hyperthyroidism**

**Free T4  
Total T3**

# Hyperthyroidism



## Case History

A 28 year old woman with 4 month history of fatigue, palpitations and heat intolerance.

**PE:** BP 148/70 P 108 Ht 5'6" Wt 115 lb.

**Thyroid:** diffusely enlarged (3 x normal)

**Lab:** TSH < 0.03 mU/L (nl: 0.45-4.5)

Free T4 7.8 ng/dl (nl: 0.8-1.8)

Total T3 698 ng/dl (nl: 90-190)

**What additional tests are needed to make an accurate diagnosis?**

# Hyperthyroidism Guidelines

ATA 2016

## No Further Tests Needed:

if presentation **Characteristic of GD**

## Radioiodine Uptake (RAIU):

when presentation **Not Diagnostic of GD**

## Thyroid Scan:

if **Thyroid Nodules or No Goiter** present

**RAIU must always be done before I-131 Treatment**



# Graves' Disease

## Characteristic Features

- **Diffuse Vascular Goiter**
- **Graves' Ophthalmopathy**
- **Pretibial Myxedema**
- **Thyroid Acropachy**

# Graves' Ophthalmopathy



# Pretibial Myxedema





# Thyroid Acropachy



# Thyrotoxicosis

## Differential Diagnosis - RAIU

### High RAIU

- Graves' Disease
- Toxic MNG
- Toxic Nodule
- TSH Tumor
- HCG Tumor

### Low RAIU

- Postpartum Thyroiditis
- Silent Thyroiditis
- Subacute Thyroiditis
- Amiodarone Induced
- Iodine Induced
- Factitious T4/T3 Use

**Tests Sometimes Needed for Differential Diagnosis**

**TRAb, TSI, TPO, Thyroglobulin, ESR, Ultrasound**

# Thyrotoxicosis

## Differential Diagnosis

### When is Anti-Thyroid Antibody Testing Needed?

- Graves' Disease is suspected but not certain and RAIU is contraindicated or not desired.

### When is a Neck Ultrasound Needed?

- Thyroid nodules are palpable.
- No goiter is present.
- Substernal goiter is present.
- Amiodarone induced thyrotoxicosis is suspected.

