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Thyroid Disease in End-Stage Renal Disease

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Abstract

Purpose of Review: Hypothyroidism is a highly prevalent endocrine disorder in the end-stage renal disease (ESRD) population, yet many cases may remain latent and undiagnosed.

Recent Findings: Epidemiologic data show that there is a nearly five-fold higher prevalence of hypothyroidism in advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients vs. those without CKD. Given that the metabolism, degradation, and excretion of thyroid hormone and its metabolites, as well as the regulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axis may be altered in ESRD, certain considerations should be made when interpreting thyroid functional tests in these patients. Growing evidence shows that hypothyroidism and other thyroid functional test derangements are associated with higher risk of cardiovascular disease, worse patient-centered outcomes, and survival in the advanced CKD population, including those with ESRD. While limited data examining treatment of hypothyroidism suggests benefit, further studies of the efficacy and safety of thyroid hormone supplementation, including clinical trials and rigorous longitudinal observational studies are needed to inform the management of thyroid dysfunction in CKD.

Summary: Given the high burden of hypothyroidism in ESRD patients and potential ill effects on their cardiovascular health, patient-centered outcomes, and survival, further research is needed to inform the optimal management of thyroid dysfunction in this population.

Keywords

Thyroid; hypothyroidism; kidney; end-stage renal disease; dialysis

Introduction

Thyroid dysfunction is a common yet under-recognized endocrine disorder in the chronic kidney disease (CKD) population, including end-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients receiving dialysis.[1–5] Hypothyroidism is the most prevalent thyroid disorder encountered in ESRD patients,[1–5] which is typically ascertained by biochemical tests including an elevated serum thyrotropin (TSH) level in conjunction with normal or low free thyroxine (FT4) concentrations (i.e., subclinical “mild-moderate” and overt “severe” hypothyroidism,

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Conflicts of Interest:

None.

respectively).[6] In the general population, given that thyroid hormone receptors are present in nearly all tissues, untreated hypothyroidism may have pervasive adverse effects on multiple organ systems, including the kidney (Figure 1).[7] In non-dialysis dependent (NDD) and dialysis-dependent CKD patients, hypothyroidism and other thyroid functional test derangements have been associated with higher risk of cardiovascular disease,[8–13] impaired health-related quality of life (HRQOL),[14] and death.[15–20] In this review, we will discuss the epidemiology, diagnostic considerations, prognostic implications, and management of thyroid dysfunction in ESRD patients.

Epidemiology of Thyroid Dysfunction in Kidney Disease

Epidemiologic data show that there is a substantially higher prevalence of hypothyroidism in advanced CKD patients compared to those without CKD (Table 1).[15, 17–19, 21–32] Similar to the non-CKD population, subclinical disease accounts for a large proportion of hypothyroidism in CKD patients.[27]

Large population-based studies show that there is an increasingly higher prevalence of hypothyroidism with incrementally lower estimated glomerular filtration rates (eGFRs).[27, 30] In a study of 14,623 participants from the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 5%, 11%, 20%, 23%, and 23% with eGFRs of >90, 60–89, 45–59, 30–44, and <30ml/min/1.73m² were observed to have hypothyroidism ascertained by a TSH >4.5mIU/L and/or thyroid hormone supplementation treatment.[27] In a study of 461,607 United States (US) veterans with stages 3–5 CKD, 23% patients were found to have hypothyroidism defined by TSH levels and treatment status, and every 10ml/min/1.73m² decrement in eGFR was associated with an 18% higher risk of hypothyroidism independent of case-mix covariates.[30] While studies of thyroid dysfunction in the ESRD population have been comparatively smaller, a similarly high prevalence of hypothyroidism has been reported (Table 1).[15, 17–19, 21–32]

A Potential Bi-Directional Link Between Thyroid Dysfunction and Kidney Disease

Although the mechanistic link between thyroid dysfunction and kidney disease has not been fully elucidated, growing evidence suggests that the relationship may be bi-directional (Figure 2).[1–5]

