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29 **ABSTRACT**

30 **Context:** Alemtuzumab, a highly effective treatment for multiple sclerosis (MS), predisposes to
31 Graves' disease (GD) with a reportedly indolent course.

32 **Objective:** To determine the type, frequency and course of thyroid dysfunction (TD) in a cohort of
33 alemtuzumab-treated MS patients in the UK.

34 **Design:** Case records of alemtuzumab-treated patients who developed TD were reviewed.

35 **Results:** 41.1% (102/248; 80F, 22M) of patients developed TD, principally GD (71.6%). Median
36 onset was 17 months (range 2-107) following last dose; the majority (89%) within 3 years. Follow-up
37 data (range 6-251 months) was available in 71 cases, of whom 52 (73.2%) developed GD: 10 of these
38 (19.2%) had fluctuating TD. All 52 GD patients commenced anti-thyroid drugs (ATD): 3 required
39 radioiodine (RAI) due to ATD side-effects, drug therapy is ongoing in 2; of those who completed a
40 course, 16 are in remission, 1 developed spontaneous hypothyroidism, and 30 (64%) required
41 definitive or long-term treatment (RAI n=17, thyroidectomy n=5, long-term ATDs n=8). 3 cases of
42 thyroiditis and 16 cases of hypothyroidism were documented; 5 with anti-TPO antibody positivity
43 only, 10 with positive TRAb, 1 hypothyroidism (uncertain aetiology). Bioassay confirmed both
44 stimulating and blocking TRAb in a subset of fluctuating GD cases.

45 **Conclusions:** Contrary to published literature, we have recorded frequent occurrence of GD that
46 required definitive or prolonged antithyroid drug treatment. Furthermore, fluctuating thyroid status in
47 GD and unexpectedly high frequency of TRAb-positive hypothyroidism suggested changing activity
48 of TRAb in this clinical context; we have documented the existence of both blocking and stimulating
49 TRAb in these patients.

50

51 **Key terms:** Alemtuzumab, Graves' disease, Drug-induced thyroid disease

52

53 INTRODUCTION

54 Alemtuzumab, a monoclonal antibody that binds CD52, a membrane glycoprotein on T and B
55 lymphocytes and monocytes, leads to lysis and depletion of CD52+ cells (1). Its therapeutic effect is
56 mediated by the alteration in immune repertoire that accompanies subsequent lymphocyte
57 reconstitution (2). Alemtuzumab decreases relapse rate and disability progression in relapsing remitting
58 multiple sclerosis (RRMS), either in treatment naïve patients (3), or in patients previously treated with
59 interferon beta or glatiramer (4). Given its proven efficacy, alemtuzumab has been licensed for the
60 treatment of RRMS in many regions, including the US and EU. It is administered intravenously, with
61 treatment usually consisting of two courses; 12mg/day for five consecutive days, followed by the same
62 dose for three consecutive days 12 months later. Additional treatment courses may be considered.

63 The principal adverse effect of alemtuzumab is development of autoimmunity, occurring most
64 frequently at 16 months following last date of drug administration (5). Thyroid autoimmunity is most
65 common, with most studies reporting its occurrence in 17 to 34% of patients (41% in one study, 5).
66 Graves' disease (GD), occurring in 60-70% of cases, comprises the commonest cause of thyroid
67 dysfunction (5, 6, 7). It has been suggested that individual risk is modified by smoking (3 fold greater
68 risk) and family history (7 fold greater risk, 8); the role of gender is uncertain, with studies suggesting
69 no difference (8) or doubling of risk in females (9). Total alemtuzumab dosage and frequency of
70 intervals between treatments do not appear to influence development of autoimmunity (8). The
71 mechanism of alemtuzumab-induced autoimmunity is not fully understood, but has been attributed to a
72 breakdown in self-tolerance during immune reconstitution post alemtuzumab, with homeostatically
73 expanding autoreactive T cells driving a humoral autoimmune response (10). Autoimmunity is also a
74 recognised phenomenon following immune reconstitution in other contexts including bone marrow
75 transplantation (11) or HIV antiretroviral therapy (12, 13); moreover, GD is the commonest form of
76 TD seen during recovery from lymphopaenia (14).

77 The course of alemtuzumab-induced thyroid disease is not well described, but reports suggest that GD
78 occurring in this context may be less aggressive than the conventional disorder. In one case series
79 (n=31 GD), definitive treatment following failed response to anti-thyroid drug (ATD) therapy was only

80 required in 26%, compared to ~50% in conventional GD (8). Detailed analysis of TD in a large, phase
81 2 clinical trial showed that 23% of alemtuzumab-induced GD patients became euthyroid spontaneously,
82 15% developed hypothyroidism, with only 36% requiring **radioiodine** (RAI) or surgery (7, 9). In a
83 subsequent phase 3 trial, only 2 out of 28 hyperthyroid patients required RAI or surgery (15); in
84 another observational study 17 of the 22 patients with GD responded to drug therapy with only 3 cases
85 requiring RAI (5). In contrast, anecdotal case reports suggest a poor response to anti-thyroid drug
86 therapy (16) and GD with a fluctuating and unpredictable course has been noted (9).
87 Here, in one of the largest case series of alemtuzumab-induced TD, followed for over 20 years, we
88 have documented the type, frequency and course of alemtuzumab-induced thyroid dysfunction and
89 determined whether response to treatment differs compared to that reported in conventional thyroid
90 disease.

