

17 January 2020

Belinda Hodson

Fyi-request-10839-c7772955@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Ms Hodson

Pathlab - OIA

Following on from your recent request for information we received an email on Friday 10 January from the Office of the Ombudsman asking Waikato DHB to reconsider its recent decision to refuse your request for copies of:

- 1. The citation list(s) of the clinical publications supporting the changes to the thyroid testing policy and;
- 2. The citation list(s), clinical studies carried out by Pathlab or Waikato DHB and other NZ or international data that supports the following statement made in DHB's initial response to the 29 July request: "The hospital chemical pathologist advised the group that we are following BPAC guidelines. He reviewed all evidence submitted by TANZi and remains unconvinced. GPs used to order T3, T4, TSH for unknown reasons, there is interference between the tests and the follow-ups are extremely expensive and convoluted with no outcome i.e. they are causing patients harm."

Waikato DHB has reconsidered its decision and I have been in contact with Pathlab and their pathologists and scientists have gathered the information you requested. The citation lists are set out below.

References

- 1. Ministry of Health. A Portrait of Health. Key Results of the 2006/07 New Zealand Health Survey Ministry of Health: Wellington; 2008.
- 2. Flynn RWV, MacDonald TM, Morris AD, et al. The thyroid epidemiology, audit and research study: thyroid dysfunction in the general population. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2004;89(8);3879-84.
- 3. Gibbons V, Conaglen JV, Lillis S, et al. Epidemiology of thyroid disease in Hamilton (New Zealand) general practice. Aust NZ J Pub Health. 2008;32(5);421-3.
- Clinical Knowledge Summaries. Hypothyroidism. 2007. Available from: <u>www.cks.nhs.uk</u> (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 5. Vaidya B, Pearce S. Management of hypothyroidism in adults. BMJ 2008;337:a801.
- 6. McDermott M. In the clinic. Hypothyroidism. Ann Intern Med 2009;151(11):pITC6 2-16.
- 7. National Prescribing Service. Management of common thyroid diseases. MeRec Bulletin 2002;12(3):9-12.
- 8. Clinical Knowledge Summaries. Hyperthyroidism. 2008. Available from: www.cks.nhs.uk (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 9. Topliss D, Eastman C. 5: Diagnosis and management of hyperthyroidism and hypothyroidism. Med J Aust 2004;180(4):186-94.
- 10. Davoren P. Modern management of thyroid replacement therapy. Australian Prescriber 2008;31(6):159-61.

- 11. Ross DS. Treatment of hypothyroidism. UpToDate 2010. Available from: www.uptodate.com (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 12. Royal College of Physicians. The diagnosis and management of primary hypothyroidism. 2008. Available from: www.rcplondon.ac.uk (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- Boucher & Muir New Zealand Limited t/a Goldshield Healthcare (New Zealand). Levothyroxine. Medicine Safety datasheet. 2009. Available from: www.medsafe.govt.nz (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 14. Sanofi-Aventis New Zealand Limited. Cordarone X. Medicine Safety datasheet. 2008. Available from: www.medsafe.govt.nz (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 15. Ross DS. Amiodarone and thyroid dysfunction. UpToDate 2010. Available from: www.uptodate.com (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 16. Eskes S, Wiersinga W. Amiodarone and thyroid. Best Pract Res Clin Endocrinol Metab 2009;23(6):735-51.
- 17. Medsafe. Keep an eye on amiodarone patients. Prescriber Update 2005;26(1):5-6.
- 18. Lazarus J. Lithium and thyroid. Best Pract Res Clin Endocrinol Metab 2009;23(6):723-33.
- 19. Pearce E. Diagnosis and management of thyrotoxicosis. BMJ 2006;332(7554):1369.
- 20. Reid J, Wheeler S. Hyperthyroidism: diagnosis and treatment. Am Fam Physician 2005;72(4):623-30.
- 21. Ross DS. Pharmacology and toxicity of thionamides. UpToDate 2010. Available from: www.uptodate.com (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 22. British National Formulary. London: BMJ Group and RPS Publishing; 2010.
- 23. Ross DS. Thionamides in the treatment of Graves' disease. UpToDate 2010. Available from: www.uptodate.com (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 24. Walter M, Briel M, Christ-Crain M, et al. Effects of antithyroid drugs on radioiodine treatment: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials. BMJ 2007;334(7592):514.
- 25. Ross DS. Overview of thyroid disease in pregnancy. UpToDate 2010. Available from: www.uptodate.com (Accessed Nov, 2010).
- 26. Marx H, Amin P, Lazarus J. Hyperthyroidism and pregnancy. BMJ 2008;336(7645):663.

I hope you find the information useful.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Philip Grady Acting General Manager Strategy and Funding

Copy to: Ms Kobie Mulligan, Office of the Ombudsman