Thyroid Dysfunction Leading to Kidney Disease

Experimental and clinical studies suggest that hypothyroidism may adversely impact *kidney size* and *structure* in both development and adulthood via multiple pathways. In animal models, hypothyroidism has been shown to lead to a decreased kidney-to-body weight ratio, [33, 34] truncations in tubular mass,[33, 35, 36] and various alterations in glomerular architecture (i.e., decreased glomerular basement membrane [GBM] volume and area, GBM thickening, mesangial matrix expansion, increased glomerular capillary permeability).[37–39]

It has also been proposed that hypothyroidism may lead to kidney dysfunction due to reduced cardiac output,[40, 41] intra-renal vasoconstriction resulting from reduced vasodilator synthesis and activity,[41, 42] alterations in renin-angiotensin-aldosterone activity,[40, 42–44] and altered chloride channel expression leading to increased tubuloglomerular feedback.[45] In animal studies, hypothyroidism has led to decreased single nephron glomerular filtration rate (GFR), renal plasma flow, and glomerular transcapillary hydrostatic pressure.[46, 47] In case series, patients with severe hypothyroidism due to thyroidectomy manifested reductions in plasma flow and GFR measured by both creatinine-based estimating equations and gold-standard isotopic scans, which were reversed with exogenous thyroid hormone supplementation.[41, 42, 48–50] Several large population-based studies have also corroborated the relationship between higher TSH and development of incident CKD.[51–53] Limited data also suggest that thyroid hormone supplementation may ameliorate CKD progression, including one study of 309 stage 2–4 CKD patients with subclinical hypothyroidism in whom those treated with thyroid hormone supplementation had a slower rate of annual eGFR decline vs. those who were untreated.[54]

Kidney Disease Leading to Thyroid Dysfunction

Conversely, it has also been hypothesized that CKD may contribute to various thyroid functional test abnormalities.[1–5] First, impaired iodine clearance and retention ensuing from contrast media (i.e., angiograms, CT scans), medications (i.e., amiodarone), cleaning solutions (i.e., povidine-iodine), and dietary sources has been proposed to engender hypothyroidism via the Wolff-Chaikoff effect and hyperthyroidism via the Jod-Basedow phenomenon based on observational studies in the general population and case reports of dialysis patients.[55–60] With respect to other dietary factors, selenium deficiency frequently occurs in dialysis patients, which may lead to exacerbation of autoimmune thyroid disease.[61–63] As the vast majority of circulating thyroid hormone is bound to proteins, there have been case reports and series of thyroid hormone deficiency in patients with heavy protein losses due to nephrotic syndrome[64]; it has also been proposed that heavy protein losses in peritoneal effluent may also contribute to thyroid dysfunction in peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients.[18] Finally, metabolic acidosis,[65, 66] malnutrition, and non-thyroidal illness that develop in the uremic milieu of advanced CKD may also contribute to thyroid functional derangements (i.e., low triiodothyronine [T3] levels).[67, 68]

Interpretation of Thyroid Functional Tests in End-Stage Renal Disease

Production of thyroid hormones, namely T3 and T4, is stimulated by TSH secreted from the pituitary gland, which is regulated by thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH). In turn, TRH and TSH are suppressed by modest increases in T3 and T4. While T4 is solely synthesized by the thyroid gland, a large proportion of T3 is produced by 5'-deiodination of T4 to T3 in peripheral organs. In peripheral tissues, T4 is converted to T3 by type 2 5'-deiodinase (D1) and type 2 5'-deiodinase (D2), and T4-to-T3 conversion also occurs in the hypothalamus and pituitary by D2.[67, 69–71]

In ESRD, there may be alterations in the 1) metabolism, degradation, and excretion of thyroid hormone and its metabolites; 2) regulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid

axis; and 3) performance of certain thyroid functional test assays.[1–5] Hence, there are a number of considerations that should be taken into account when interpreting thyroid functional tests in ESRD.

