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College of Medicine*



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(Thyroid disease and diabetes mellitus)

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Submitted by

Hussein majid shukir

Supervised by

DR.Zeina farooq

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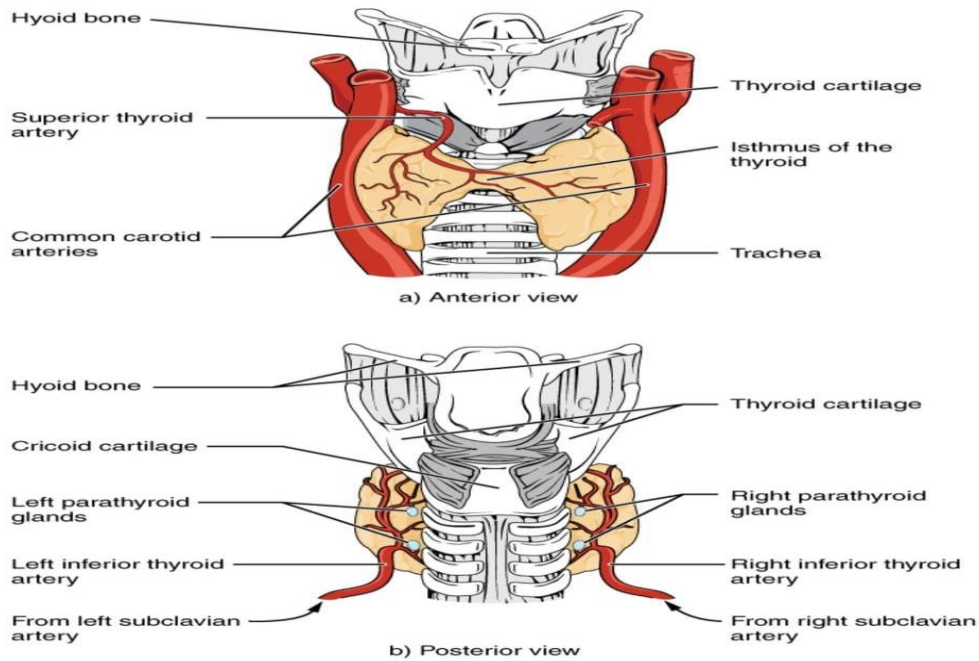
Abstract

Both diabetes mellitus and thyroid disorders are most encountered in general population. Both the disorder have complex biochemical pathophysiology along with hormonal and genetic malfunction , thyroid hormone important for regulators of carbohydrate and lipid metabolism .diabetes affects functioning of thyroid hormones. Thyroid dysfunction associated with insulin resistance . both of hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism are reported to be associated with diabetes mellitus .researches that investigated the potentiality of thyroid hormone analogues to alleviate obesity ,diabetes , and atherosclerosis are also being conducted in clinical practice .

INTRODUCTION

Thyroid is a butterfly shaped organ . located anterior to the trachea just inferior to the larynx . the median region called isthmus is flanked by wing shaped left and right lobe . each of the thyroid lobe is embedded with parathyroid gland primary on their posterior surfaces the tissue of thyroid gland is composed mostly of thyroid follicles . the follicle are made up of central cavity filled with fluid called colloid . the colloid is the center of thyroid hormone production . the thyroid produce hormones called thyroid hormones T3 (tri iodothyronine) and T4 (tetra iodothyronine) that are involved in various cellular metabolic process and functions .growth and development . since the thyroid hormone affect the metabolism and it also affect blood sugar regulation that's increase the risk of diabetes or glycemic control . the presence the risk of insulin resistance alson increase the risk of thyroid disorder

Previous studies reported that changes in level in thyroid hormone associated with diabetes . hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism associated with hyperglycemia . Autoimmune is to be the primary of thyroid disorder in diabetes mellitus .



Thyroid hormone disorder

Change in the level of thyroid hormone lead to disorder of the thyroid (hyper and hypothyroidism) . hyperthyroidism is elevation level of circulating thyroid hormone the most common causes are Graves disease, multinodular goiter and toxic adenoma the level of T3 and T4 increase while the TSH level is decrease in hyperthyroidism . and in case of hypothyroidism its common condition of thyroid hormone deficiency T3 and T4 while TSH level is high . incidence of thyroid dysfunction is high in pregnant women with high risk of gestational diabetes . postbirth thyroid dysfunction is found in 25% of women with type 1 diabetes mellitus

