

HYPERTHYROIDISM PATHOCHART

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Hyperthyroidism is the overproduction of hormones by the thyroid gland. The most common cause of hyperthyroidism is an autoimmune disease called Graves' disease. Other causes include thyroid, pituitary, or hypothalamus tumors, or overuse of thyroid medications. This oversecretion causes an increased metabolic rate, faster than the body is able to tolerate. The symptoms of hyperthyroidism are similar to other health problems and may go undetected for some time.



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ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

- Hypermetabolic State
- ↑ Temperature, Heat intolerance
- Weight Loss
- Tachycardia, HTN, palpitations
- Hyperactive reflexes, hand tremor
- Emotional instability, agitation
- Exophthalmos (bulging eyes)
- Blurred vision
- Fine, thin hair
- Goiter

DIAGNOSTICS

- Thyroid hormone levels (↑ T₃, T₄ levels, ↓ TSH level)
- Clinical Findings
- Radioactive Iodine Uptake Scan

NURSING PRIORITIES

- Maintain Normal Temperature
- Support Hormone Balance
- Manage Nutritional Needs

THERAPEUTIC MANAGEMENT

- Provide rest in a cool, quiet environment
- Cardiac Monitoring
- Maintain Patent Airway
- Provide eye protection for exophthalmos
- Regular eye exams
- Eye drops for moisture
- Surgical Removal of Thyroid (Thyroidectomy)

MEDICATION THERAPY

- Antithyroid medications
- Radioactive Iodine 131