Thyrotropin Levels

In the general population, TSH is considered to be the most sensitive and specific single biochemical marker of thyroid status, given its inverse logarithmic relationship between circulating T3 and T4 (i.e., small changes in T3/T4 lead to exponential changes in TSH).[6] While various TSH alterations may potentially be observed in ESRD, including changes in clearance, diminished response to TRH, reduced pulsatility, impaired glycosylation, and increased half-life,[24, 72] TSH has been shown to be a more accurate metric of thyroid status vs. T3 in dialysis patients based on metabolic testing.[73] Limited data in ESRD patients also shows that TSH is suppressed with thyroid hormone supplementation, and that there is an appropriate rise in TSH with thyroidectomy, signaling an intact thyroid-pituitary feedback loop.[22] Hence, it may be inferred that TSH levels are a more reliable indicator of thyroid status compared with other existing metrics (i.e., T3 and T4).

Thyroxine Levels

Approximately 99.98% of T4 is bound to proteins, including thyroid-binding globulin, transthyretin, albumin, and lipoproteins.[74] FT4 assays, which measure the unbound, biologically-active fraction of T4, are typically used as an adjunctive test to classify the severity of hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism.[6] Thus, assays which measure total T4 (i.e., free and protein-bound T4) may result in reduced T4 levels in conditions that lead to low protein levels, such as malnutrition, nephrotic syndrome, and heavy protein losses via peritoneal effluent.

FT4 assays (e.g., FT4 analog assay) that are routinely used in clinical practice indirectly estimate the minute fraction of non-protein bound T4, which may lead to spurious results in ESRD. The analog assay estimates FT4 according to antibody sequestration of total T4 relative to FT4 levels and are protein-hormone binding dependent.[74] In conditions where serum proteins levels are altered, or in the presence of circulating substances (e.g., uremic toxins) or medications (e.g., heparin, furosemide) that alter protein-hormone binding, results may not be accurate.[67, 74] However, direct FT4 assays are able to directly measure circulating FT4 levels by physically separating free vs. protein-bound T4 using ultrafiltration or equilibrium dialysis, followed by measurement of free hormone using radioimmunoassay or liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry.[74–76] Direct FT4 assays have become increasingly available for clinical and research purposes through reference laboratories, and further studies are needed to determine their utility in accurately defining thyroid status in the ESRD population.

Triiodothyronine Levels

Low T3 concentrations are the most frequently observed thyroid functional test abnormality in patients with advanced CKD.[68] For example, in cross-sectional analyses of 2284 CKD patients with normal TSH concentrations, over three-quarters of patients with eGFRs <15 ml/min/1.73m² had low T3 levels.[77] Notably, the majority of T3 is produced by the

peripheral deiodination of T4-to-T3, which is reduced in the setting of malnutrition, inflammation, non-thyroidal illness, and specific medications (e.g., glucocorticoids).[41, 67, 69, 78] Hence, low T3 levels in CKD may be representative of these above-mentioned factors independent of thyroid status.

Reverse Triiodothyronine Levels

Reverse T3 (rT3) is a metabolically inactive form of thyroid hormone that is produced by the conversion of T4 to rT3 by the type 3 5'-deiodinase enzyme (D3). D3 is also responsible for the degradation of T3 to inactive diiodothyronine (T2).[67, 69] In hypothyroidism, rT3 levels are typically low, whereas in non-thyroidal illness rT3 levels are usually elevated due to increased conversion of T4 to rT3 and decreased clearance of rT3 to T2.[67] In kidney disease, rT3 levels are typically normal, although further studies are needed to determine their diagnostic utility and prognostic significance in ESRD patients.[24]

Anti-Thyroid Peroxidase Antibodies

Thyroid peroxidase (TPO) is a membrane-associated glycoprotein that catalyzes the iodination of tyrosine residues and their coupling to form thyroid hormones (i.e., T3 and T4) in a process known as organification. Anti-TPO antibodies are found in both the presence and absence of autoimmune thyroid disease. In the non-CKD population, the prevalence of anti-TPO antibody elevation in subclinical hypothyroidism varies according to age, sex, and race/ethnicity; however, on average ~60–80% of patients with subclinical hypothyroidism and/or elevated TSH have elevated anti-TPO antibody levels.[79–81] By comparison, existing data indicate that a small fraction (i.e., ~20–30%) of dialysis-dependent CKD patients with elevated TSH have anti-TPO antibody positivity as compared with the non-CKD population.[11, 82] However, in one study of a prospective cohort of 996 hemodialysis patients with cross-sectional anti-TPO antibody and TSH measurements, patients with elevated anti-TPO antibody levels had higher TSH levels vs. those with normal anti-TPO antibody levels.[82] These observations suggest that the high prevalence of TSH elevations among dialysis patients may only partially be explained by autoimmune causes.

