

# Pregnancy Risk Factors for Gestational Diabetes and Hyperthyroidism<sup>1</sup>

\*Lalit Narayan Yadav, \*\*Dr. Biren Singh

\*Research Scholar, \*\*Professor  
CMJ University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India

DOI:10.37648/ijrmst.v15i01.006

Received: 28 November 2022; Accepted: 04 January 2023; Published:06 February 2023

## ABSTRACT

The significant frequency of thyroid dysfunction in women with pre-gestational DM calls for evaluation of thyroid function in these people during pregnancy. Thyroid dysfunction was present in both pregnant women with GDM and healthy pregnant women, but in 27% of them, TPO Ab titers were positive, indicating the need for additional testing for postpartum thyroiditis and dysfunction. Therefore, it can be concluded from the findings that women with gestational diabetes mellitus were more likely than healthy pregnant women to have thyroid dysfunction, which is manifested as hypothyroidism with high anti-TPO levels.

**Keywords:** *Thyroid dysfunction; Pregestational DM; Anti TgAb.*

## INTRODUCTION

The most well-known metabolic disorder, diabetes, is characterised by high blood sugar levels as well as modifications in the metabolism of lipids, carbohydrates, and proteins. Between 3.5 and 5% of pregnancies are affected by diabetes. Some of the known issues that might arise during pregnancy as a result of this syndrome are toxicology, preterm labour, early delivery, intrinsic abnormalities, shoulder dystocia, and stillbirth. In fact, there is a substantial danger that the pregnancy won't turn out well. Around 40% of pregnant women with gestational diabetes will also develop apparent diabetes during the next 20 years, demonstrating the long-lasting impacts of diabetes. According to studies, thyroid dysfunction during pregnancy may have an adverse effect on both the development of the foetus and the course of the pregnancy.. [1]

Since the production and release of foetal thyroid hormones does not begin until the twenty-first week of pregnancy, the proper growth of the foetus during the first trimester is entirely dependent on the thyroxine that is transported from the mother to the foetus by the placenta. This is especially true in terms of the infant's mental health. [2] The outcome of a mother's pregnancy and her thyroid function are tightly associated. It has been established that a mother's risk of miscarriage during the first trimester increases if thyroid autoantibodies are present in her blood. Both untreated thyrotoxicosis and hypothyroidism have been linked to detrimental effects on a pregnancy's outcome. In fact, subclinical hypothyroidism has been associated with a higher risk of pregnancy complications, such as unexpected placental growth (expanding several times), early labour (expanding twice), and low birth weight babies (expanded two times). [3]

Furthermore, a large body of research by a wide range of specialists revealed that pregnant euthyroid women with elevated thyroid peroxidase antibodies (TPO) were at an increased risk for complications with pregnancy. [4]

<sup>1</sup> How to cite the article:

Yadav L.N., Singh B., Pregnancy Risk Factors for Gestational Diabetes and Hyperthyroidism; *International Journal of Research in Medical Sciences and Technology*, Jan-Jun 2023, Vol 15, 34-39, DOI: <http://doi.org/10.37648/ijrmst.v15i01.006>

## HYPERTHYROIDISM IN PREGNANCY

Furthermore, a large body of research by a wide range of specialists revealed that pregnant euthyroid women with elevated thyroid peroxidase antibodies (TPO) were at an increased risk for complications with pregnancy.

### Types

Less than 0.002% of pregnancies have clear hyperthyroidism, which is characterised by a decreased TSH level and an elevated FT3/FT4 ratio (Brent et al., 2007). In 1.7% of pregnancies, the illness subclinical hyperthyroidism emerges. This syndrome is characterised by low serum TSH and normal FT4 levels, according to Brent et al. (2007). [5]

### Causes

The most typical cause for this is Graves' illness. According to Bahn et al. (2011), other causes of hyperthyroidism during pregnancy "include subacute thyroiditis, hazardous multinodular goitre, fatal thyroid adenoma, and improper LT4 intake."

### "The Impact of Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG) on the Thyrotrope Receptor"

An rise in the concentration of the pregnancy-related chemical human chorionic gonadotropin, together with a reduction in the level of thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) (Galofre et al., 2009). [6]

### OBJECTIVE

1. The pregnancy-related chemical human chorionic gonadotropin rises while thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) decreases (Galofre et al., 2009).
2. This study examined pre-gestational DM and controls.