91

92 **SUBJECTS AND METHODS**

93 We undertook detailed **analysis** of all MS patients who developed TD after **treatment with**
94 **alemtuzumab in clinical trials prior to its licensing** at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge and
95 University Hospital Wales in Cardiff over a 20 year period (1993 to 2013).
96 Alemtuzumab was administered intravenously on consecutive days for one or more cycles (five
97 consecutive days for the first cycle; three consecutive days for subsequent cycles). The initial dose
98 (20mg/day) was increased to 24mg/day in 2003 following a change in supplier. From 2006, the dose
99 was reduced to 12mg/day to conform with the phase III study protocol. All patients receiving
100 alemtuzumab at either centre had baseline thyroid function tests (TSH, FT4) prior to commencement of
101 the drug, with TSH, FT4 and anti-thyroid peroxidase (TPO) antibody measurement 3 monthly for 2
102 years, 6 monthly for 2 years and then annually, or sooner if symptoms of TD developed. At each time-
103 point patients also underwent clinical review including **directed enquiry for** thyroid-related symptoms.
104 One patient with pre-existing thyroid disease (**in her past medical history**), was excluded from this
105 analysis.
106 All patients who developed thyroid dysfunction (defined below) underwent evaluation by an

107 endocrinologist. We have reviewed clinical features at presentation, all thyroid function test and
108 autoantibody data and management, including response to treatment. The bioactivity of anti-TSH
109 receptor antibody (TRAb) was measured in a subset of patients with fluctuating Graves' disease (as
110 defined below).

111

112 **Laboratory measurements**

113 Serum free T4, free T3 and TSH were measured using automated immunoassay systems (Advia
114 Centaur, Siemens in Cambridge throughout and in Cardiff until 2010, with Abbott Architect thereafter).
115 In Cambridge, TRAb was measured initially using a first generation ELISA assay, then Brahms
116 Lumitest TRAK assay (RR 1-2 IU/L equivocal, >2 positive) from 2002. Cardiff also used the Brahms
117 Lumitest TRAK assay (1-1.5 IU/L borderline, >1.5IU/L positive), changing to the Roche Cobas assay
118 (RR 0.9-1.6 IU/L borderline, >1.6 IU/L positive) in 2014. Note that, as the upper, accurately
119 quantifiable, limit of these assays is 40 IU/L (with levels greater than this being reported as ">40"
120 IU/L), in calculations for this study we have used 40 whenever TRAb levels of >40 were reported.
121 Information from Thermoscientific confirms that human TSH does not interfere with TRAb
122 measurement in the lumitest TRAK assay, up to TSH values of at least 500mU/L.
123 Anti-TPO antibody was measured using various assays over the study period: in Cambridge Serodia
124 agglutination assay (positive or negative) up to 2002, then Phadia ELISA (RR <100 iu/ml) until 2007
125 and Phadia immunocap (RR <100 iu/ml) till 2014 and then Siemens Centaur (RR <60 iu/ml)] until the
126 present; in Cardiff the Advia Centaur assay (RR <60 kU/L) until 2010 then the Abbott Architect (RR
127 <6 U/ml) until the present.
128 The bioactivity of anti-TSH receptor antibodies (TRAb) was measured using a Chinese Hamster Ovary
129 (CHO) cell line stably transfected with the human TSH receptor and a cAMP responsive luciferase
130 reporter, classifying them into receptor stimulating (TSAb) or blocking (TBAb) activities, as described
131 previously (17, 18).

132

133 **Definitions of Thyroid dysfunction**

- 134 • Thyroid dysfunction (TD): abnormal TSH on two or more occasions at least 3 months apart.
- 135 • Graves' disease (GD): hyperthyroidism (low TSH +/- elevated FT4) with positive TRAb
- 136 and/or increased tracer uptake (>1.5%) on technetium scan.
- 137 • Hashimoto's thyroiditis (HT): raised TSH with positive anti-TPO antibody and negative TRAb.
- 138 • Thyroiditis: thyrotoxicosis followed by spontaneous euthyroidism or hypothyroidism, with
- 139 negative TRAb and/or reduced or absent tracer uptake on technetium scan.
- 140 • Fluctuating GD: GD with unexpected fluctuations from hyper- to hypothyroidism (or vice
- 141 versa), which could not be explained by omission or changes in therapy.
- 142 • TRAb positive hypothyroidism: raised TSH with positive TRAb (+/- positive anti-TPO
- 143 antibody).