Thyroid Status and Outcomes in End-Stage Renal Disease

There is a growing body of evidence showing that hypothyroidism and other thyroid functional test derangements are associated with higher mortality risk, cardiovascular disease, and worse patient-centered outcomes in the advanced CKD population, including those with ESRD (Table 2).[8, 9, 11, 14–20, 83, 84]

Mortality

Multiple studies have shown that hypothyroidism ascertained by serum TSH concentrations is associated with higher death risk in both non-dialysis and dialysis dependent CKD patients. In one of the first studies conducted to date, among 2715 dialysis patients from two tertiary care centers in Boston who underwent TSH measurement at study entry, hypothyroid patients had a higher mortality risk vs. those who were euthyroid.[15] However, in a secondary analysis of 1000 diabetic hemodialysis patients from the *Die Deutsche Diabetes Dialyse* (4D Trial), hypothyroidism (i.e., subclinical disease examined separately or in

conjunction with overt disease) at study entry was not associated with sudden cardiac death, cardiovascular events, or all-cause mortality.[84] However, it should be noted that only 1.8% of the cohort had hypothyroidism, providing limited power to detect significant associations. In addition, patients with subclinical hyperthyroidism had higher risk of sudden cardiac death.

Three subsequent studies that examined repeated measures of TSH over time have found that hypothyroidism and high-normal TSH levels are associated with higher death risk in dialysis patients. Among 8840 incident hemodialysis patients from a large US dialysis organization, in both baseline and time-varying analyses hypothyroidism as well as high-normal TSH levels $>3.0\text{mIU/L}$ were each associated with higher mortality risk.[17] Similarly, in a prospective multi-center cohort of 541 hemodialysis patients from the *Hypothyroidism, Cardiovascular Disease, and Survival in Kidney Disease (HyCARDS)* study who underwent protocolized TSH measurements every six months, time-varying TSH levels in the highest tertile (TSH $>2.11\text{mIU/L}$) were associated with higher death risk.[19] Finally, among 1474 PD patients from a large US dialysis organization, both time-varying hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism were associated with higher mortality.[18]

Cardiovascular Disease

In the general population, hypothyroidism is a known risk factor for cardiovascular disease via multiple pathways (Figure 3).[40] Given that ~40% of ESRD deaths are due to cardiovascular causes, there has been increasing interest in hypothyroidism as an under-recognized risk factor for cardiovascular disease in this population. In a cross-sectional analysis of 51 peritoneal dialysis patients from South Korea, patients with subclinical hypothyroidism had lower left ventricular ejection fractions vs. those who were euthyroid. [11] More recently, in a secondary analysis of 99 hemodialysis patients from the multi-center *Anti-Inflammatory and Anti-Oxidative Nutrition in Hypoalbuminemic Dialysis Patients (AIONID)* trial, patients with TSH levels in the highest three quartiles had worse endothelial function measured by digital thermal monitoring vs. those in the lowest quartile. [83]

Given that thyroid hormone deficiency may engender accelerated atherosclerosis and decreased production of vascular calcification inhibitors (i.e., matrix gla protein, klotho), there has been growing interest in hypothyroidism as a risk factor for coronary artery calcification (CAC) in kidney disease.[85, 86] First, in a study of 84 PD patients from Sweden, low free T3 (FT3) levels were associated with higher CAC scores measured by cardiac CT scan; while TSH levels were also measured, associations with CAC were not reported.[12] In a subsequent study of 94 ESRD patients eligible for living donor transplantation, lower FT3, FT4, and TSH levels were associated with higher CAC scores. [13] More recently, in a secondary analysis of 104 patients from AIONID trial, incrementally higher TSH levels were associated with higher CAC burden.[8, 9]

