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## Conflict of Interest Disclosure: I have no potential conflict of interest to report

**Introduction:** Thyroid hormones play an important role in cell differentiation and growth. We examine the association between thyroid hormone and lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS)/ benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and the role of testosterone in their relationships.

#### Methods

A total of 5708 middle aged men who participated in a health examination were included. LUTS/BPH were assessed using the International Prostate Symptom Score (IPSS), total prostate volume (TPV), maximal flow rate (Qmax), and a full metabolic workup. Thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) and free thyroxine (FT4) levels were measured using immunoassay. We divided participants into quartiles based on their TSH and FT4 levels: first to fourth quartile (Q1 to Q4).

**Results:** Mean age: 51.1±5.2 years. Mean testosterone: 5.2±1.5 ng/mL. Metabolic syndrome: 41.6%. Mean IIEF:17.7±5.3. Mean TPV, IPSS, and Qmax was 24.1±7.0 mL, 10.6±7.1, and 23.0±8.6 mL/sec, respectively.

| Variable          |      | Free T4 |      |      |      | TSH  |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                   | Q1   | Q2      | Q3   | Q4   | Р    | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q4   | P    |
| TPV≥30 mL         | 15.2 | 16.4    | 18.0 | 19.3 | .002 | 17.5 | 17.9 | 16.6 | 16.6 | .386 |
| IPSS>7            | 57.2 | 56.7    | 60.3 | 62.5 | .001 | 59.0 | 59.7 | 59.4 | 58.3 | .668 |
| Qmax<10<br>mL/sec | 3.5  | 3.2     | 4.1  | 4.8  | .038 | 4.1  | 3.2  | 3.1  | 5.2  | .199 |

Table 1. Relationships between FT4 or TSH and LUTS/BPH measurements

## Table 2. Adjusted ORs of FT4 or TSH for LUTS/BPH measurement

|                | FT4 | Adjusted OR (5-95 confidence interval) | $P^a$ |
|----------------|-----|--|-------|
| TPV≥30 mL      | Q1  | 1.000 (references)                     |       |
|                | Q2  | 1.113 (.910-1.361)                     | .296  |
|                | Q3  | 1.256 (1.027-1.537)                    | .027  |
|                | Q4  | 1.364 (1.120-1.662)                    | .002  |
| IPSS>7         | Q1  | 1.000 (references)                     |       |
|                | Q2  | .970 (.837-1.124)                      | .684  |
|                | Q3  | 1.121 (.963-1.305)                     | .141  |
|                | Q4  | 1.215 (1.044-1.414)                    | .012  |
| Qmax<10 mL/sec | Q1  | 1.000 (references)                     |       |
|                | Q2  | .890 (.592-1.338)                      | .576  |
|                | Q3  | 1.145 (.772-1.698)                     | .500  |
|                | Q4  | 1.340 (.918-1.955)                     | .129  |

#### **Table 3.** Relationships between FT4 and TPV according to testosterone level

|               | Testesterene |      | <br> |      |      |      |  |
|---------------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|               | restosterone | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q4   | P    |  |
| TPV<br>≥30 mL | ≤5.06 ng/mL  | 16.6 | 14.8 | 18.4 | 18.2 | .189 |  |
|               | >5.06 ng/mL  | 13.9 | 18.0 | 17.7 | 20.5 | .002 |  |

## Table 4. Adjusted ORs of FT4 for TPV according to testosterone level

| Variable               | Testosterone | FT4 | Adjusted ORs (5-95   | P <sup>a</sup> |
|------------------------|--------------|-----|----------------------|----------------|
|                        |              |     | confidence interval) |                |
| TPV≥30 mL <sup>1</sup> | ≤5.06        | Q1  | 1.000 (references)   |                |
|                        | ng/mL        | Q2  | .883 (.663-1.175)    | .393           |
|                        |              | Q3  | 1.145 (.864-1.516)   | .345           |
|                        |              | Q4  | 1.222 (.851-1.481)   | .414           |
|                        | >5.06        | Q1  | 1.000 (references)   |                |
|                        | ng/mL        | Q2  | 1.394 (1.050-1.851)  | .022           |
|                        |              | Q3  | 1.386 (1.036-1.852)  | .028           |
|                        |              | Q4  | 1.661 (1.253-2.203)  | <.001          |

**Conclusion**: We found a possible role of thyroid hormone in the development of LUTS/BPH, and we demonstrated a possible role of testosterone in the relationship between thyroid hormone and TPV