### Physiological changes of Thyroid gland in pregnancy

Pregnancy, according to the findings of studies on humans and other creatures, has the potential to alter the normal capability of the thyroid. Physiological alterations to the thyroid occur to a significant degree during pregnancy. During pregnancy, the size of the thyroid gland can increase anywhere from 20 to 40 percent in regions where there is an inadequate supply of iodine. In countries where there is an adequate supply of iodine, this increase is just 10 percent (ADA et al., 2014). [7]

### Increases In Iodine Renal Clearance

As a result of an increase in the glomerular filtration rate, there is an increase in the urine loss of iodine that occurs during pregnancy. This results in iodine shortage and goitre in the mother.

### "A decline in thyroid-stimulating chemical (TSH) and an increase in pregnancy-related chemical focus human chorionic gonadotrophin (Galofre et al., 2009)".

TBG elevation (TBG)

TBG, which carries thyroid chemicals in the blood, increases with oestrogen (Galofre et al., 2009).

### Inner-ring placental T3 and T4 deiodination

Type 3 deiodinase from the placenta aids thyroid chemical fringe digestion and "the trans-placental transfer of thyroid chemical and iodide (Landers et al., 2009)".

Endocrine abnormalities can complicate pregnancy. Diabetes-complicated pregnancies are rising "both in general and in children." Typical diabetes is growing. [8]

### **Risk Factors For Gestational Diabetes Mellitus**

Even while gestational diabetes can develop in any pregnant woman, there are several risk factors that can make it more likely to occur. These factors include the following:

- Overweight or weight
- Having a history of diabetes in your family;
- Having given birth to a child who weighed more than 9 pounds;
- Being over the age of 25 (women over the age of 25 have a “greater risk” of developing gestational diabetes than younger women);
- Having prediabetes, also known as impaired glucose tolerance

### **Thyroid Physiology Iodine Metabolism And Increased Iodine Requirement During Pregnancy**

Iodine consumption of 0.1 milligrammes per day is what is recommended. Iodine may be found in great quantities in milk, seafood, eggs, and salt that has been fortified with iodine. The stomach and the jejunum are responsible for the rapid conversion of iodine to iodide. Additionally absorbed into the blood. Iodide is able to penetrate the thyroid follicular cells in a functional manner thanks to a subordinate cycle involving ATP. The thyroid gland is responsible for storing over 90 percent of the body's total iodine supply. Iodine is eliminated from the body through the kidneys in large quantities. [9]

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that pregnant women and nursing mothers take in 250 mcg of iodine every day. This is due to the fact that the increase in thyroid chemical production that occurs “during pregnancy necessitates an equivalent increase in the availability of iodine”.

The enzyme placental deiodinase, also known as D3, removes iodine from T4 and T3, which in turn makes latent iodothyronines and converts T3 back into T4.

In addition to this, it prevents a significant amount of T4 from passing through the placenta.

Increased glomerular filtration rate together with increased iodine excretion in the urine is indicative of an increased need for iodine during pregnancy. Despite the fact that the foetal thyroid begins to develop by the 12th week of pregnancy, it is unable to think iodine until the 20th week of pregnancy.

The primary kind of molecule that is able to pass through the placenta up to that point is called the maternal T4.

The D3 (Deiodinase) protein, which is found in the mind and many tissues of the embryo, transforms from fT4 to T3 during the course of development. Therefore, throughout this time period, the only thing that may replenish the foetal iodine storage is the iodine supplied by the mother.

### **METABOLISM AND EXCRETION OF THYROID HORMONE”:**

In the liver, kidneys, and salivary organs, the metabolic inactivation of T3 takes place through the synthesis of glucuronide and de iodination; following this process, the byproducts are excreted in the bile. A sizeable portion of it is broken down into its component parts in the digestive tracts, after which it is once again absorbed into the enterohepatic flow and, finally, excreted in the urine. [10]

#### **“Mechanism of action”:**

“T3 enters the cells and combines with the specific DNA” arrangements that are located over the atomic receptor. This triggers de constraint or the direct enactment of quality record, which ultimately results in the articulation of a predetermined example of protein combination.

Large amounts of clinical symptoms that are chemically similar to those of thyroid disease Clinical indicators of thyroid chemicals such as tachycardia, arrhythmias, hypertension, and hyperglycemia might occur as a result of the sensitivity of adrenergic receptors to catecholamines.

