

SUBCLINICAL HYPOTHYROIDISM

Test	<u>Anti-Thyroid Peroxidase Antibodies (anti-TPO)</u>
Associated with	Autoimmune thyroid disease Graves disease (70-90%) Hashimoto's Thyroiditis (85-100%), Primary Atrophic Hypothyroidism (60%)
Also positive in	Pernicious anaemia (60%), Type 1 DM (20-25%), Myasthenia Gravis (15-25%) Low levels in 2-8% of normal individuals, esp. elderly and women
Indications	Subclinical hypothyroidism Request to help to determine if an autoimmune process is present and help predict risk of progression to overt hypothyroidism.
Notes	If anti-TPO antibodies are positive then TFTs should be checked annually as patients will likely progress to overt hypothyroidism at some point in the future. There is clear guidance on the endocrinology section of refhelp.

*Note that TSH receptor antibodies (TRAB) are performed by biochemistry not immunology and are performed automatically by the biochemistry laboratory on all hyperthyroid bloods (associated with Graves' disease).

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