Patient-Centered Outcomes

As another potential pathway towards death, one study has examined the relationship between thyroid status with HRQOL in ESRD. In a prospective cohort of 450 hemodialysis

patients with serial protocolized TSH and SF36 assessments, higher TSH levels were associated with impaired HRQOL SF36 scores. Notably, the SF36 subscales most impaired in the setting of thyroid dysfunction were those related to physical health (i.e., energy/fatigue, physical function, role limitations due to physical health, pain).[14] Future studies are needed to determine if thyroid hormone supplementation improves the HRQOL of ESRD patients with thyroid dysfunction.

Management of Thyroid Dysfunction in End-Stage Renal Disease

Screening

Existing clinical practice guidelines lack screening recommendations for thyroid dysfunction in ESRD patients, among whom many cases may remain latent and undiagnosed due to symptom overlap with uremia (e.g., fatigue, cold intolerance, decreased cognition). In the general population, multiple professional societies have recommended thyroid functional test screening in selected subgroups (Table 3).[87–93] While extrapolation of some of these criteria may pertain to ESRD patients (i.e., presence of heart failure), further research of the prognostic implications of thyroid dysfunction and its treatment, risk factors, and magnitude of the benefits and risks of screening are needed to inform guidelines.[94]

Treatment

Data from the United States Renal Data System has shown that thyroid hormone supplementation is one of the most commonly prescribed medications in NDD-CKD and ESRD patients.[95, 96] However, there have been few studies that have examined the impact of thyroid hormone supplementation in CKD patients, including those receiving dialysis. In a study of 2715 dialysis patients in whom TSH and treatment status were measured at baseline, patients who were euthyroid on medication (i.e., presumed to be hypothyroid treated-to-target) had similar mortality risk compared to those who were spontaneously euthyroid.[15] In contrast, patients with hypothyroid-range TSH levels with or without treatment had higher death risk. In a subsequent study of 227,426 stage 3 CKD patients from the national Veterans Affairs database in whom thyroid function and treatment status were assessed at study entry, those with untreated and undertreated hypothyroidism and untreated hyperthyroidism had higher mortality risk compared to spontaneously euthyroid patients, whereas patients who were hypothyroid treated-to-target had similar to slightly lower mortality risk.[16] However, it bears mention that thyroid hormone supplementation has a potential narrow therapeutic-to-toxic window with theoretical risk of protein-energy wasting, cardiovascular events, and bone loss.[1–5, 97] Thus, further studies of the benefits and risks of thyroid hormone supplementation, including clinical trials and rigorous observational studies providing “real-world” evidence of longitudinal treatment are needed to inform the management of CKD patients with thyroid dysfunction.

Conclusion

In conclusion, there have been substantial advances in our understanding of the scope of thyroid disease in the CKD population, limitations of existing thyroid testing methods in ESRD, and the impact of hypothyroidism and other thyroid functional test abnormalities

upon cardiovascular and patient-centered outcomes and survival in these patients. However, there remains substantial uncertainty with regards to the (1) mechanistic link between thyroid and kidney disease, (2) performance characteristics and prognostic significance of novel metrics of thyroid status assessment, and (3) efficacy and safety of thyroid hormone supplementation, including target TSH ranges, in this population. Given the high prevalence of hypothyroidism in ESRD, as well as high rates of cardiovascular disease, impaired HRQOL, and mortality in these patients, there is compelling need for further investigation of how to optimally manage thyroid dysfunction in this population.

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Key Points:

- Hypothyroidism is a common endocrine disorder in the end-stage renal disease (ESRD) population, yet many cases may remain latent and undiagnosed due to the overlap of its symptoms with uremia.
- Emerging data show that hypothyroidism is associated with higher risk of cardiovascular disease, worse patient-centered outcomes, and survival in the advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD) population, including those with ESRD.
- Further studies of the efficacy and safety of thyroid hormone supplementation, including clinical trials and rigorous longitudinal observational studies, are needed to inform the management of thyroid dysfunction in CKD.