145 **RESULTS**

146 From May 1993 to October 2013 249 patients received at least one course of alemtuzumab therapy for
147 MS in Cambridge and Cardiff. Following this, new TD was diagnosed in 102/248 (41.1%) of patients.
148 Detailed follow up data (mean 67 months, range 6-251 months) was available in 71 of these cases
149 (Figure 1).

150 **Patient Characteristics**

151 The age range of patients (n=102) was between 20 and 60 years (mean 37.6 years), with a
152 preponderance of females (female n=80 (78%); male n=22 (22%); female to male ratio 3.6:1) (Table
153 1a). Most patients received more than one course of alemtuzumab treatment [Courses (Number of
154 Patients): 1 (n=10); 2 (n=55); 3(n=25); 4 (n=10); 5 (n=2)]. 34 (46.6%) patients had not received other
155 therapy prior to alemtuzumab, 39 (53.4%) had received other therapies (usually steroids, IFN-beta or
156 glatiramer), with no prior treatment information in 29 cases. With the exception of a single case in
157 which IFN-beta was commenced four months before, none of the patients had received
158 immunomodulatory therapy within one year prior to onset of TD. Anti-TPO antibody levels were
159 checked prior to alemtuzumab in 50 patients, being negative in 42 and positive (mostly weakly) in 8
160 cases; TRAb levels were not tested prior to alemtuzumab.

161

162 Characteristics of Thyroid Dysfunction

163 Overall, 41.1% (102/248; 80F, 22M) of patients developed thyroid dysfunction (TD). The onset of TD,
164 calculated in months from the date of alemtuzumab dose immediately prior to the onset of TD, was
165 very variable (mean onset (\pm SD) 23 ± 18.2 months; range 2 to 107 months), with the majority of
166 patients (89 of 100, 89%;) developing TD within three years of last treatment (in two patients the
167 timing of onset was unknown).

168 73 patients (71.6%) developed GD, 12 patients (11.7%) exhibited hypothyroidism with positive TRAb,
169 HT occurred in 6 patients (5.8%), thyroiditis in 5 patients (4.9%), hypothyroidism (TRAb negative,
170 anti-TPO antibody negative or not tested) and hyperthyroidism (TRAb negative or not tested;
171 technetium scan not done) of unknown aetiology each occurred in 2 patients; the cause of TD in 2
172 patients was unknown and they were lost to follow-up (Table 1a).

173 TRAb levels, ascertained in 72 of the 73 GD patients, were recorded as either “positive” in 11 or
174 quantified (Mean (\pm SD) TRAb level 19.2 IU/L (\pm 14.7) in 60 cases. In two patients with negative or
175 unknown TRAb status, tracer uptake in isotope scans was diffusely increased.

176 Fluctuating Graves’ Disease

177 12 of the 73 (16.4%) GD cases exhibited fluctuating thyroid status, transitioning from hypo to
178 hyperthyroidism and vice versa after a variable period of time (Table 2). Measurement of TRAb
179 bioactivity in 8 of these patients showed the presence of both stimulating (TSAb) and blocking
180 (TBAb) circulating TRAb activities (Table 2).

181 The course of fluctuating thyroid status in one such case (Patient 6, Table 2) is detailed in Figure 2.

182 Following three cycles of alemtuzumab treatment (2006, 2007, 2011) a 44 year-old female developed
183 subclinical hyperthyroidism (TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 19.5 pmol/L) in 2013, 25 months after her last
184 treatment; she then became hypothyroid (TSH 18 mU/L, FT4 10 pmol/L) spontaneously 3 months
185 later. Following thyroxine replacement for one year, she developed hyperthyroidism (TSH <0.03
186 mU/L, FT4 36.6pmol/L), which persisted (TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 32 pmol/L) despite thyroxine
187 withdrawal and was associated with elevated TRAb levels (initially 4.3 mU/L, then >40 mU/L): she

188 then commenced carbimazole. Despite compliance with a block & replace (carbimazole 40mg,
189 thyroxine 25mcg) regimen, she remained persistently thyrotoxic (TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 28.6pmol/L)
190 and has opted to continue on high dose thionamide (carbimazole 30mg) therapy rather than have
191 definitive treatment.

192 **TRAb positive Hypothyroidism**

193 12 patients (11.7%) developed hypothyroidism associated with surprisingly high (mean 30.4 IU/L,
194 range 3.9 - >40 IU/L) TRAb levels and variable anti-TPO antibody status (positive n=6, negative n=4,
195 unknown n=2). Measurement of TRAb bioactivity showed circulating blocking TRAb (TBAb) in 3
196 out of 4 such cases (Table 3).

