Original research article

Associations between Glucose Homeostasis and Thyroid Diseases Mahavir Thakur¹, C. B. Prasad²

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Abstract

Diabetes mellitus and thyroid problems frequently coexist and have a tight connection. Studies have indicated that persons with diabetes mellitus are more likely to have thyroid issues than vice versa. With its effects on pancreatic beta-cell formation and glucose metabolism in a number of organs, including the liver, gastrointestinal tract, pancreas, adipose tissue, skeletal muscles, and the central nervous system, thyroid hormone influences glucose homeostasis. The impact of thyroid hormone on glucose homeostasis is covered in this review. We also go through recommendations for thyroid function testing in each problem, as well as the connection between thyroid dysfunction and diabetes mellitus, including type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. The following are the results of a survey conducted by the American Psychological Association.

Keywords: Homeostasis, Thyroid disorders, Thyroid hormones, Diabetes mellitus, Glucose

Introduction

Diabetes mellitus (DM) and thyroid problems are two common chronic endocrine conditions that frequently coexist. Compared to the general population, people with type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) [1] and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) [2] have a higher prevalence of thyroid abnormalities. Moreover, patients with thyroid conditions have a higher prevalence of DM [3]. This trend may be explained by increased medical surveillance of patients with diabetes or thyroid disorders, but there are also possible pathophysiological explanations for the development of thyroid disorders in patients with diabetes as well as the elevated risk for developing DM in people with thyroid disorders. While the relationship between T2DM and thyroid problems is more complicated, autoimmunity is a key factor in understanding the link between T1DM and auto-immune thyroid disease (AITD).

The purpose of this article is to review the connections between thyroid dysfunction and changes in glucose homeostasis, including diabetes.

THYROID HORMONE AND GLUCOSE HOMEOSTASIS

Blood sugar homeostasis

By removing glucose from the bloodstream and adding it back in, plasma glucose levels are maintained. Glycogenolysis, gluconeogenesis, and intestinal absorption during the fed state are the sources of the glucose that enters the bloodstream. The amount of glucose that enters the bloodstream depends primarily on how quickly the stomach empties, but other important sources include the liver's breakdown of glycogen (glycogenolysis) and the production of glucose from non-carbohydrate substrates like lactate, amino acids, and glycerol (gluconeogenesis) [4]. In order to sustain life in animals, blood glucose levels must be tightly regulated, a process known as glucose homeostasis. The brain, pancreas, liver, gut, adipose, and muscular tissue all release hormones and neuropeptides in balance to accomplish this [5].

The two hormones that matter most for maintaining glucose homeostasis are insulin and glucagon. A hormone produced by the pancreatic beta-cells, insulin lowers blood sugar levels in three different ways: by encouraging glucose uptake by cells in insulin-sensitive peripheral tissues, such as skeletal muscle and adipocytes; by promoting the storage of glucose as glycogen or conversion of glucose to fatty acids in the liver; and by suppressing postprandial glucagon secretion [6].

Pancreatic beta-cells release glucagon, which is crucial for maintaining plasma glucose levels while fasting. As the amount of plasma glucose falls below the usual range, glucagon secretion increases, which causes the liver to produce more glucose and raise the level of plasma glucose back to the normal range [7].

Other glucoregulatory hormones, including as amylin, glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1), gastric inhibitory polypeptide (GIP), epinephrine, cortisol, and growth hormone, also affect glucose homeostasis (GH). In response to nutritional cues, pancreatic -cells co-secrete insulin and amylin, which have been isolated from pancreatic amyloid deposits [8]. Amylin decreases food intake and body weight by slowing stomach emptying and stifling postprandial glucagon secretion [7]. L-cells in the gut secrete the incretin hormones GLP-1 and GIP. GIP increases insulin secretion, however it has no effect on glucagon or stomach emptying. GLP-1 reduces postprandial glucagon secretion in addition to stimulating glucose-dependent insulin secretion. Moreover, it delays stomach emptying and lowers food intake, which in turn lowers body weight [9].

The central nervous system can also detect blood glucose levels [10]. The ventromedial hypothalamus causes the release of hormones that regulate metabolism in response to low plasma glucose [11]. Plasma glucose levels increase after a meal as a result of glucose absorption. Pancreatic beta-cells produce insulin in response to rising blood glucose levels. Insulin enhances the uptake of glucose and its conversion to glycogen or triglycerides by skeletal muscle and adipose tissue. It also boosts the liver's capacity to remove glucose through lipogenesis and glycogen synthesis. In contrast, during a fasting state, glucagon is released to boost blood glucose levels through glycogenolysis. Hepatic gluconeogenesis (Figure. 1) produces glucose when fasting is prolonged [7].