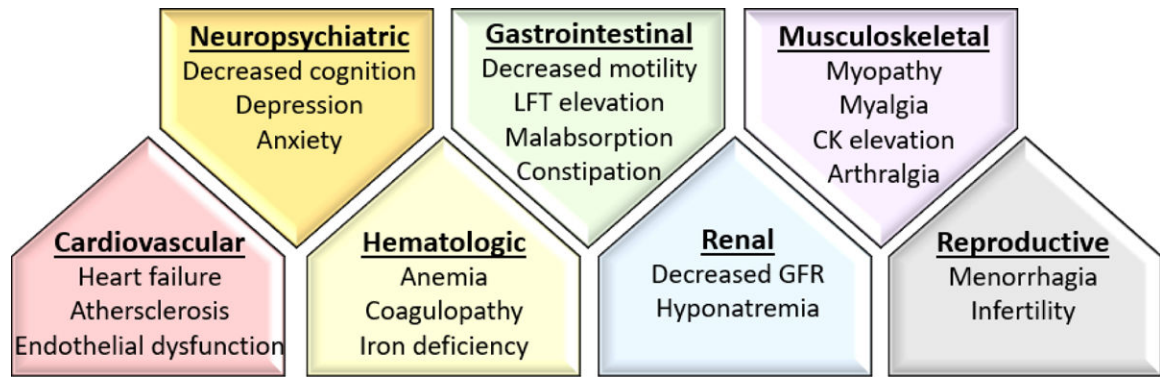


Figure 1.
Clinical manifestations of hypothyroidism.

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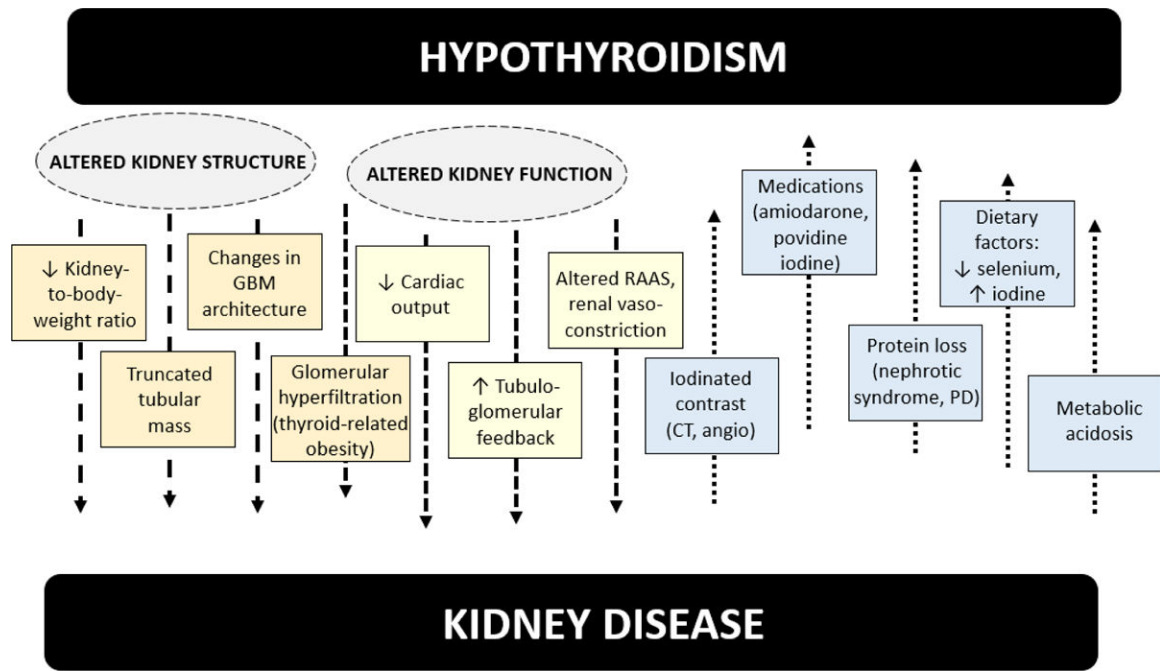


Figure 2.
Pathways between hypothyroidism and kidney disease.