197 **Outcome of Thyroid Dysfunction**

198 To determine the course of thyroid dysfunction, we analysed a dataset from 71 patients in whom
199 detailed information from follow-up (median follow up 67 months, range 6-251 months) was
200 available. The demographics of this subset of cases was similar to that of the whole TD cohort (Table
201 1b), as was the type and frequency of TD; the majority (n=52, 73.2%) of patients developed GD, 10
202 patients (14.1%) exhibited hypothyroidism with positive TRAb, HT occurred in 5 patients (7.0%),
203 thyroiditis in 3 patients (4.2%) and hypothyroidism of unknown aetiology in one case. 7 (13.4%)
204 patients (3 smokers, 4 non-smokers) developed **clinically overt** ophthalmopathy which was
205 particularly severe in two cases (both non-smokers), possibly linked to RAI treatment without steroid
206 cover in one individual, requiring immunosuppressive treatment or surgical decompression. Pretibial
207 myxoedema or acropachy was not recorded in any cases.

208 All 52 patients with GD were treated initially with ATD; 3 patients intolerant (rash, fatigue) of drug
209 therapy underwent RAI within 6 months of diagnosis; 49 patients were treated with either block and
210 replace (n=30) or titration (n=19) regimens (Figure 3a) with the first course of ATD therapy ongoing
211 in 2 patients (Figure 3b) at time of data analysis.

212 Of 47 patients completing ATD treatment of appropriate duration (block & replace regimen at least 6
213 months; titration regimen at least 12 months), 30 (64%) individuals ultimately required definitive
214 treatment (Figure 3b). Of these, 17 had RAI (**n=14**, one treatment; n=2, two treatments; n=1, three

215 treatments), 5 underwent thyroidectomy and 8 opted to remain on ATDs long-term (average duration
216 45 months, range 15-90 months). Reasons for RAI included relapsed (n=10), fluctuating (n=4) or
217 difficult to control (n=3) GD; thyroidectomy was undertaken in either difficult to control (n=2) cases
218 or patients requiring prolonged ATD treatment (n=3; 3, 4, 6 years on ATDs).
219 16 patients being followed **after discontinuation of antithyroid drug treatment** (average duration 82.6
220 months, range 28 to 137 months), remain in remission. One patient with fluctuating disease (patient 3
221 in Table 2) developed hypothyroidism spontaneously. Prior to discontinuation of anti-thyroid drug
222 treatment TRAb levels were only checked in 7 patients (6 TRAb negative - 1 relapsed; 1 TRAb
223 positive – relapsed).

224

225 **DISCUSSION**

226 Thyroid dysfunction occurred frequently (41%) in our cohort of alemtuzumab-treated multiple
227 sclerosis patients, with GD (72%) being the most frequent thyroid disorder, in accordance with
228 previous studies (8, 9). **Although TD was more commonly seen in women (F:M ratio 3.6:1), we**
229 **acknowledge that the known excess female preponderance of MS could have influenced this gender**
230 **distribution. Virtually all of our patients had not been treated with other MS therapies in the year**
231 **preceding onset of TD.**

232 The onset of TD was highly variable, but 89% occurred within 36 months of last administration of
233 alemtuzumab, and 91% within four years, the period recommended for regular thyroid surveillance. In
234 a previous clinical trial, risk of autoimmune dysfunction peaked at 12-18 months **after last**
235 **alemtuzumab treatment**, with no recorded autoimmunity beyond 5 years after therapy (8). In contrast,
236 in our cohort, 9 patients exhibited late-onset TD (n=2 at 5yrs, n=4 at 6yrs, n=1 at 7yrs, n=2 at 9 yrs)
237 following the last dose of alemtuzumab. Whilst such dysfunction might be unrelated to alemtuzumab
238 treatment, it may be prudent to consider surveillance for thyroid dysfunction (e.g. annual TSH
239 measurement) for a longer period following alemtuzumab therapy.

240 A significant proportion (16.4%) of our patients developed GD with a fluctuating and unpredictable
241 course and it is conceivable that this is an underestimate as frequent use of a block and replace ATD

