

Review of: "[Short Communication] Advisory caution message on retail packaging of Levothyroxine and its significance in the treatment of hypothyroidism"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

First, I would like to thank Dr. Thakur for his effort, and I have some comments that may be useful for this paper.

In this paper, the author said that the consulting GP in India kept increasing the dose of levothyroxine to treat the chronic subclinical hypothyroidism patients, and they believed that once they started the treatment with levothyroxine, they couldn't stop it. Moreover, he said that the GP has a limited awareness of thyroid disorders. Are these the author's personal observations or was this information documented in reliable references? The GP should have a good medical knowledge to treat each case according to the treatment guidelines. So, I don't think we can make this as a general note to stop the medication for all patients.

I see that it is better for the advisory note to include any symptoms that may occur due to the overdose or the long duration of treatment. The patient should not stop the medication by him/herself. The patient's condition should be first assessed by the physician prior to making such a decision. It is usual that the GP does a clinical examination and correlates this with the laboratory tests before prescribing the exact dose of levothyroxine. Furthermore, the cut-off TSH level of 10 mIU/L may be changeable from patient to patient depending on other factors such as age, diet, and the co-existence of other diseases. So, the clinical examination is important to evaluate the patient's status and check if there are any side effects due to the current dose.