# Thyrotoxicosis

## Differential Diagnosis - RAIU

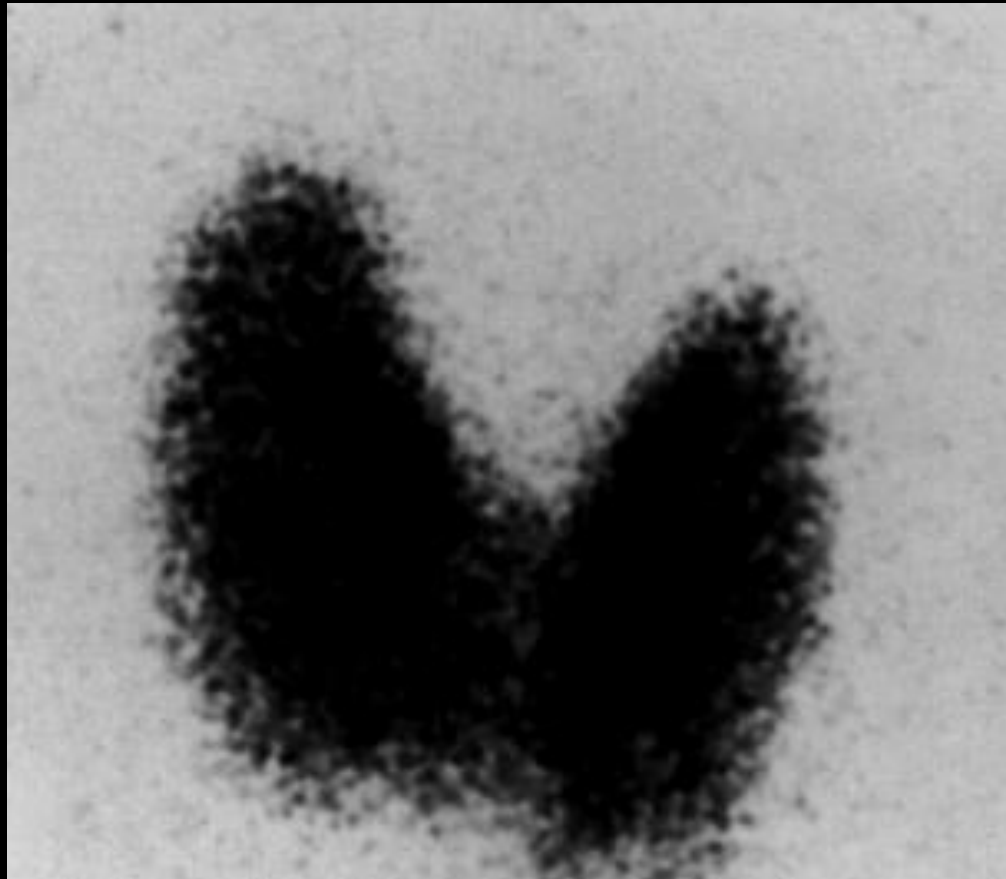
### High RAIU

- Graves' Disease
- Toxic MNG
- Toxic Nodule
- TSH Tumor
- HCG Tumor

**Thyroid Scan**

# Graves' Disease

## Diffuse Uptake



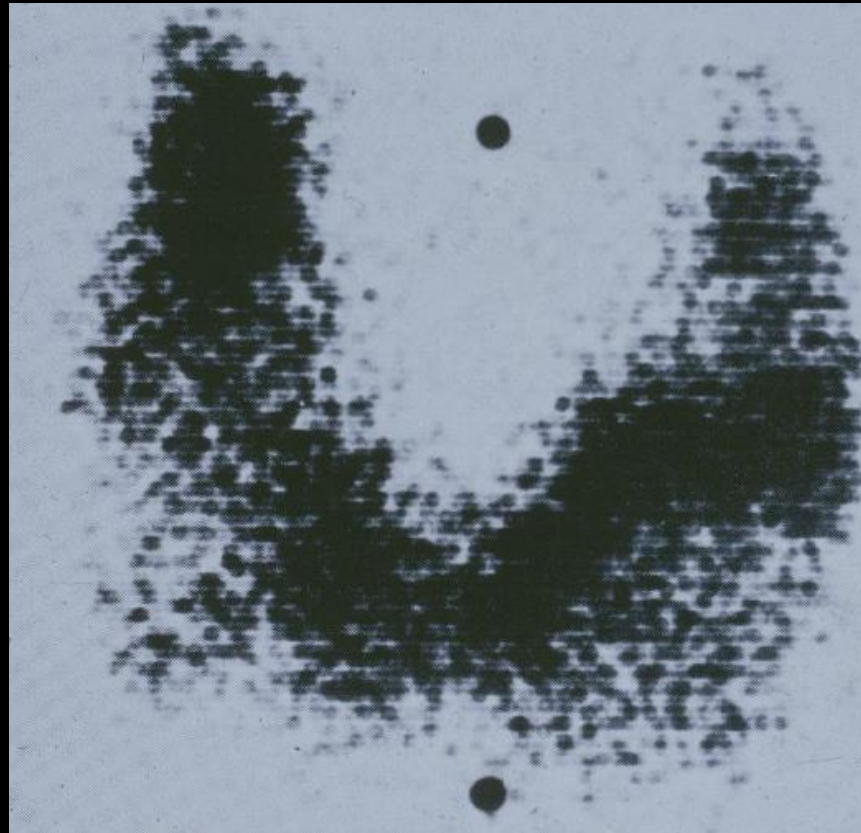
**TSH Receptor Antibodies**

**Autonomous Thyroid Function in All Thyroid Cells**



# Toxic Multinodular Goiter

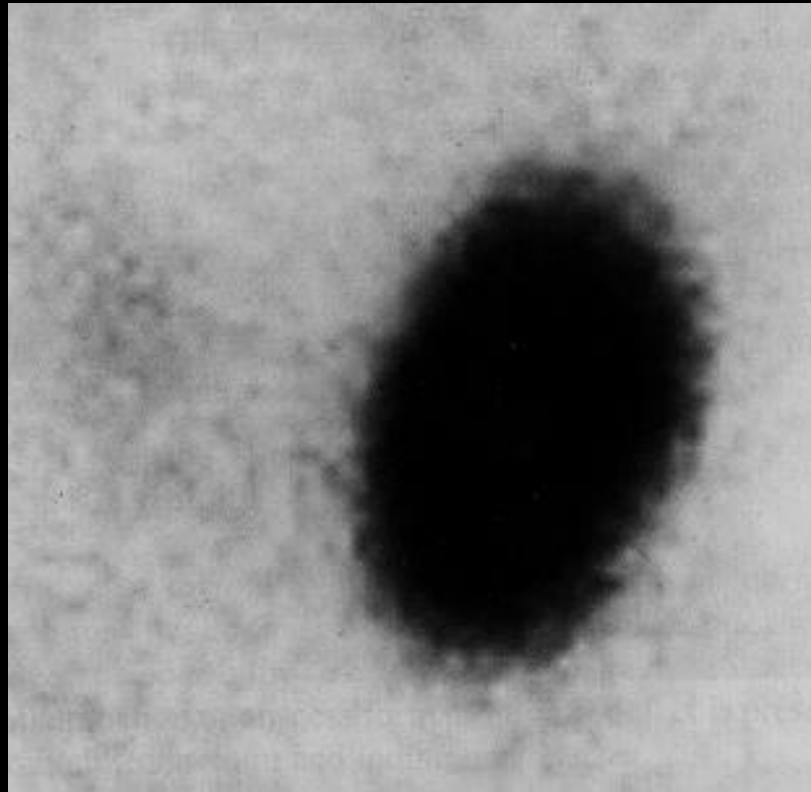
## Patchy Uptake



**Activating Mutation of TSH Receptor or Alpha Subunit  
Autonomous Function in Multiple Nodules**

