

Assessing the impact of Lipiodol flush on thyroid function in
subfertile women.

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BACKGROUND

- Evidence shows improved pregnancy rates when oil soluble contrast (OSCM) is used rather than water soluble contrast (WSCM) during HSG.
- Hence there is growing demand for HyCoSy using OSCM.
- Lipiodol is a common iodine based OSCM
- Excess iodine intake during pregnancy can adversely affect thyroid function and evidence indicates that up to 25% of women develop subclinical hypothyroidism (SCH) post HSG using Lipiodol.

AIM

- To observe the impact of Lipiodol HyCoSy on thyroid function in women.

METHOD

- An observational study of 24 subfertile patients referred for Lipiodol flush under HyCoSy at Western Ultrasound for Women.
- In addition to subsequent pregnancy status, pre and post procedure (day 7 and day 21) thyroid function has been measured to confirm baseline euthyroid state and monitor for SCH and thyroid load following.



RESULTS

- Of the 24 women followed up to 21 days post flush, all were confirmed to be euthyroid prior to Lipiodol flush (based on TSH and T4 levels).
- At 7 days post flush, 2 participants had elevated TSH with a normal T4 these two patients had a normal thyroid function by day 21 post flush.
- Mean TSH prior to Lipiodol was 1.62 (0.56-2.91) 2.24 (0.37-5.87) 7 days post and 2.13 (0.17-6.63) 21 days post flush.
- The median age of the participants was 34.15.

CONCLUSION

Lipiodol flush under HyCoSy may lead to transient subclinical hypothyroidism in women, the significance of which remains unknown, especially in pregnancy. Monitoring of TFTs after Lipiodol is important.