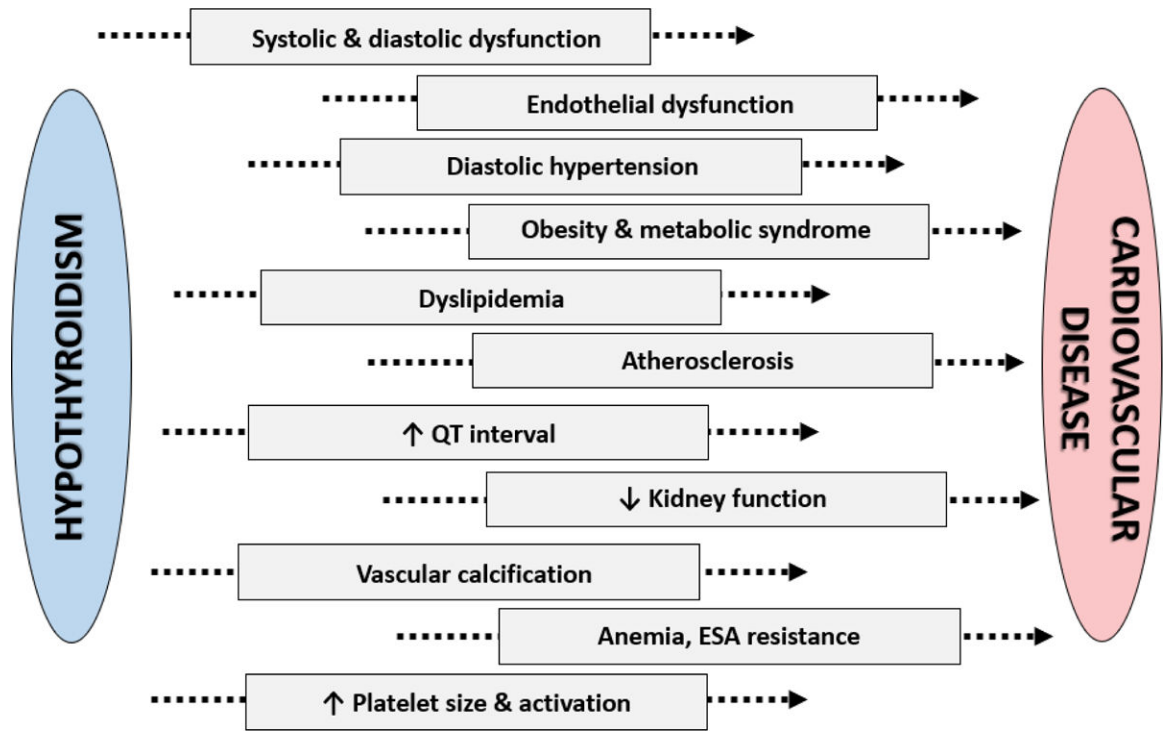


Figure 3.
Pathways between hypothyroidism and cardiovascular disease.

Table 1.

Selected studies of the prevalence of hypothyroidism in the end-stage renal disease and non-dialysis dependent chronic kidney disease populations.