# Toxic Thyroid Nodule

## Solitary Uptake



**Activating Mutation of TSH Receptor or Alpha Subunit  
Autonomous Function in Solitary Nodule**

# Thyrotoxicosis

## Differential Diagnosis - RAIU

### Low RAIU

**Destructive  
Thyroiditis**

**T4 and T3  
Spilled into  
Circulation**

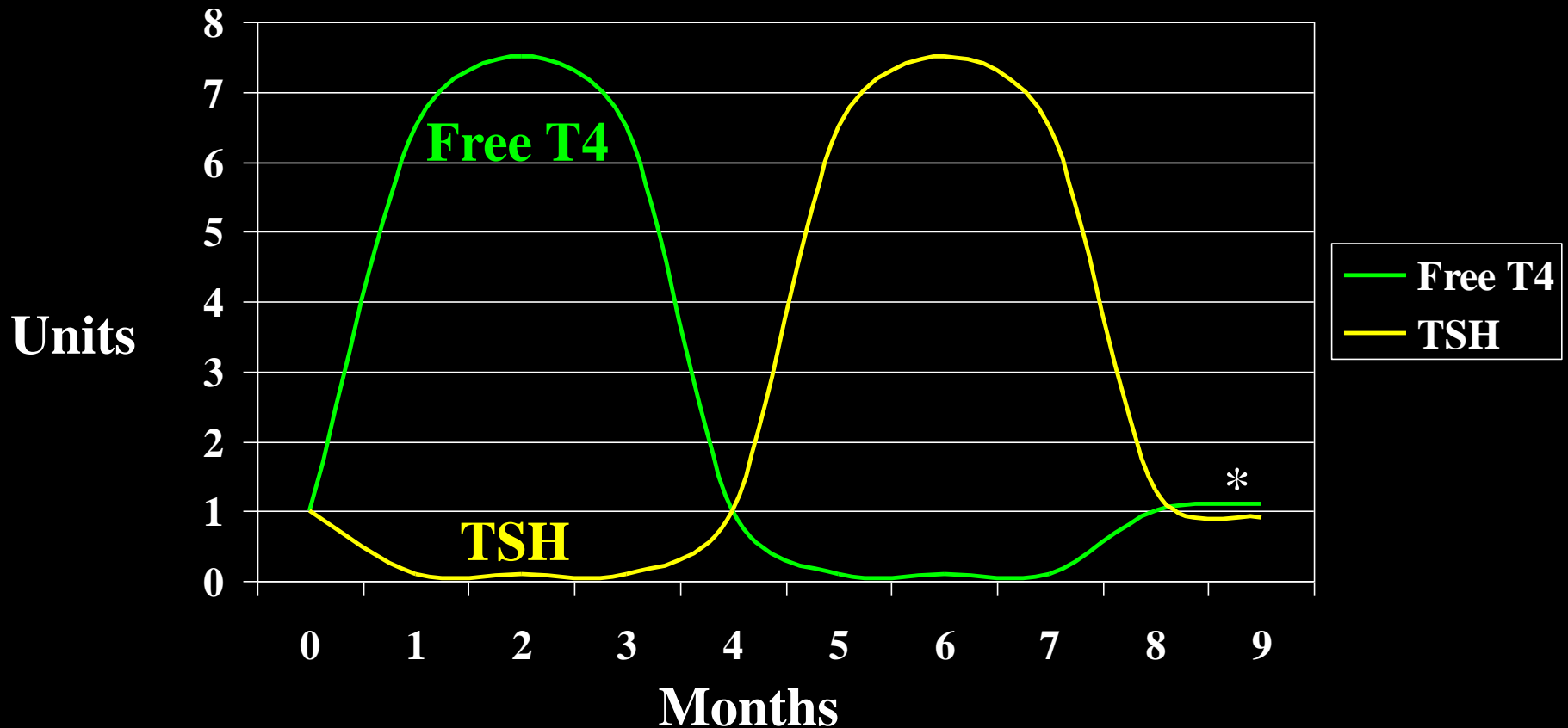
- Postpartum Thyroiditis
- Silent Thyroiditis
- Subacute Thyroiditis
- Amiodarone Induced
- Iodine Induced
- Factitious T4/T3 Use