Effect of hyperthyroidism on glucose homeostasis

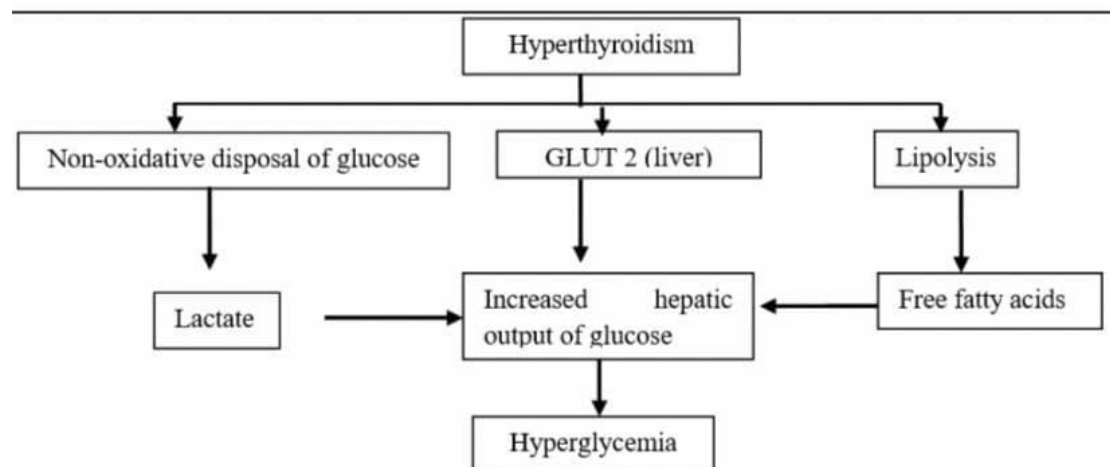
Hyperthyroidism has long been recognized to promote hyperglycemia . During hyperthyroidism, the half-life of insulin is reduced most likely secondary to an increased rate of degradation and an enhanced release .of biologically inactive insulin precursors

In untreated Graves' disease, increased proinsulin levels in response to a meal . In addition, untreated hyperthyroidism was associated with a reduced C-peptide to proinsulin ratio suggesting an underlying defect in proinsulin processing. Another mechanism explaining the relationship between hyperthyroidism and hyperglycemia is the increase in glucose gut absorption mediated by the excess thyroid hormones

Endogenous production of glucose is also enhanced in hyperthyroidism via several mechanisms. Thyroid hormones produce an increase in the hepatocyte plasma membrane concentrations of GLUT2 which is the main glucose transporter in the liver, and consequently, the increased levels of GLUT-2 contribute to the increased hepatic glucose output and abnormal glucose metabolism . Additionally, increased lipolysis is observed in hyperthyroidism resulting in an increase in FFA that stimulates hepatic gluconeogenesis. The increased

release of FFA could partially be explained by an enhanced catecholamine-stimulated lipolysis induced by the excess thyroid hormones . Moreover, the nonoxidative glucose disposal in hyperthyroidism is enhanced resulting in an overproduction of lactate that enters the Cori cycle and promotes further hepatic gluconeogenesis. The increase in GH, glucagon and catecholamine levels associated with hyperthyroidism further contributes to the impaired glucose tolerance

It is well known that diabetic patients with hyperthyroidism experience worsening of their glycemic control and thyrotoxicosis has been shown to precipitate diabetic ketoacidosis in subjects with diabetes



Effect of hypothyroidism in glucose homeostasis

As for hypothyroidism, glucose metabolism is affected as well via several mechanisms. A reduced rate of liver glucose production is observed in hypothyroidism

and accounts for the decrease in insulin requirement in hypothyroid diabetic patients. Recurrent hypoglycemic episodes are the presenting signs for the development of hypothyroidism in patients with type 1 diabetes and replacement with thyroid hormones reduced the fluctuations in blood glucose levels . In a case control study involving type 1 diabetic patients, those with subclinical hypothyroidism experienced more frequent episodes of hypoglycemia during the 12 months prior to the diagnosis of hypothyroidism compared to euthyroid diabetics. On the other hand, both clinical and subclinical hypothyroidisms have been recognized as insulin resistant states . In vivo and in vitro studies have shown that this is due to impaired insulin stimulated glucose utilization in peripheral tissues . A recent study involving subjects from a Chinese population found a higher TSH level in patients with metabolic syndrome compared to that in the nonmetabolic syndrome group suggesting that subclinical hypothyroidism may be a risk factor for metabolic syndrome . More recently, Erdogan et al. found an increased frequency of metabolic syndrome in subclinical and overt hypothyroidism compared to healthy controls Therefore, it seems prudent to consider hypothyroidism in newly diagnosed metabolic syndrome patients. This raises the issue whether routine screening for thyroid disease in all patients newly diagnosed with metabolic syndrome will be cost effective. Furthermore,

an increased risk of nephropathy was shown in type 2 diabetic patients with subclinical hypothyroidism which could be explained by the decrease in cardiac output and increase in peripheral vascular resistance seen with hypothyroidism and the resulting decrease in renal flow ,and glomerular filtration

reported that treating hypothyroidism improved renal function in diabetic patients . As for retinopathy, Yang et al. demonstrated recently that diabetic patients with subclinical hypothyroidism have more severe retinopathy .than euthyroid patients with diabetes