Figure 1: In fed and fasted conditions, insulin and glucagon maintain blood glucose levels. Effects of thyroid hormone on pancreatic beta-cell

The growth and operation of pancreatic-cells have been linked to TH action in several studies [12]. Thyroid hormone receptors are present in newborn -cells (THRs). The function of TH and THRs in the development of postnatal rat pancreatic β -cells has been discussed by Aguayo-Mazzucato et al. [13]. Triiodothyronine (T3) specifically promotes β -cell proliferation from conception through the first week of life. Moreover, THR interacts directly with the MAFA promotor of the MAF bZIP transcription factor. T3 also boosts insulin production that is induced by glucose in a lab setting. In vivo, T3 treatment improves glucose intolerance in streptozotocin-induced diabetic mice by acting on a pro-survival, anti-apoptotic factor for β -cells [14].

Thyroid hormone's side effects on insulin resistance and secretion TH influences insulin secretion and glucose uptake by diverse actions in the gastrointestinal tract, liver, skeletal muscles, and adipose tissue. Through enhancing gastrointestinal motility, TH improves glucose absorption [15]. It boosts the expression of the glucose transporter 2 (GLUT2) in the liver, which in turn enhances the endogenous synthesis of glucose by increasing gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis. This increases hepatic glucose output. By boosting the activity of the enzyme that promotes gluconeogenesis, phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (PEPCK), T3 also boosts hepatic gluconeogenesis [16].

Peripheral insulin resistance is also brought on by accelerated glycogenolysis and gluconeogenesis, which also cause hyperinsulinemia and glucose intolerance [16]. The hormone TH boosts lipolysis in adipose tissue, which raises free fatty acid levels and activates hepatic gluconeogenesis [17]. Moreover, pancreatic -cells are directly stimulated by TH to secrete more glucagon and insulin [16]. The expression of the GLUT4 gene and glucose absorption in skeletal muscles are both increased by hyperthyroidism [16].

Key connections between thyroid hormones and the control of lipids and glucose Key connections between thyroid hormones and the control of lipids and glucose The paraventricular nucleus (PVN) of the hypothalamus and the liver are connected by a sympathetic route, which T3 can use to centrally influence glucose synthesis. Independent of glucoregulatory hormones, T3 in the hypothalamic PVN stimulates hepatic glucose synthesis [Figure 1; 18].



Figure 2: Thyroid hormone's effects on the metabolism of glucose.

THYROID CONDITIONS AND TYPE 2 DIABETES

DM and thyroid issues are tightly related. Many studies have shown that both T1DM and T2DM have greater rates of thyroid dysfunction. Depending on the demographic being investigated, thyroid problems are more or less common in DM patients. 13.4% of adult diabetes patients with diabetes were found to have thyroid illness overall, according to a comprehensive clinical investigation.

8.8% of men and 16.8% of women had T1DM, which had a frequency of 31.4%, and 6.9% had T2DM [20]. An 11% prevalence of thyroid disorders was found in 10,920 DM patients after a meta-analysis of all available data. T1DM and T2DM were equally prevalent in this study, while the prevalence in women was more than double that of men [21]. According to a survey of the entire Danish health register, thyroid conditions raise the risk of diabetes mellitus. Hyperthyroid people were 43% more likely to be diagnosed with DM in an observational cohort analysis of 2,631 hyperthyroid singletons and 375 twin pairs discordant for hyperthyroidism [4]. A separate observational cohort study of 2,822 hypothyroid patients found that their prevalence of diabetes was 40% higher than that of controls [6].

T1DM and thyroid conditions

AITD and Type 1 diabetes mellitus co-occurring

T1DM, which makes up 5% to 10% of diabetes cases, is caused by the autoimmune destruction of pancreatic -cells on a cell-by-cell basis [22]. Autoantibodies to the tyrosine phosphatase-related islet antigens IA-2 and IA2b, insulin, glutamic acid decarboxylase 65 (GAD65), and zinc transporter 8 are examples of related autoimmune indicators (ZnT8). Other autoimmune diseases, such as Hashimoto thyroiditis, Graves' disease, celiac disease, Addison disease, autoimmune hepatitis, vitiligo, myasthenia gravis, and pernicious anaemia are also more likely to occur in T1DM patients [1]. Target-organ autoimmune illnesses AITD and T1DM share a relationship; AITD is detected in 17% to 30% of persons with T1DM, and

both autoimmune hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism are associated with an elevated risk [23].