**No Thyroid Scan Needed**

# Destructive Thyroiditis

## Clinical Course

Postpartum, Silent, and Subacute Thyroiditis



**\*20-25% Remain Hypothyroid**

## Case History

A 28 year old woman with 4 month history of fatigue, palpitations and heat intolerance.

**PE:** BP 148/70 P 108 Ht 5'6" Wt 115 lb.

**Thyroid:** diffusely enlarged (3 x normal)

**Lab:** TSH < 0.03 mU/L (nl: 0.45-4.5)

Free T4 7.8 ng/dl (nl: 0.8-1.8)

Total T3 698 ng/dl (nl: 90-190)

**RAIU:** 74% (6 hr.) **Scan:** Homogeneous

**What treatment do you recommend?**

# Graves' Disease Treatment Options



**“I’m going to pull  
your endocrine system  
out of your body.”**

**Gary Busey**

# Graves' Disease

## Treatment

### Anti-Thyroid Drugs for 12-18 Months

- **Methimazole:** 30 mg QD; ↓ in 1-2 months (Avoid PTU)
- **Beta Blocker:** until euthyroid
- **Goal:** Symptom Relief → Remission: ~ 20-40%
- Methimazole (↑ Alk Phos), PTU (Liver Failure)
- Agranulocytosis ~1/200 (CBC: Febrile/Sore Throat)

### Radioiodine (I-131)

- **Hypothyroidism:** ~ 80-100% (3-12 Months)

### Thyroidectomy

- **Hypothyroidism:** ~ 80-100% (1-2 Weeks)

Ross DS. Thyroid 2016; 26:1343-1420

Smith TJ. N Engl J Med 2016; 375:1552-65

McDermott M. Ann Intern Med 2012; 157: ITC 1-14

# Graves' Disease

## Monitoring Labs During and After Treatment

### Anti-Thyroid Drugs

- **One Month:** Free T4 + Total T3 (TSH lags behind)
  - If FT4 + TT3 low / normal: ↓ ATD dose 25-50%
- **2-3 Mos Later, Then Every 3-6 Mos:** TSH + FT4 (+/- TT3)
  - Adjust to maintain TSH in reference range

### Radioiodine or Thyroidectomy

- **One Month:** Free T4 + Total T3 (TSH lags behind)
  - If FT4 + TT3 low: Start LT4 Therapy
- **2-3 Mos Later, Then Every 6-12 Mos:** TSH
  - Adjust to maintain TSH in reference range



# Hyperthyroidism Guidelines

**ATA/AACE 2011**

**Methimazole Preferred in Most Patients**

## PTU Preferred in These Situations:

**Thyroid Storm**

**1<sup>st</sup> Trimester of Pregnancy**

**Minor MMI reactions; I-131 + Surgery Refused**

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# Hyperthyroidism Guidelines