Study (Year)	Cohort (N)	Prevalence
End-Stage Renal Disease		
TSH Elevation		
Lin et al. (1998)[26]	HD/PD (221)	14.9%
Kutlay et al. (2005)[25]	HD (87)	23.1%
Rhee et al. (2013)[15]	HD/PD (2715)	12.9%
Rhee et al. (2015)[17]	National incident HD from LDO (8840)	21.8%
Rhee et al. (2016)[18]	National PD from LDO (1484)	18.0%
Rhee et al. (2017)[19]	Prospective HD (541)	10.5%
Subclinical Hypothyroidism		
Shantha et al. (2011)[31]	HD (137)	24.8%
Ng et al. (2012)[29]	PD (122)	15.6%
Rhee et al. (2013)[15]	HD/PD (2715)	8.9%
Rhee et al. (2015)[17]	National incident HD from LDO (8840)	8.9%
Rhee et al. (2016)[18]	National PD from LDO (1484)	11.7%
Overt Hypothyroidism		
Kaptein (1998)[24]	HD (306)	2.6%
Lin et al. (1998)[26]	HD/PD (221)	8.9%
Kutlay et al. (2005)[25]	HD (87)	3.4%
Meuwese et al. (2012)[28]	HD (218)	5.0%
Rhee et al. (2013)[15]	HD/PD (2715)	4.3%
Rhee et al. (2015)[17]	National incident HD from LDO (8840)	8.9%
Rhee et al. (2016)[18]	National PD from LDO (1484)	6.5%
Non-Dialysis Dependent Chronic Kidney Disease		
TSH Elevation		
Bando et al. (2002)[21]	DM and non-DM (63)	24.0%
Lo et al. (2005)[27]	NHANES III (14,523)	See text
Rhee et al. (2015)[30]	US veterans (461,607)	23.3%
Subclinical Hypothyroidism		
Carrero et al. (2007)[22]	Stage 5 CKD (210)	8.1%
Chonchol et al. (2008)[23]	Stage 3–5 CKD (277)	17.9%
Targher et al. (2009)[32]	Stage 3–5 CKD (53)	26.0%

Abbrev.: HD, hemodialysis; PD, peritoneal dialysis; LDO, large dialysis organization; DM, diabetes; NHANES III, Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Table 2.

Selective studies of hypothyroidism and outcomes in the end-stage renal disease and non-dialysis dependent chronic kidney disease populations.

Study (Year)	Cohort (N)	TSH (mIU/L)	Outcome
Mortality			
Rhee et al. (2013)[15]	Retrospective HD patients in Boston (2715)	3.0	↑ All-cause mortality
Dreschler et al. (2014)[84]	Prospective diabetic HD patients from <i>Die Deutsche Diabetes Dialyse</i> (4D Trial)	N/A	No association with cardiovascular events, sudden cardiac death, or all-cause death
Rhee et al. (2015)[17]	Retrospective HD patients from national LDO (8840)	3.0	↑ All-cause mortality
Rhee et al. (2016)[18]	Retrospective PD patients from national LDO	>5.0	↑ All-cause mortality
Rhee et al. (2017)[19]	Prospective HD patients in Southern California	>2.1	↑ All-cause mortality
Rhee et al. (2018)[16]	Retrospective NDD-CKD cohort in US (232,524)	>3.0	↑ All-cause mortality
You et al. (2018)[20]	Retrospective NDD-CKD cohort transitioning to ESRD (15,335)	>5.0	↑ All-cause mortality
Cardiovascular Disease			
Kang et al. (2008)[11]	Prospective PD patients in South Korea (51)	>5.0	↓ Left ventricular function
Rhee et al. (2018)[8, 9]	Prospective HD patients in Southern California (104)	>3.0	↑ Coronary artery calcification
You et al. (2018)[83]	Prospective HD patients in Southern California (99)	>1.2	↓ Endothelial function
Patient-Centered Outcomes			
Rhee et al. (2017)[14]	Prospective HD patients in Southern California (450)	>2.1	↓ Health-related quality of life

Abbrev.: TSH, thyrotropin; HD, hemodialysis; LDO, large dialysis organization; PD, peritoneal dialysis; NDD-CKD, non-dialysis dependent chronic kidney disease; ESRD, end-stage renal disease.

Table 3.

Screening recommendations for thyroid functional testing in non-chronic kidney disease populations.

Professional Society	Recommendations
American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association[91]	Patients with newly diagnosed congestive heart failure
American College of Physicians[89]	Women >50 years old
American Academy of Family Physicians[87]	Periodic screening in older women
American Thyroid Association[90]	Screening if at high-risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type 1 diabetes • Autoimmune disease • Family history of thyroid disease • Neck radiation • History of thyroid surgery
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists[90]	
Institute of Medicine[88]	Lack of information to make assessment of economic costs of screening
United States Preventative Services Task Force[92, 93]	Does not recommend routine screening in children or adults

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