The increased risk of retinopathy and nephropathy observed in diabetic patients with subclinical hypothyroidism provides evidence in favor of screening patients with type 2 diabetes for thyroid dysfunction and treating when present

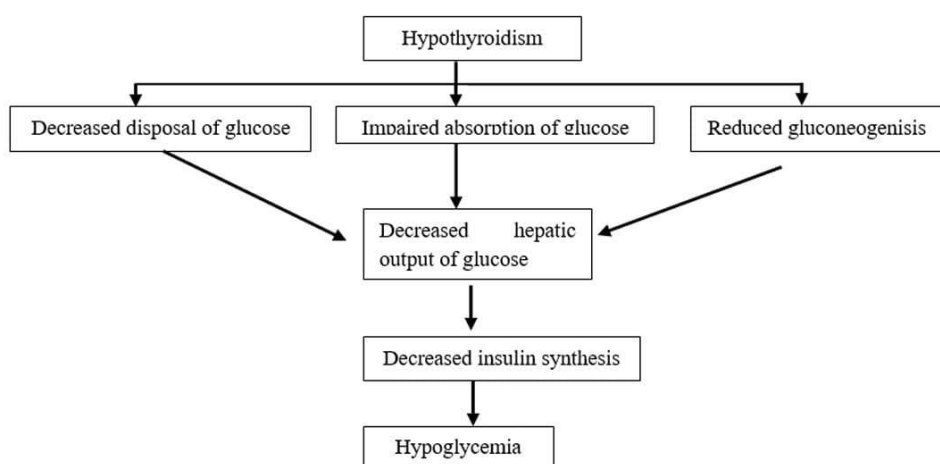


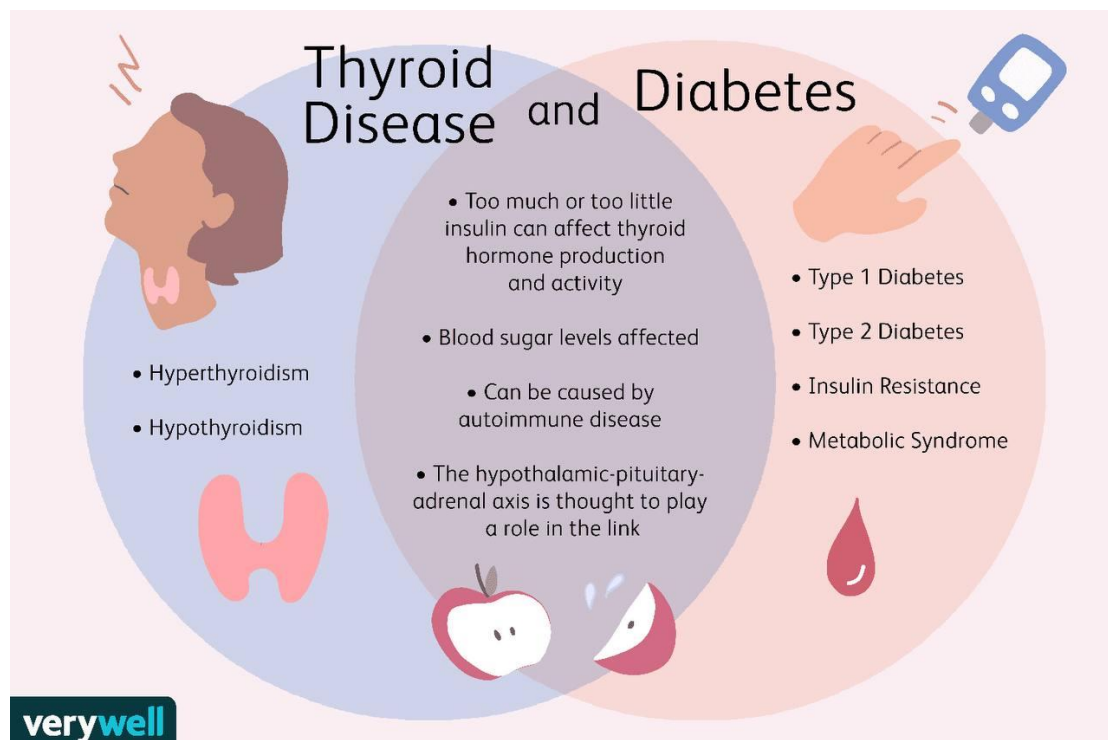
Fig. 1: Hypothyroidism and glucose metabolism