**ATA/AACE 2011**

## **Graves' Disease Recurs after Course of ATD**

### Consider:

**I-131 Therapy**

**Thyroidectomy**

**Prolonged Low Dose Methimazole (2.5-10 mg/d)**

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# Hyperthyroidism Guidelines

**ATA/AACE 2011**

**High Risk** for Hyperthyroidism Complications after  
I-131: Extreme Symptoms or FT4 2–3 x Normal

## Consider:

**Beta-Adrenergic Blockade** - prior to I-131 Rx

**Methimazole Treatment** - prior to I-131 Rx

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# Thyrotoxicosis

## Treatment

### Which Hyperthyroid Patients Can Be Managed by the Primary Care Provider?

- Diagnosis and cause is certain.
- Thyroid storm not present or imminent.
- Extrathyroidal manifestations absent or mild.

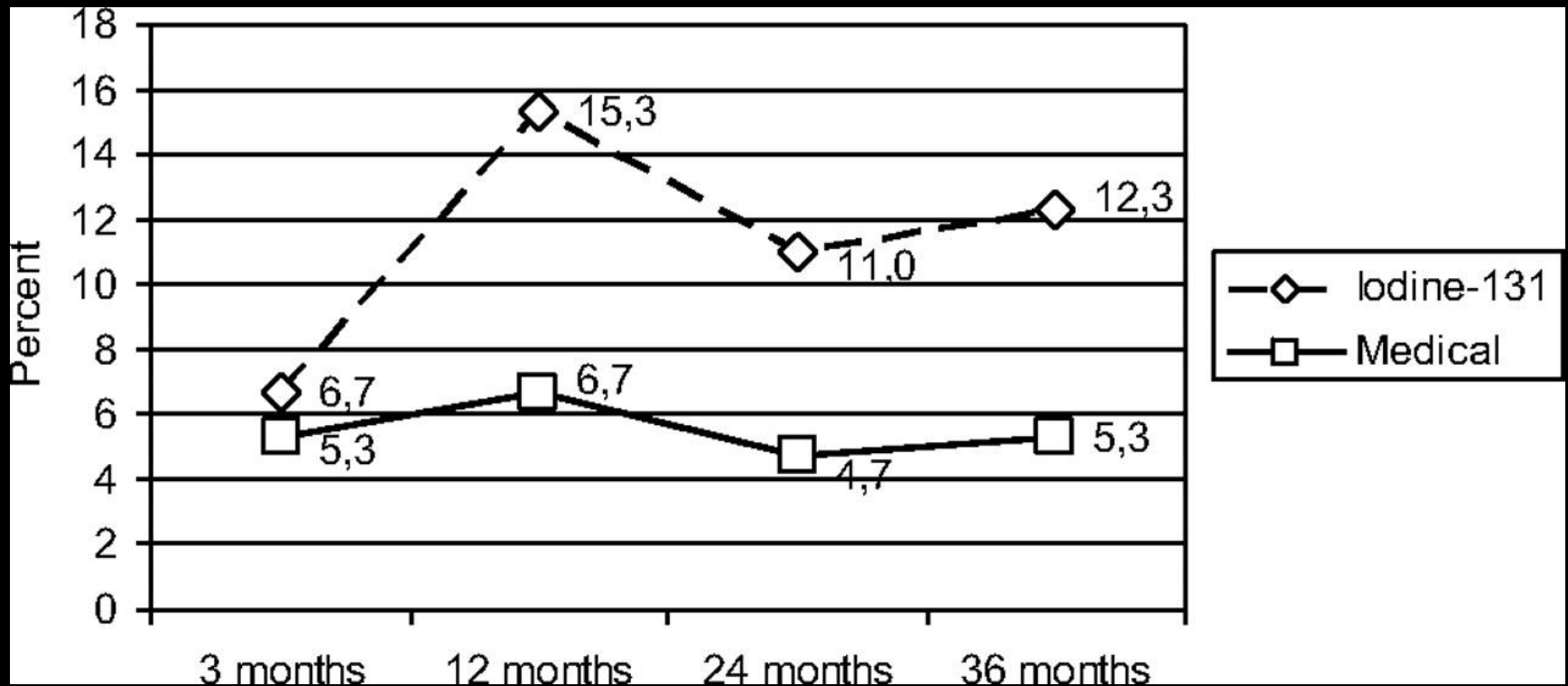
### Which Hyperthyroid Patients Should be Referred to an Endocrinologist?