The expression of thyroid autoantibodies such as thyroid peroxidase antibody (TPO Ab) and thyroglobulin antibody (TG Ab) is related to this connection [24]. TPO Ab and Tg Ab were the most prevalent autoantibodies, accounting for 29% of the population of 814 people with T1DM in a study that assessed the prevalence of different autoantibodies [25].

There is strong evidence that the two diseases are genetically related [26]. These two illnesses usually affect the same family and sometimes even the same person. As a phenotype categorised as one of the autoimmune polyglandular syndrome 3 variants (APS3), specifically APS type 3A, AITD and T1DM frequently affect the same person or multiple members of the same family [27]. T1DM and AITD are both multifactorial autoimmune endocrine illnesses, meaning that a variety of susceptibility genes and environmental variables have a role in the development of the diseases. Major genes found to contribute to a combined susceptibility for T1DM and AITD include the human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class II, cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen-4 (CTLA-4) (on chromosome 2q33), protein tyrosine phosphatase non-receptor type 22 (PTPN22) (1p13), forkhead box P3 (FOXP3) (Xp 11), and interleukin 2 receptor [28].

These genes affect T cell function due to their immunological connections. While CTLA-4 is produced on T cells and functions as a costimulatory receptor that downregulates T cells, the HLA-DR molecules deliver autoantigens to T cells. The development of regulatory T cells is regulated by FOXP3 and PTPN22, while autoreactive T cells are actively suppressed by IL-2R via CD25 (the chain of the high-affinity IL-2 receptor) [29].

Thyroid dysfunction screening advice for people with T1DM

Particularly in those with positive TPO Abs, T1DM is more prone to thyroid dysfunction [25]. Some patients' thyroid conditions may be asymptomatic or may have symptoms that are concealed by signs of poorly controlled diabetes. As a result, a thyroid disease diagnosis based solely on symptoms may be missed in T1DM. In such cases, routine screening may aid in the diagnosis of thyroid illness. The American Thyroid Association (ATA) currently advises screening for thyroid dysfunction in children, adolescents, and adults with T1DM [30].

T2DM and thyroid conditions

Insulin resistance and thyroid issues

Insulin resistance, a disease of glucose homeostasis, is characterized by a reduced metabolic response to insulin in peripheral tissues such muscle, liver, and adipose [30]. Pancreatic betacells increase insulin secretion to overcome insulin resistance and maintain glucose homeostasis, which results in persistent hyperinsulinemia. Insulin resistance contributes to the development of T2DM. In addition to people with DM who have received a clinical diagnosis, thyroid function is linked to insulin resistance in people who have normal glucose tolerance as well [31]. Although through various methods, both hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism can influence insulin resistance.

T2DM and thyrotoxicosis

Compared to the general population, diabetes patients have a higher prevalence of hyperthyroidism. Those with T2DM were 4.4% more likely to have hyperthyroidism than the overall US population, which reported a 1.3% prevalence rate [2,21]. It is known that

thyrotoxicosis can cause hyperglycemia through a number of different mechanisms [32]. Recognized to cause hyperglycemia through a number of mechanisms [33]. A surplus of TH can boost the liver's ability to produce glucose by enhancing gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis, as well as the concentration of free fatty acids by encouraging lipolysis [16]. Although thyrotoxicosis similarly speeds up insulin breakdown and shortens the half-life of insulin, TH promotes insulin production and causes hyperinsulinemia [33].

T2DM and hypothyroidism

Compared to the general population, people with diabetes have a higher prevalence of hypothyroidism. Between 5.7% and 25.3% of T2DM patients have hypothyroid, according to reports [34]. These wide variations could be attributed to variations in the surveyed populations' ages, sexes, and levels of iodine intake [35]. When a person is older, female, has a family history of thyroid disease, and tests positive for TPO Ab, their likelihood of having hypothyroidism increases [36].

Insulin sensitivity is improved when hypothyroidism is treated and returns to a condition of euthyroid function [37]. Hypothyroidism is linked to insulin resistance and glucose intolerance. In contrast to thyrotoxicosis, hypothyroidism has a different aetiology for insulin resistance. Impaired peripheral glucose assimilation, delayed gastrointestinal glucose absorption, and gluconeogenesis are all effects of hypothyroidism [38]. Because skeletal muscle and adipose tissue are less sensitive to insulin, insulin resistance is believed to be linked to reduced glucose disposal [21]. With subclinical hypothyroidism, the glucose metabolism also deteriorates. One meta-analysis study found that T2DM patients had a 1.93-fold higher likelihood of developing subclinical hypothyroidism than non-diabetics did, and that subclinical hypothyroidism may potentially be linked to an increase in diabetic complications [56]. In a euthyroid condition, free thyroxine (T4) levels at the lower end of the reference range are likewise linked to greater levels of glycosylated haemoglobin (HbA1c) [39].

