

Review report

Final title: **Patterns of thyroid disorders among patients attending an endocrine clinic in Dhaka city**

Title at submission: **Spectrum of thyroid disorders at endocrinology outpatient department: Retrospective observational study of 1015 cases**



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Round 1

Reviewer B: Anonymous

Overview

This study pledges valuable insights into the prevalence and spectrum of thyroid disorders (TDs) in a Bangladeshi endocrine outpatient setting. By analyzing 3,140 patient records, it highlights the predominance of hypothyroidism, particularly overt forms, and thyrotoxicosis, with notable associations with age, diabetes, and hypertension. The findings emphasize the importance of modified management strategies and enhanced diagnostic focus in addressing TDs in similar settings. The study's robust use of ICD-11 classification and a comprehensive review of baseline characteristics strengthen its clinical relevance. Overall, it offers a significant contribution to understanding TDs patterns in resource-limited countries like Bangladesh.

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Responsible editor

M Mostafa Zaman
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Reviewers

B: Anonymous
D: Hurjahan Banu
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G: Anonymous

Keywords

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thyrotoxicosis, thyroiditis,
Bangladesh

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None

Ethical approval

Approved by IRB of Medical
College for Women and Hospital
(Memo No. MCW/Ethical
committee/2024/12(1), Dated 29
Dec 2024).

Trail registration number

Not applicable

- 1. Comment** This study provides valuable insights into the burden and spectrum of thyroid disorders in a resource-limited setting, where such data is scarce. The findings emphasize the need for improved screening, early diagnosis, and targeted management of thyroid disorders, particularly among high-risk groups such as women, older adults, and individuals with comorbidities. Future research should explore the long-term outcomes and the effectiveness of interventions to address these common yet diverse endocrine disorders

Response Thank you for your positive comments. No revision is needed.

Round 2

Reviewer D: Hurjahan Banu, ORCID: 0000-0002-8115-1761

- 1. Comment** The authors attempted to focus on the prevalence of thyroid problems in a local clinic in Dhaka, which was a good effort. However, they did not specify which age group they included. Furthermore, they did not mention the antibody and iodine status of these patients, which could have helped to identify the causal points of interest, as the discussion section of the manuscript focuses on this aspect.

Response Age group is added in abstract and methodology section. (page 2, line 42, page 4, line 91)
Antibody status and Iodine nutrition status could help us for better classification of underlying causes.

However, autoantibody testing was done in a small number of patients, so we did not include it during analysis. Urinary iodine concentration is not routinely done in the laboratory. Only available for research purposes, that's why we could not add this information.

We mentioned all these things in the limitations section of the article. This study gap may be filled by further study. (page 7, line 179-83)

- 2. Comment** "Spectrum of thyroid disorders at a local clinic of Dhaka city: A Retrospective observational study"

Response We modified the title of the article according to the recommendations of Editor's comments: (page 1-2, line 3,31)

- 3. Comment** Is it important to specify comorbidities?

Response We included only DM and Hypertension, as these comorbid conditions are frequently associated with thyroid disorders due to effect of thyroid hormones. (page 11, 12 table 2, 3)

Reviewer G: Anonymous

- 4. Comment**
- Follow-up issues: Some patients did not complete assessments to confirm diagnoses.
 - Autoantibody Data Missing: Limits subclassification of autoimmune thyroiditis.
 - outpatient population: May not represent community or hospitalized cases.

Response We mentioned all these things in the limitation section. Hope future studies will bridge the study gaps. (page 7, line 178-83)

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Responsible editor: M Mostafa Zaman, ORCID: [0000-0002-1736-1342](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1736-1342)

5. **Comment** The manuscript is based on a cross-sectional study using routine hospital data. The authors, however, confusingly used both retrospective and cross-sectional study types in several places.
- Response** We corrected the issues in the manuscript. (Page 4, line 85-88)
6. **Comment** The authors claim causation, but the study design does not permit this. The factors (age, sex, hypertension, and diabetes) are simply associated.
- Response** We simply described their association with thyroid disorders, rather claiming their causal role. We are ready to change the description according to your suggestions. (Page 2, line 48-52, page 11, table 2, page 12, table 3)
7. **Comment** We need the memo number along with the date of the ethical clearance.
- Response** Memo number is added. (Page 8, line 197-200)
8. **Comment** The manuscript could be shorter. I recommend using three tables and keeping the text description within 1500 words. The references could easily be reduced to 20. Figure 1 is unnecessary.
- Response** We used only three tables; Main text <1500 words; References <20; Figure 1: Removed