- Diagnosis and/or cause is uncertain.
- Thyroid storm present or imminent.
- Extrathyroidal manifestations moderate or severe.

# Graves' Ophthalmopathy

## Effects of I-131 Therapy

### Worsening Proptosis



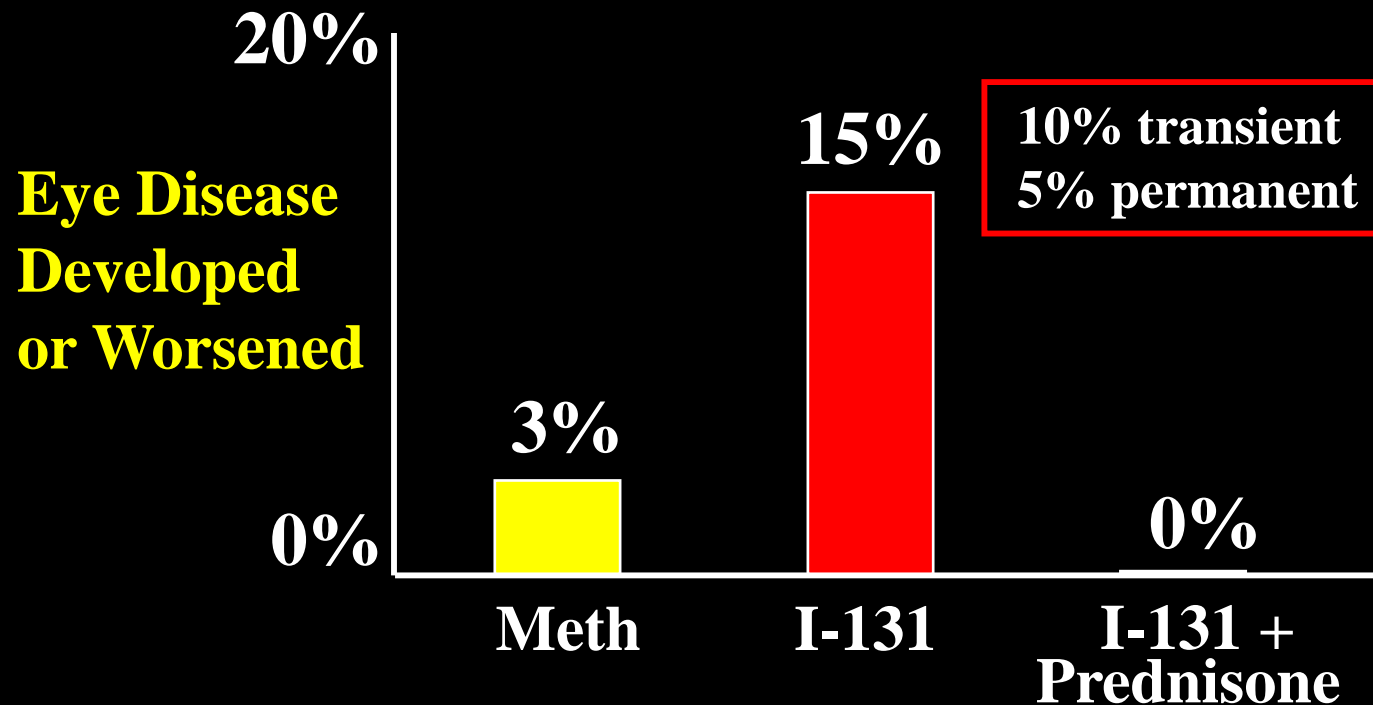
# Graves' Ophthalmopathy

## Effects of Glucocorticoid Therapy

443 Patients with Graves' Disease

**RCT:** Methimazole or I-131 vs

I-131 + Prednisone (0.4-0.5 mg/kg)



# Hyperthyroidism Guidelines

## ATA 2016

### I-131 Treatment with Graves' Ophthalmopathy (GO)

<u>GO</u>	<u>Risk Factors</u>	<u>I-131 Therapy</u>
Absent		Steroids Not Needed
Inactive		Steroids Not Needed
Active, Mild	None	Steroids Acceptable (+/-)
Active, Mild	Present	Steroids Recommended
Moderate/Severe		I-131 Not Recommended