### Thyroid Hormones Functions

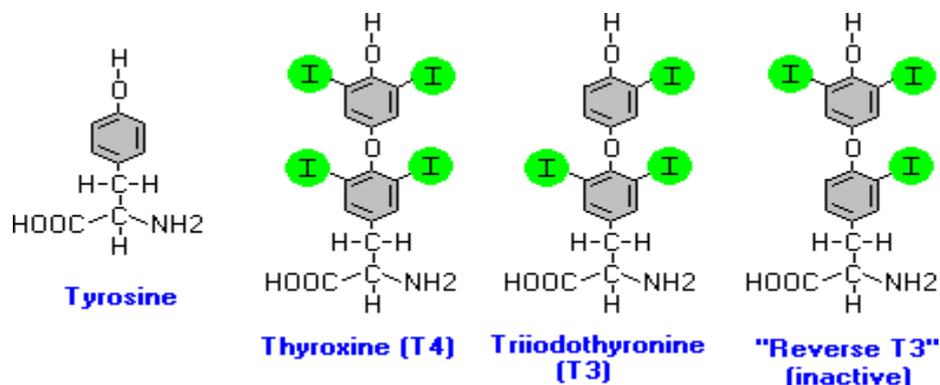


Figure 1 "Thyroid hormones affect almost every system in the body".

### Treatment for "GDM"

The first line of defence for type 2 diabetes is clinically sound treatment, and little exercise has been employed to manage the condition (ADA 2014). Following the failure of clinically sound treatment and healthy lifestyle changes, pharmacotherapy is the next line of defence. Insulin is the cornerstone of modern pharmaceutical therapy. (ADA 2014). Transitional and short-acting insulin, such the popular recombinant insulin analogues as part and lispro, are among the insulin types that can be added to insulin regimens. Insulin has typically been the medication of choice for treating GDM in female patients. Oral hypoglycemic medications such as metformin (a biguanide) and glyburide (a second-generation sulfonylurea) are more alluring than insulin because they are less expensive, simpler to use, and better at maintaining adherence. [11]

### EMBRYOLOGY

The thyroid organ emerges as crude "out pouching of crude foregut around the third seven day stretch of incubation. The thyroid organ begins at the foundation of tongue close to the foramen caecum".

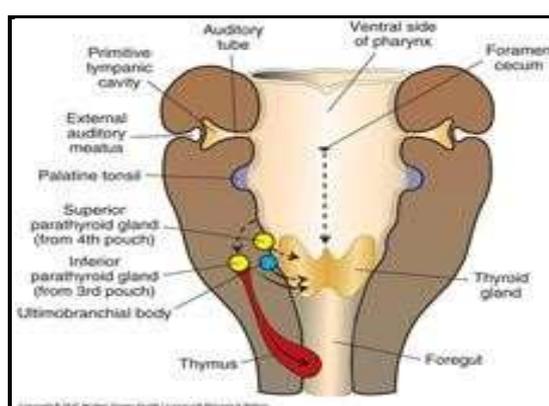


Figure 2

The average anlage of the thyroid is shaped by the thickening of the endodermal cells in the pharyngeal anlage. It then descends at the front of the neck "to the hyoid bone, where it joins the thyroglossal pipe, which connects the middle thyroid anlage to the foramen caecum. The thyroid follicular cells develop from the epithelial cells that are found in the anlage of the thyroid gland".

It is from the fourth brachial pocket that the matching sidelong anlagen emerge, and from there they connect with the average thyroid anlage. In the beginning, they have a neuroectodermal structure, and they release calcitonin. By the eleventh week of development, colloid arrangement has begun from within the thyroid follicle.

### OVER THYROIDISM”;

It is characterised by elevated levels of TSH and low levels of T4. There is a 0.3 to 0.5 percent chance of this happening. Frailty, early birth, toxemia, placental unexpectedness, preterm work, postpartum drain, and newborn respiratory illness are all associated with obvious hypothyroidism.

“In 1969, Jones WS et al completed a study in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology which claims that preterm deliveries were more common in pregnant women with low thyroxine levels. This review was published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology”.

Plain hypothyroidism was shown to be associated with an increased frequency of toxemia and low birth weight neonates, according to the findings of a review that was conducted in 1993 by Leung AS et al. In 2000, Allan WC and colleagues focused on the finding that the risk of foetal loss was increased in pregnant women whose TSH levels were more than 10 mIU/ml. In 1988.

“The researchers Davis et al. followed 25 hypothyroid women, of which 16 had obvious hypothyroidism and 12 had subclinical hypothyroidism. They came to the conclusion that mothers with plain hypothyroidism have an increased risk for toxemia, preterm labour, sudden placenta, post pregnancy discharge, stillbirth, and cardiovascular dysfunction”.

