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ABSTRACTS

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THE EFFECT OF THYROID AUTOANTIBODIES ON DYSLIPIDEMIA IN PATIENTS WITH MILD FORM OF SUBCLINICAL HYPOTHYROIDISM

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Introduction: Increased incidence of dyslipidemia was found in patients with subclinical hypothyroidism (ScH) with positive anti-TPO antibodies. However, there are no studies which evaluate the effect of thyroid substitution therapy on lipids in these patients.

Aim: To evaluate the effect of the presence of anti-TPO antibodies on lipid parameters in patients with mild form of ScH treated with levothyroxine.

Materials and methods: Fifty-seven patients with newly diagnosed subclinical hypothyroidism (ScH) and thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) levels below 10 mlU/L, who met the treatment criteria, were included in the study. Lipid parameters and anti-TPO antibodies were evaluated at the first visit and only lipids after 5 months euthyroid stage.

Results. The average value of TSH in patients was 8.1 ± 1.9 mIU/L. The euthyroid state was achieved with a mean dose of 60.8 ± 19 μg in a mean durat ion of 7.5 ± 2.2 months. Thyroid substitution therapy significantly decreased total cholesterol and LDL-C, and increased HDL-C. TSH positively correlated with total cholesterol (r = 0.147, p < 0.05), and FT4 statistically significantly positively correlated with HDL-C (r = 0.197, p < 0.05). The lipid parameters did not respond to L-T4 treatment in patients with negative anti-TPO antibodies, while a decrease in total cholesterol, total cholesterol/HDL-C, and LDL-C/HDL-C was observed in patients with positive anti-TPO antibodies.

Conclusion: Patients with mild ScH and positive anti-TPO antibodies with high cholesterol levels may benefit from thyroid substitution therapy.

Keywords: subclinical hypothyroidism, dyslipidemia, thyroid autoantibodies, thyroid substitution therapy