#### Highest Risk Factors

Untreated Hyperthyroidism

Very High TRAb (> 8.8 IU/L)

Post-RAI High TSH

Smoking

# Toxic MNG / Nodule

## Treatment

### Anti-Thyroid Drugs

- For 4-6 weeks prior to I-131 or Surgery
- Chronic low dose therapy when patient does not want or has contraindication to I-131 or Surgery

### Radioiodine (I-131)

- Hypothyroidism: ~ 50% (3-12 Months)

### Thyroidectomy

- Hypothyroidism: ~ 50% (1-2 Weeks)

**Monitor As Recommended for Graves' Disease**

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# Destructive Thyroiditis

## Treatment

### Postpartum, Silent, and Subacute Thyroiditis

#### Thyrotoxic Phase (1-3 months)

- **Beta Blockers:** for symptoms only
- **NSAIDS / Steroids:** for pain
- **Anti-Thyroid Drugs:** NOT EFFECTIVE

#### Hypothyroid Phase (3-6 months)

- **Levothyroxine:** for symptoms only

#### Resolution

- **75-80% Return to Normal**

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# Case History

A 62 y.o. woman has been experiencing occasional palpitations, fatigue and forgetfulness for a year.

PMH: HTN, DJD      Meds: Lisinopril

PE: Ht 5'8"    180 lb.    BP 145/80    P 84

**Thyroid**: nodular goiter

Lab: TSH < .01 mU/L

Free T4 1.4 ng/dl (nl: 0.8-1.8)

Total T3 165 ng/dl (nl: 90-190)