“According to a practise release on thyroid disease in pregnancy that was published by ACOG in 2001, untreated hypothyroid women are more likely to develop toxemia, and the absence of treatment results in low birth weight kids. It was shown in a study that was published in the Archives of Gynecology and Obstetrics in 2010 by Sahu MT et al. that women who had evident hypothyroidism were more likely to have gestational hypertension, intrauterine growth restriction, and intrauterine foetal loss. There have been two or three studies that have demonstrated that a low thyroxine concentration in early pregnancy can be connected to a low astute remainder in children when they are 7 years old”. [12]

### Complications

"Hyperthyroidism dramatically raises the risk of pregnancy and adverse foetal outcomes, including," if untreated.

Preeclampsia, premature birth, placental abruption, hyperthyroidism in the foetus, and other conditions (Zimmerman, 1999; Earl et al., 2010).

### CONCLUSION

Given that this study showed that women with pre-gestational diabetes mellitus frequently have thyroid impairment, it is important to check these women's thyroid function when they are pregnant. Thyroid dysfunction was present in both pregnant women with GDM and healthy pregnant women, but in 27% of them, TPO Ab titers were positive, indicating the need for additional testing for postpartum thyroiditis and dysfunction. Therefore, it can be concluded from the findings that women with gestational diabetes mellitus were more likely than healthy pregnant women to have thyroid dysfunction, which is manifested as hypothyroidism with high anti-TPO levels.

### REFERENCES

- [1] Kumar, S.C.K., Snehalatha, C., Mary, S., Selvam, S., Shetty, S.B. and Nanditha, A. (2012). Changes in insulin secretion and insulin sensitivity in relation to the glycemic outcomes in subjects with impaired glucose tolerance in the Indian Diabetes Prevention Programme – (IDPP-1), *Diabetes Care*: 32(10), 1796-1801. ISSN:0149-5992.
- [2] Vissenberg R, van den Boogaard E, van Wely M, van der Post JA, Fliers E, Bisschop PH, Goddijn M. (July 2012), Treatment of thyroid disorders before conception and in early pregnancy: a systematic review. *Hum Reprod Update*. 18 (4): 360-73.

- [3] Negro R, Stagnaro-Green A. (June 2020), Clinical aspects of hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, and thyroid screening in pregnancy. *EndocrPract*; 20 (6): 597-607.
- [4] Karakosta P, Alegakis D, Georgiou V, Roumeliotaki T, Fthenou E, Vassilaki M, Boumpas D, Castanas E, Kogevas M, Chatzi L. (December 1997), Thyroid dysfunction and auto antibodies in early pregnancy are associated with increased risk of gestational diabetes and adverse birth outcomes. *J ClinEndocrinolMetab.*; 97 (12): 4464-72
- [5] Yang S, Shi FT, Leung PC, Huang HF, Fan J. (November 2016), Low Thyroid Hormone in Early Pregnancy Is Associated With an Increased Risk of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus; *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*; 101 (11): 4237-4243.
- [6] Tobias DK, Chavarro JE, Williams MA, Buck Louis GM, Hu FB, Rich-Edwards J, Missmer SA, Zhang C. (15 October 2013), History of infertility and risk of gestational diabetes mellitus: a prospective analysis of 40,773 pregnancies. *Am J Epidemiol*;178(8):1219-25.
- [7] Urman B, Sarac E, Dogan L, Gurgan T. (August 1997), Pregnancy in infertile PCOD patients. Complications and outcome. *J Reprod Med*; 42(8):501-5.
- [8] Lanzone A, Caruso A, Di Simone N, De Carolis S, Fulghesu AM, Mancuso S. (April 1995), Polycystic ovary disease. A risk factor for gestational diabetes? *J Reprod Med*; 40(4):312-6.
- [9] Jun Z Qin, Li H Pang, Mu J Li, Xiao J Fan, Ru D Huang, Hong Y Chen .(June 2013), *J Reprod Biol Endocrinol*; 11: 56.
- [10] Dunaif A, Xia J, Book CB, Schenker E, Tang Z. (August 1995); Excessive insulin receptor serine phosphorylation in cultured fibroblasts and in skeletal muscle. A potential mechanism for insulin resistance in the polycystic ovary syndrome. *J Clin Invest*; 96(2):801-10.
- [11] Holst S, Kjr SK, JÃ ,rgensen ME, Damm P, Jensen A. (August 2016), Fertility problems and risk of gestational diabetes mellitus: a nationwide cohort study. *Fertil Steril*; 106(2):427-434.
- [12] Tomar, V. (2022). A Review on Procedure of QSAR Assessment in Organic Compounds As a Measure of Antioxidant Potentiality .*International Journal for Global Academic & Scientific Research*, 1(1), 7–12. <https://doi.org/10.55938/ijgasr.v1i1.2>