Effect of diabetes on thyroid hormone

Diabetes mellitus affects thyroid function by altering the thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) level and impairing the conversion of thyroxine (T4) to triiodothyronine (T3) in peripheral tissue that normalizes with improvement in glycemic control . high level of circulating insulin associated with insulin resistance have shown effect on thyroid tissue leading to enlargement of the size of thyroid with increase formation of the nodule .

Table 1: Mutual association between diabetes and thyroid

Clinical profile	Influence on glycaemia	Effect on thyroid function or thyroid disorder
Diabetes mellitus (euthyroid individuals)	-	T3↓, rT3↑ ↓ Response of TSH to TRH Impairment in nocturnal TSH peak
Diabetes mellitus (hyperthyroid individuals)	Poor control of glycaemia	↑ dysthyroid optic neuropathy
Hyperthyroidism (normoglycemic individuals)	Glucose intolerane (50% of cases)	-
Hyperthyroidism (diabetic individuals)	Deteriorates control of diabetes	-
Hypothyroidism (diabetic individuals)	Predisposes recurrent hypoglycaemia	-
Autoimmune (T1DM)	-	↑ incidence of disease



Diagnosis and treatment of thyroid in diabetes

Diabetes affects thyroid function at two level

>first level at hypothalamus which control the secretion of TSH .in DM response of TSH to TRH impaired

>second level at the peripheral tissue 80% of T4 is converted to T3

Measurement of T3 ,T4 and TSH in the presence of hyperglycemia maybe impaired

So its need to measurement of TSH and thyroperxidase antibody in all diabetic patients

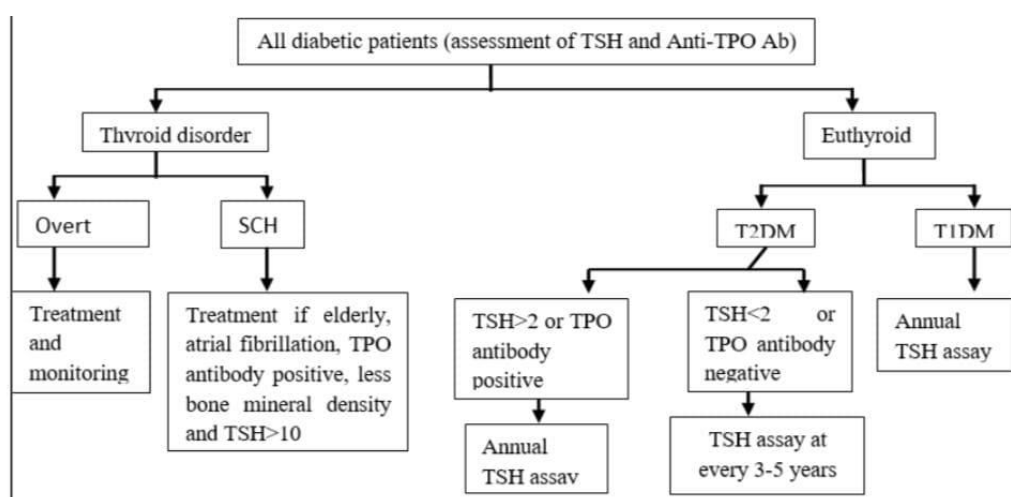


Fig. 3: Screening and monitoring of thyroid function in diabetes

Metformin the most widely used antidiabetic drug for DM type 2 . common anti diabetic drug suppress the secretion of TSH in hypothyroid patient .

Conclusion

Thyroid disorders are common in diabetic patients. Though the efforts are being increasingly made to unravel the pathophysiological mechanisms involved, there is still a requirement of further in-depth studies. Thyroid dysfunctions if untreated can impair metabolic processes and further increase CVD risk in diabetes. SCH is the most commonly observed thyroid disorder in diabetes and confers greater risk of associated complications. Thus it is very important to diagnose thyroid disorder in diabetic patients and screening should also be recommended in routine practice in diabetic care. It is necessary from the part of clinician to identify the high-risk diabetic groups and manage the thyroid abnormalities if present as early as possible to minimize the risk of further complications

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