242 regimen may have masked additional cases. Fluctuating course in alemtuzumab-induced GD has been
243 noted anecdotally previously, with one study documenting hypothyroidism followed by
244 hyperthyroidism in 4 patients and unusual spontaneous transition of GD to euthyroidism or
245 hypothyroidism (9). Measurements of TRAb bioactivity, documenting the presence of both
246 stimulating (TSAb) and blocking (TBAb) TRAb activities in our patients, supports the notion that
247 changes in the circulating proportions of TSAbs and TBAb species over time with resultant stimulation
248 or inhibition of thyroid hormone production, lead to fluctuation in thyroid status. This phenomenon
249 has been described previously (19) but in other contexts, with switching between TBAb and TSAbs (or
250 vice versa) being documented in rare patients following levothyroxine therapy for hypothyroidism or
251 after ATD treatment of conventional GD (20). We have also recorded a higher prevalence (11.7%) of
252 hypothyroidism with positive TRAb in alemtuzumab-treated patients than in conventional
253 Hashimoto's thyroiditis (5%) (21), suggesting that TBAb activity may also operate in this context.
254 Similar to the management of conventional GD in our centres, the majority (49/52) of our
255 alemtuzumab-induced GD patients were treated with ATDs, but a higher proportion (64%) of patients
256 proceeded to either definitive treatment (RAI or thyroidectomy) or opted to remain on ATDs long-
257 term, compared to the proportion (50%) of conventional GD patients exercising these options (22). In
258 our retrospective analyses, reasons for long-term ATD treatment were not always documented, but it
259 is likely that relative refractoriness to drug treatment or presence of a fluctuating course prompted
260 many physicians to not withdraw ATDs at completion of a course of standard duration. Such
261 requirement for either definitive or long-term ATD treatment and a lower remission rate (34%)
262 compares unfavourably with the remission rate (50%) in conventional GD (22). Our observations
263 differ from the published literature, which suggests that alemtuzumab-induced GD has a more
264 favourable outcome, with a high rate of spontaneous remission and good response to medical
265 treatment, than the conventional disorder (23). In conventional GD, higher TRAb levels at cessation
266 of ATD therapy are known to be associated with greater risk of relapse following drug withdrawal
267 (24). In our study TRAb levels were only recorded in a minority of patients at cessation of ATDs; in
268 future studies of ATD therapy in alemtuzumab-induced GD, serial TRAb measurement could

269 determine whether lower remission rates correlate with differences in change of TRAb levels or
270 activity following treatment.

271 13.4% of patients exhibited Graves' orbitopathy (GO), but this could be an underestimate as patients
272 did not undergo routine ophthalmological assessment or MRI imaging, such that mild or subclinical
273 dysthyroid eye disease might not have been recorded. Development of GO following alemtuzumab
274 therapy is documented infrequently with occurrence of 6.25% of patients in one study (9). In the
275 published literature of over 1000 alemtuzumab-treated patients 6 cases of GO have been recorded, but
276 this incidence (0.6%) is also likely to be an underestimate as ophthalmopathy was not screened for
277 routinely. Nevertheless, sight-threatening ophthalmopathy seems to be a rare complication of
278 alemtuzumab treatment.

279 Our study has several limitations. Due to its retrospective nature, data including type and onset of TD
280 in 2 cases and its aetiology in 4 cases is missing. Our study was limited to two tertiary centres, such
281 that complex or difficult cases could be over-represented in the cohort; in addition, in the absence of a
282 common treatment algorithm, the influence of differences in the management of GD cannot be
283 completely discounted. Nevertheless, our work represents first documentation of alemtuzumab-
284 induced thyroid dysfunction in a large patient cohort, including the course, management and outcome
285 of Graves' with prolonged duration of follow up.

286

287 CONCLUSION

288 Alemtuzumab is highly effective therapy for relapsing-remitting MS (number need to treat to benefit:
289 5; number needed to treat for a serious adverse event: 148) (25). However, the development of thyroid
290 autoimmunity months or years after treatment is a frequent complication, requiring ongoing
291 biochemical surveillance for at least 4 years after alemtuzumab therapy, to detect and treat TD
292 promptly. This study suggests that alemtuzumab-induced TD, and GD in particular, can present
293 unique challenges: in this context, GD may develop several years after alemtuzumab treatment,
294 exhibit a fluctuating course (likely related to changing repertoire of stimulating versus blocking
295 TRAb), with a need for definitive (RAI, surgery) or long-term ATD treatment which exceeds that in

296 conventional GD. Following recent regulatory approval of alemtuzumab for treatment of MS,
297 endocrinologists will be required to manage this form of TD more often. Based on our experience, we
298 suggest close monitoring of thyroid function in alemtuzumab-treated MS patients, particularly if they
299 develop GD, offering early definitive treatment in drug-refractory or fluctuating cases.

300

301

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305

306

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380 **Figure Legends**

381 **Figure 1**

382 Overview of patients included in the study.

383 **Figure 2**

384 Course of thyroid dysfunction in a patient (patient 6 in Table 3) with fluctuating Graves' disease.

385 Figure 3

- 386 (a) Initial treatment modality in 52 patients with Graves' disease and follow up data. Three
387 patients underwent radioiodine treatment due to intolerance of anti-thyroid drugs.
- 388 (b) **Longer term management** in 47 patients with Graves' disease following completion of initial
389 course of anti-thyroid drug therapy.