Screening advice for thyroid dysfunction in T2DM patients

There are no recommendations for thyroid disease screening in people with T2DM, in contrast to the T1DM guideline. In the 2010 guidelines, the ATA advised that persons who are at least 35 years old should undergo a thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) concentration test, followed by a checkup every five years. The guideline suggests more frequent tests in patients with high risk factors like diabetes, despite the fact that the DM type is not mentioned [33]. On the other hand, according to the USPSTF, there is not enough data to support thyroid dysfunction screening in individuals who are not pregnant or who are asymptomatic in 2015 [39].

Thyroid issues in diabetic pregnant women

Pregnancy-related changes in thyroid function and their impact on glucose homeostasis

Many hormonal and metabolic changes take place during pregnancy, which have an impact on thyroid function and glucose metabolism [40]. Both pregnant women with gestational diabetes and pregnant women with normal glucose tolerance experience a 50% to 60% reduction in insulin sensitivity during a typical pregnancy. In women with normal glucose tolerance, increased insulin secretion from pancreatic β -cells compensates for the loss in insulin sensitivity, whereas gestational diabetes develops when there is insufficient insulin secretion to meet this increased demand [41]. The maternal thyroid gland enlarges during pregnancy by 10% in iodine-rich countries but by 20% to 40% in iodine-deficient nations [42]. Iodine intake should be raised daily by 50% in order to account for the nearly 50% rise in TH, T4, and T3 production. For women who are pregnant or nursing, the World Health Organization advises a daily iodine consumption of 250 g [36]. Human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG), a hormone that belongs to the glycoprotein hormone family and is made up of both common and hormone-specific β -subunits, is produced in the early stages of pregnancy by the placenta. The sequences of the β -subunits of TSH, follicle-stimulating hormone, and luteinizing hormone are all identical to that of hCG [27].

In the first trimester of pregnancy, elevated hCG levels activate the thyroid gland, increasing TH synthesis and release and lowering TSH [32]. Extreme, ongoing nausea and vomiting during pregnancy known as hyperemesis gravidarum can cause electrolyte imbalances, dehydration, weight loss of at least 5% from pre-pregnancy levels, and ketonuria. Although the specific aetiology is unclear, it is thought to be brought on by a rapidly rising hCG blood level [43]. Most transient non-immune hyperthyroidism in the early stages of pregnancy is associated with elevated hCG levels, while very few cases of familial recurrent gestational hyperthyroidism are caused by a mutant thyrotropin receptor that is hypersensitive to hCG, as has been reported with even normal range serum levels [44].

The two most prevalent endocrinopathies during pregnancy that might harm both the mother and the foetus are thyroid dysfunction and diabetes [45]. The first trimester of pregnancy is when thyroid function abnormalities are most prevalent in pregnant women [46]. These diseases include hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, and thyroid autoimmunity, which have prevalence rates of 2%–3%, 0.1%–0.4%, and as high as 17% [45]. According to a paper [46], women with gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) had a higher prevalence of hypothyroidism, and this link is also seen in postpartum thyroiditis (PPT), an autoimmune-mediated destructive thyroiditis in the first year following childbirth. PPT is also three to four times more likely in women with T1DM than in healthy women, according to the studies [38].

Thyroid conditions have been linked to gestational diabetes development and/or impaired glucose management in pregnant women with diabetes because THs alter glucose homeostasis. GDM risk is higher in pregnant women with overt hypothyroidism or subclinical hypothyroidism [23]. Additionally, there have been reports linking maternal isolated hypothyroxinaemia (normal TSH levels combined with low free T4) to undesirable metabolic outcomes, such as elevated maternal BMI, elevated fasting and postprandial glucose, elevated HbA1c, elevated triglycerides, and elevated insulin resistance (homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance) during pregnancy [34]. When compared to women who have normal levels of this hormone, early pregnancy women with higher free T3 levels may have a higher chance of developing GDM [44].