RAIU: 26% (6 hr.)      Scan: Patchy Uptake

# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism



0.8

Free T4 ng/dl

1.8



.01

0.45

TSH mU/L

4.5

10.0

Mild Hyperthyroidism

# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## Concerns

❑ **Atrial Fibrillation**

❑ **Osteoporosis**

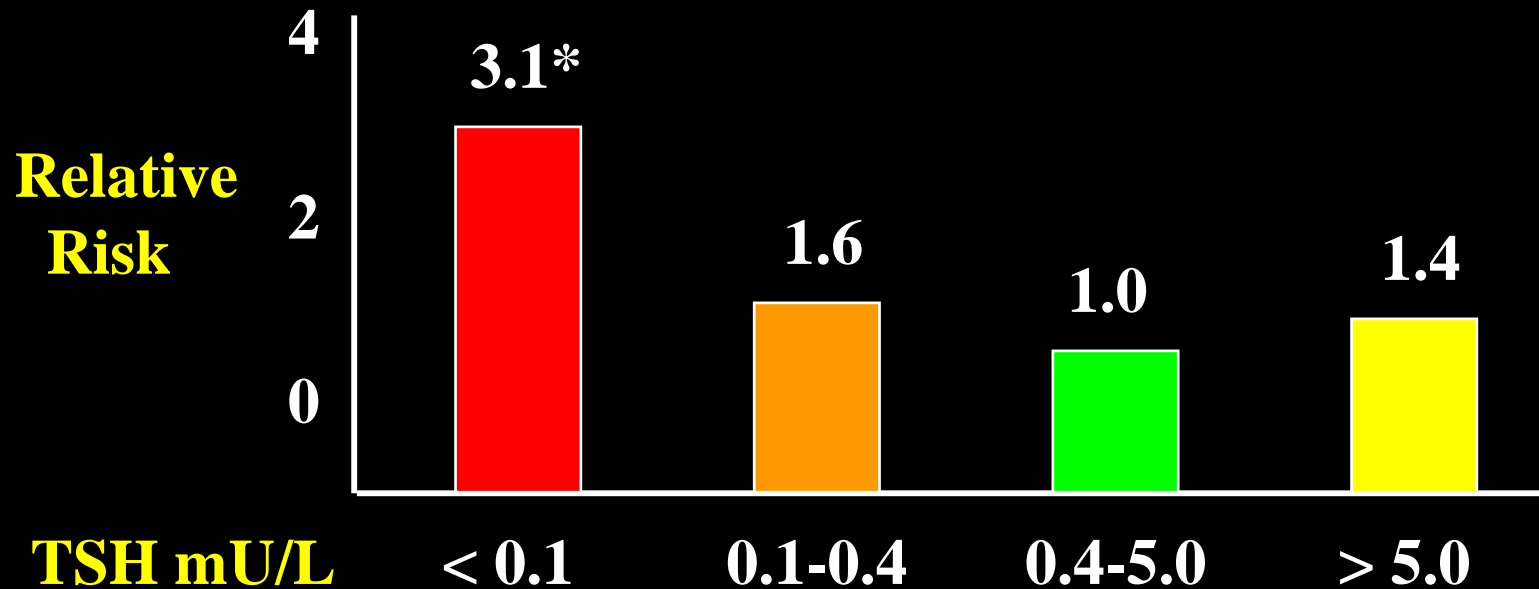
❑ **Mortality**

# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## Atrial Fibrillation Risk

**2,007 Subjects:** Age > 60 (1193 Women, 814 Men)

**Prospective:** TSH Measured; 10 Year Follow-up



# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## Osteoporosis Risk

### 15 Studies (15 Women, 5 Men)

9 Cross-sectional

3 Longitudinal

3 Retrospective Cohort

- ❑ **Suppressed TSH (any cause): ↑ Fracture Risk**
- ❑ **LT4 Therapy (well managed): No Effect**

# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## **Mortality Risk**

**Pooled-Analysis:** 52,674 Subjects from 10 Cohorts  
2,188 Subjects with Endogenous SC Hyperthyroidism

<u>Condition</u>	<u>HR (95% CI)</u>
Total Mortality	1.24 (1.06-1.46)
CHD Mortality	1.29 (1.02-1.62)
Atrial Fibrillation	1.68 (1.16-2.43)

# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## Treatment: Consensus Recommendations

### Strongly Consider Treatment:

Hyperthyroid Symptoms, Age  $\geq 65$ ,  
Cardiac Risk Factors, Osteoporosis

### Consider Treatment:

Hyperthyroid Symptoms, Age  $\geq 65$ ,  
Cardiac Risk Factors, Osteoporosis

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.01

0.45

**TSH mU/L**

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# Subclinical Hyperthyroidism

## Treatment

- Methimazole 5-10 mg/day: **Starting Dose**
- Recheck TSH: **4-8 Weeks**
- Titrate Dose: **TSH, FT4 in Reference Range**

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# Amiodarone Induced Thyrotoxicosis

## AIT Type 1 Iodine Induced

## AIT Type 2 Thyroiditis

<b>Physical Exam</b>	<b>Goiter/Nodules</b>	<b>Normal/Firm</b>
<b>Thyroid US</b>	<b>Goiter/Nodules</b>	<b>NI/Enlarged</b>
<b>Color Doppler</b>	<b>Increased</b>	<b>NI/Decreased</b>
<b>RAIU</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>
<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Antithyroid Drug</b> <b>Perchlorate</b> <b>Lithium</b>	<b>Prednisone</b> <b>Lithium</b>

# Graves' Disease

## Treatment during Pregnancy

- ❑ Propylthiouracil [1<sup>st</sup> Trimester]
  - ❑ Methimazole: Aplasia Cutis and Choanal Atresia when used in 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester
- ❑ Methimazole [2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimesters]
- ❑ Beta blockers may be used
- ❑ Radioiodine contraindicated
- ❑ Surgery in 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester, if needed
- ❑ Disease rebounds postpartum

# Biotin Interference with Assays

## Depending on the Assay Type

High Dose Biotin (> RDA: 30 mcg/day)

May Falsely ↑, ↓ or Not Change:

TSH

Free T4

T4

Free T3

T3

TRAb

May Also Falsely ↑, ↓ or Not Change:

- ❑ Parathyroid Hormone
- ❑ Cortisol
- ❑ Others

# Hyperthyroidism: Summary

- **TSH is the best test to screen for thyroid disease**
- **RAIU/Scan can identify the cause of hyperthyroidism**
- **High RAIU hyperthyroidism is treated by anti-thyroid medications, radioiodine or surgery**
- **Low RAIU hyperthyroidism is self-limited and does not respond to usual thyroid therapies**
- **Subclinical hyperthyroidism can increase the risk of atrial fibrillation and osteoporosis**

# Thank You