Table 1 (a). Demographics and nature of thyroid dysfunction in all patients (n=102)

Gender	Age	No. treatment courses of alemtuzumab	Interval to Thyroid Dysfunction onset after last dose alemtuzumab	Type of Thyroid Dysfunction
Female 78% (n=80)	Mean 37.6 ± SD 9.2 years (range 20-60 years)	1 treatment (n=10)	Mean 22.9 ± SD 18.2 months (range 2-107 months)	Graves' Disease 71.6% (n=73)
Male 22% (n=22)		2 treatments (n=55)		Hypothyroidism with positive TRAb 11.7% (n=12)
		3 treatments (n=25)		Hashimoto's thyroiditis 5.8% (n=6)
		4 treatments (n=10)		Thyroiditis 4.9% (n=5)
		5 treatments (n=2)		Hypothyroidism, unspecified 2% (n=2)
		Hyperthyroidism, unspecified 2% (n=2)		
			Unknown 2% (n=2)	

Table 1 (b). Demographics and nature of thyroid dysfunction in cases with followup data (n=71)

Gender	Age	No. doses alemtuzumab	Interval to Thyroid Dysfunction onset after last dose alemtuzumab	Type of Thyroid Dysfunction
Female 75% (n=53)	Mean 37.8 ± SD 9.8 years (range 20-60 years)	1 treatment (n=6)	Mean 23.1 ± SD 20.2 months (range 2-107 months)	Graves' Disease 73.2% (n=52)
Male 25% (n=18)		2 treatments (n=38)		Hypothyroidism with positive TRAb 14.1% (n=10)
		3 treatments (n=19)		Hashimoto's thyroiditis 7.0% (n=5)
		4 treatments (n=7)		Thyroiditis 4.2% (n=3)
		5 treatments (n=1)		Hypothyroidism, unspecified 1.4% (n=1)

Table 2. Subset of patients with fluctuating Graves' disease (n=12)

Patient No.	Alemtuzumab cycles*	Episodes of thyroid dysfunction					
		Onset ±	Type	TFT results	TRAb (IU/L)	TSH Receptor Antibody Bioactivity	Outcome
1	0 / 12 / - / -	5 months	Subclinical Hypothyroidism	TSH 5.7 mU/L, FT4 10.9 pmol/L**	ND	TSAb +, TBAb +/-	Remission
		29 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 25 pmol/L**	3.4**	TSAb ++, TBAb -	
2	0 / 20 / - / -	18 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH 19.30 mU/L, FT4 10.3 pmol/L***	>40**	TSAb +/-, TBAb ++	Poor control on ATD necessitated RA!
		22 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 42.8 pmol/L***	>40**	TSAb -, TBAb +	
3	0 / 12 / - / -	6 months	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 20.9 pmol/L**	ND	TSAb +/-, TBAb -	Hypothyroidism (5 months after stopping ATD)
		3 months later	Hypothyroidism	N/A	ND	TSAb ++, TBAb ++	
		18 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 28 pmol/L***	5.5**	TSAb +, TBAb -	
		19 months later	Hypothyroidism	TSH 27.1 mU/L, FT4 10.2 pmol/L**	ND	ND	
4	0 / 14 / 82 / -	12 months	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 28 pmol/L**	ND	TSAb -, TBAb -	Remission
		3 months later	Hypothyroidism	TSH 13.40 mU/L, FT4 10.7 pmol/L***	ND	TSAb -, TBAb +/-	
		3 months later	Hyperthyroidism	N/A	N/A (7.0**, 5 months later)	TSAb ++, TBAb +/-	
5	0 / 12 / - / -	12 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH 30.10 mU/L, FT4 10.5 pmol/L***	ND	TSAb ++, TBAb ++	Relapse (4 months after stopping ATD)
		48 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 pmol/L, FT4 41.6 pmol/L**	ND (8.1**, 7months earlier)	TSAb -, TBAb +/-	
6	0 / 12 / 53 / 99	25 months	Subclinical Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 19.5 pmol/L**	ND	TSAb +/-, TBAb +	Poor control on ATD
		3 months later	Hypothyroidism	TSH 18 mU/L, FT4 10 pmol/L**	ND	TSAb +, TBAb ++	
		20 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.03 mU/L, FT4 31.9 pmol/L**	8.1**	TSAb -, TBAb +/-	
7	0 / 12 / - / -	12 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH 98 mU/L, FT4 5.2 pmol/L±±	>40±±	ND	Poor control on ATD necessitated RA!
		12 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH <0.01 mU/L, FT4 32.6 pmol/L±±	ND	ND	

Table 2. Subset of patients with fluctuating Graves' disease (n=12)