Glucose is a crucial energy supply for the survival and operation of the brain. It is crucial to maintain proper plasma glucose levels and make sure that the brain always has access to them because the brain cannot store glucose on its own. There are a number of defence systems to stop or treat hypoglycemia. The primary reaction mechanisms for preventing or treating hypoglycemia involve a reduction in insulin secretion and the activation of the counterregulatory response. Glucagon, adrenaline, growth hormone, cortisol, and neurotransmitters are examples of counterregulatory hormones that function to avoid hypoglycemia [45]. Patients with T1DM and T2DM who use insulin or some oral hypoglycemic medications frequently experience hypoglycemia.

One of the most prevalent endocrine conditions, hypothyroidism frequently coexists with T1DM or T2DM [25]. Hypothyroidism may cause hypoglycemia through altering the neurological system and different hormones. Adrenocorticotropic hormone and GH deficit may produce hypoglycemia in secondary hypothyroidism brought on by hypopituitarism, but patients with original hypothyroidism are also at a higher risk of developing the condition. The hormone TH interferes with the proper counterregulatory response to insulin-induced hypoglycemia by reducing GH and cortisol secretion and affecting the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) system's ability to function. By impacting the hypothalamus and pituitary, primary hypothyroidism lowers basal and stimulated GH [47]. Patients with hypothyroidism may also have relative adrenal insufficiency, which lessens the HPA response to hypoglycemia [48].

Glucose homeostasis is also impacted by hypothyroidism, and these modifications may be linked to hypoglycemia. In hypothyroid individuals, gluconeogenesis is diminished in skeletal muscle and in adipose tissue [49] and glycogenolysis is hindered [50]. A prolonged recovery from hypoglycemia results from these modifications. Moreover, it has been suggested that hypothyroidism may cause hypoglycemia by slowing stomach emptying and perhaps impairing the glucagon response [51].

THYROID DISORDERS AND ANTIDIABETIC AGENTS

Some anti-diabetic medications may affect thyroid function in people with T2DM. Here, the effects of typical oral antidiabetic medications on TH levels were discussed. Metformin

Metformin

For the treatment of T2DM, metformin is a widely used oral anti-diabetic medication. Metformin inhibits AMPK in the hypothalamus while increasing adenosine monophosphateactivated kinase (AMPK) in the liver to reduce hepatic gluconeogenesis [51]. In rat tests, metformin has been found to pass the blood-brain barrier, equal plasma concentrations in the hypothalamus, and significantly enhance metformin levels in the pituitary gland [52]. These data, which suggest that metformin may prevent pituitary TSH release, may be explained by these effects.

Metformin medication was initially shown to lower serum TSH levels in patients with primary hypothyroidism in 2006 [53]. In a study conducted by the University of California, San Diego, and the University of California, Los Angeles, the authors found that the use of the term "suicide" in the context of suicide was connected with an increased risk of death. Patients with overt and subclinical hypothyroidism were found to benefit from metformin's TSH-lowering effects, but euthyroid people did not [98,99].

Although TSH decreased, plasma free T4 and free T3 concentrations did not change, and the result was not linked to clinical hyperthyroidism. Nevertheless, this impact might be reversed and typically subsided three months after withdrawal [55]. The malignancies of the colon, rectum, pancreatic, breast, and prostate have all been demonstrated to respond well to metformin [56].

Sulfonylureas

Since the 1950s, sulfonylurea medications have been used to treat T2DM. Both goitrogenic and antithyroid effects have been linked to these medications. Early research revealed that high dosages of sulfonylureas enhance thyroid gland weight while decreasing iodine

concentration and radioiodine absorption fixation in animal models [57]. It has been claimed that first-generation sulfonylurea users who have diabetes experience hypothyroidism more commonly than those who are managed by diet alone or with insulin. However, research on glibenclamide and gliclazide, two second-generation sulfonylureas, has revealed that using these medications appears to have no effect on TH metabolism [58].

Thiazolidinediones

An important type of insulin sensitizers used to treat T2DM are thiazolidinediones (TZDs). It was previously recognised that TZDs work by enhancing the transactivation activity of PPA receptors (PPARs). TZDs are agonists of PPAR-, and they can improve lipid metabolism and decrease hepatic glucose production [59]. When it comes to adipocyte development, PPAR-is primarily prevalent in adipose tissue [60]. Moreover, thyroid tissue from people with thyroiditis and Graves' illness as well as the orbital tissue from those with thyroid eye disease (TED) both exhibit significant PPAR- expression [61]. Extraocular muscles enlarge, and the amount of adipose tissue within the boundaries of the bony orbit increases, which are symptoms of TED [62].