Patient No.	Alemtuzumab cycles*	Episodes of thyroid dysfunction					
		Onset ±	Type	TFT results	TRAb (IU/L)	TSH Receptor Antibody Bioactivity	Outcome
8	0 / 12 / 39 / -	11 months	Subclinical Hyperthyroidism	TSH 0.02 mU/L, FT4 14.9 pmol/L, FT3 7.0 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	ND	ND	Poor control on ATD necessitated RAI
		17 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH 72 mU/L, FT4 5.8 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	> 40 $\pm\pm$	ND	
		10 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH 0.01 mU/L, FT4 19.7 pmol/L, FT3 8.3 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	ND	ND	
9	0 / 12 / - / -	20 months	Hyperthyroidism	TSH < 0.01 mU/L, FT4 26 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	ND	ND	Poor control on ATD (awaiting 2 nd RAI treatment)
		4 months later	Hypothyroidism	TSH 69.2 mU/L, FT4 5.2 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	> 40 $\pm\pm$	ND	
		18 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH 0.01 mU/L, FT4 46 pmol/L, FT3 24.3 pmol/L $\pm\pm$	ND	ND	
10	0 / 12 / - / -	9 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH > 100 mU/L, FT4 5.2 pmol/L ***	ND	TSAb ++, TBAb ++	Remission
		18 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH < 0.03 mU/L, FT4 36.4 pmol/L **	> 40 ** (date unknown)	TSAb ++, TBAb +	
11	0 / 12 / - / -	37 months	Hypothyroidism	TSH 6.9 mU/L, FT4 9.7 pmol/L **	ND	TSAb +/-, TBAb -	Relapse (7 months after stopping ATD)
		5 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH < 0.03 mU/L, FT4 44.9 pmol/L $\pm\pm\pm$	Positive $\pm\pm\pm$	ND	
12	0 / 12 / - / -	12 months	Subclinical Hyperthyroidism	TSH 0.18 mU/L, FT4 18.9 pmol/L, FT3 6 pmol/L **	ND	ND	Continuing trial of medical therapy (month 9 of a titration regimen)
		3 months later	Hypothyroidism	TSH 23 mU/L, FT4 10.4 pmol/L **	> 40 **	ND	
		16 months later	Hyperthyroidism	TSH < 0.03 mU/L, FT4 28.6 pmol/L **	> 40 **	ND	

* Months of administration of alemtuzumab, with 0 denoting the first cycle and subsequent cycles timed in months from administration of first cycle

± Months from the **previous** dose of alemtuzumab at time of initial finding of thyroid dysfunction

Reference Ranges (RR): TSH 0.35-5.5 mU/L, FT4 10-19.8 pmol/L, FT3 3.5-6.5 pmol/L, TRAb > 1 IU/L positive. Results in **bold are outside the

***Reference Ranges (RR): TSH mU/L, FT4 11.5-22.7 pmol/L, FT3 pmol/L. Results in **bold** are outside the RR

±± Reference Ranges (RR): TSH 0.35-5.0 mU/L, FT4 9-19 pmol/L, FT3 2.6-5.7 pmol/L, TRAb > 1.5 mU/L positive. Results in **bold** are outside the RR

±±± Reference Range unknown

TSH Receptor Antibody Bioactivity results: - negative, +/- borderline, + positive (low signal), ++ positive (high signal)

Abbreviations: **TFT, thyroid function test**; TRAb, TSH Receptor antibody; TSAb, thyroid stimulating antibody; TBAb, thyroid blocking antibody; ND, not done; ATD, Anti-thyroid drugs

Table 3. Antibody profiling in patients with hypothyroidism and positive anti-TSH receptor antibody status

Patient No.	Alemtuzumab cycles*	Onset of Hypothyroidism±	TFT Results**	TPO Antibody RR 0-100 IU/ml	TRAb RR 0-1 IU/L	TSH Receptor Antibody Bioactivity
1	0 / 11 / 26 / -	Month 14	TSH 34 mU/L, FT4 8.7 pmol/L	Negative	9.4	TSAb +/-, TBAb +
2	0 / 12 / 123 / -	Month 31	TSH 50.5 mU/L, FT4 9.4 pmol/L	1498	>40	TSAb ++, TBAb +
3	0 / 12 / - / -	Month 20	TSH >100 mU/L, FT4 5 pmol/L, FT3 3 pmol/L	ND	11.4	TSAb +, TBAb ++
4	0 / 12 / - / -	Month 11	TSH 17.6 mU/L, FT4 4.0 pmol/L, FT3 1.52 pmol/L	43	>40	TSAb +, TBAb -

* Months of administration of alemtuzumab, with 0 denoting the first cycle and subsequent cycles timed in months from administration of first cycle

± Months from the last dose of alemtuzumab

Reference Ranges (RR): TSH 0.35-5.5 mU/L, FT4 10-19.8 pmol/L, FT3 3.5-6.5 pmol/L, Results in **bold are outside the RR

TSH Receptor Antibody Bioactivity results: - negative, +/- borderline, + positive (low signal), ++ positive (high signal)

Abbreviations: **TFT, thyroid function test**; TRAb, TSH Receptor antibody; TSAb, thyroid stimulating antibody; TBAb, thyroid blocking antibody; TPO, anti-thyroid peroxidase; ND, not done

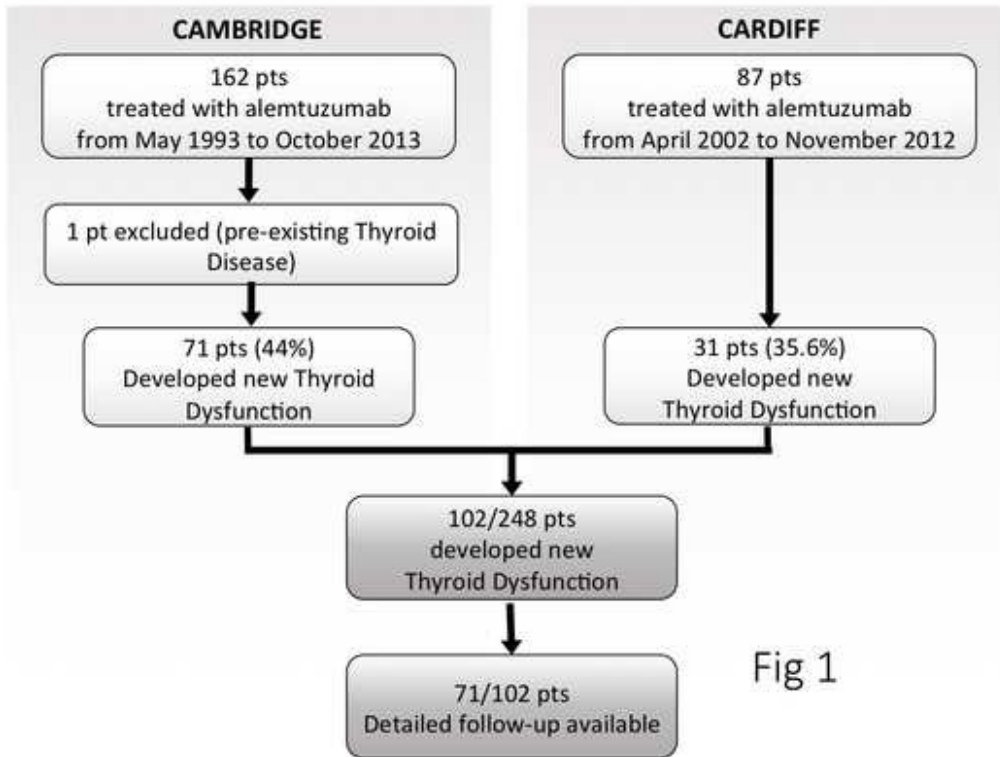


Fig 1

Fig 2

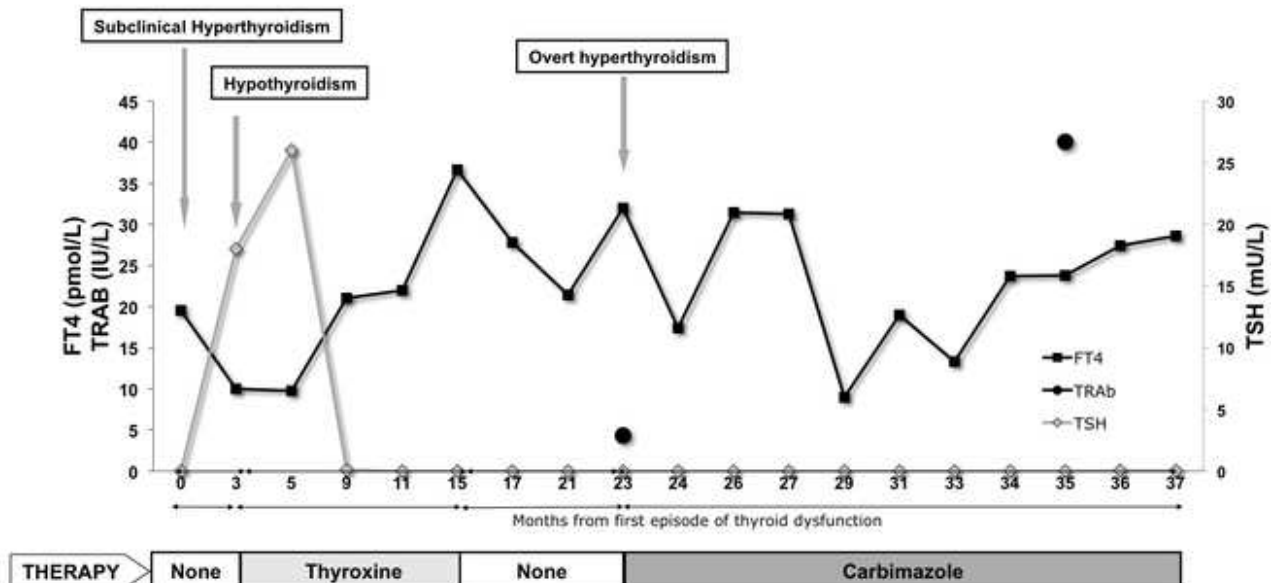


Fig 3