GLP-1 receptor agonists and dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors are examples of incretin mimics.

Incretin mimetics are substances, such as glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor (GLP-1R) agonists and dipeptidyl peptidase 4 (DPP4) inhibitors, that mimic or augment the effects of endogenous incretin hormones. In preclinical studies in rats, GLP-1R agonists have demonstrated a relationship with C-cell proliferation and a possibility for increased risk of medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) [63]. Liraglutide long-term administration results in Ccell hyperplasia, dose-dependent calcitonin production, and tumor development in rodents [41]. Yet, neither humans nor monkeys displayed this impact. Liraglutide did not cause C-cell proliferation in monkeys when used for an extended period of time at very high dosages, and it did not cause any appreciable changes in calcitonin levels in investigations on humans [25]. Exenatide failed to raise calcitonin in a subsequent study [26].

Similar to this, liraglutide did not raise calcitonin levels or result in C-cell malignancies in the Liraglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes (LEADER) Study [47]. This may be because, compared to rodents, human and monkey C-cells express less GLP-1R and respond less to GLP-1R agonists [51]. The use of GLP-1R agonists in patients with a personal or family history of MTC or multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN) type 2 is not advised, even though the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not advocate monitoring for the incidence of MTC in individuals using GLP-1R agonists. It has not been thoroughly reported how DPP4 inhibitors and thyroid cancer are related. Thyroid cancer was more common among Taiwanese T2DM patients in one research that used the drug sitagliptin. However, given the short time period and paucity of additional supporting evidence, it is believed that the influence of the DPP4 inhibitor on this discovery may not necessarily be directly related [38]. This occurred throughout the first year of treatment.

Colesevelam

Bile acid sequestrants (BASs), which include cholestyramine, colesevelam, colestilan, colestimide, and colestipol, were created as lipid-lowering medications for the treatment of hypercholesterolemia. In a sample of middle-aged men with primary hypercholesterolemia who are asymptomatic, BASs significantly lower levels of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol and improve cardiovascular outcomes [60]. BASs also reduce blood glucose levels in T2DM patients [61]. The U.S. FDA granted colesevelam, a BAS, approval in 2008 to help adults with T2DM achieve better glycemic control [62]. The bile is filled with TH, especially T4

and T3. The enterohepatic reabsorption of T4 into the systemic circulation can be inhibited by BASs because they can sequester T4 in the colon and increase its faecal excretion. By the binding of T4 to the basic anion copolymer resins in the digestive system, cholestyramine and colestipol prevent the absorption of levothyroxine. A non-absorbed polymer called colestevelam binds to bile acids in the small intestine and prevents their reabsorption. Although it has been suggested that colesevelam's pharmacological interactions with other substances should be less problematic than those with the older BASs, it is likely that this medicine will also bind to levothyroxine and reduce the absorption of this medication [57]. Levothyroxine and colestipol should not be combined, for this reason.

Different agents

On the potential effects of acarbose on thyroid function and the risk/benefit of thyroid cancer, little information is currently available. Although the exact mechanism is unclear, acarbose raised the levels of TH in dexamethasone-induced hyperglycemic mice [58]. Acarbose was linked to a decreased rate of papillary thyroid cancer growth in a retrospective research [59]. Similar to this, little information is known about how sodium glucose transporter type 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors and TH interact. Although it has not been demonstrated in human studies, SGLT2 inhibitors have been speculated to potentially raise the incidence of MTC in animal models [51].

CONCLUSION:

Thyroid problems and diabetes mellitus (DM) are related, because TH influences glucose homeostasis. One key factor in the connection between T1DM and AITD is autoimmune disease. Insulin resistance and T2DM are both correlated with thyroid dysfunction, including both hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism. In some circumstances, hypothyroidism can also raise the risk of hypoglycemia. Also, pregnant women with gestational or pre-existing T1DM or T2DM exhibit a correlation between TH and DM. Patients with T1DM are typically advised to get a thyroid function test, but there are few guidelines for individuals with T2DM regarding thyroid disease screening. However, the majority of recommendations confine thyroid function screening to high-risk populations, such as T1DM, rather than recommending testing for all pregnant women. The risk of thyroid cancer and TED are affected by the usage of some anti-diabetic medications. Hence, care must be taken while administering these medications to individuals with T2DM who also have TED or a high risk of developing thyroid cancer, as well as when interpreting TH values. In conclusion, additional study is necessary to examine the links between DM and thyroid diseases, and physicians should be very careful when evaluating patients with both conditions.

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