

## Predictors of Hypocalcaemia In Post Thyroidectomy Patients.

Abhiram Amudala

Department of General Surgery, Narayana Medical College & Hospital, Nellore – 524 002, Andhra Pradesh, India.

\*Corresponding Author's Email: [abraham.aar@gmail.com](mailto:abraham.aar@gmail.com)

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received : 02 June, 2020

Accepted : 19 Aug. 2020

Available online : 09 Sept. 2020

#### Keywords:

Thyroid,  
Hypocalcaemia,  
Thyroidectomy,  
Post-operative,  
Hypoparathyroidism.

### ABSTRACT

Thyroid disorders and surgical management for thyroid disorders are more common in any surgeons day to day life. In this modern medical era for every 3 hours one paper was presented about thyroid disorders. Post operative complications after thyroid surgery are variety and reported more frequently with budding and learning surgeons.

Hypocalcaemia after bilateral surgical resection of thyroid is a potential early complication. From 9.2% to 25% of transient hypocalcaemia are reported in literature and the incidence of permanent hypocalcaemia ranges from 0.5 to 2%. Even in experienced hands the incidence of early transient post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia is quite significant, some studies shows up to 59%.

© 2020 International Journal of Advanced Research in Science and Technology (IJARST).

All rights reserved.

### PAPER-QR CODE



Volume 9, Issue 1

Citation: Abhiram Amudala, Predictors of Hypocalcemia In Post Thyroidectomy Patients. Int. J. Adv. Res. Sci. Technol. Volume 8, Issue 1, 2019, pp.787-806.

### Introduction:

Post-operative hypocalcemia is a major concern following thyroid surgery. Decreased serum calcium, secondary to hypoparathyroidism, may present clinically with muscle cramps, perioral and peripheral paresthesias, carpopedal spasm or tetany, and/or confusion.

It often extends the duration of the hospital stay and the need for biochemical tests, when severe; it can lead to serious complications like laryngeal stridor and convulsions and require intravenous therapy to alleviate the clinical symptoms.

Depending on the extent of parathyroid gland damage following total thyroidectomy, hypocalcemia may be transient, resolving within a few months, or permanent, requiring lifelong oral calcium and vitamin D supplementation.

Many factors may be involved in the increased incidence of hypocalcemia and hypoparathyroidism after thyroidectomy, including total thyroidectomy, reoperation, neck dissection, preoperative hyperthyroidism and surgical procedure performed by inexperienced surgeons.

However, not all patients with these factors will develop such complication, probably because in order for it to happen, concur other causes, whose identification seems fundamental to its prevention. Rates of post total thyroidectomy hypocalcemia are approximately 5%; it resolves in 80% of cases in approximately 12 months.

A postoperative decrease of serum calcium is frequently observed within 2 to 5 days after a total or subtotal thyroidectomy, requiring exogenous replacement therapy to alleviate clinical symptoms.

To minimize complications and allow for early discharge, we must be able to identify cohort of patients who are likely to develop symptoms of hypocalcemia.

Those at risk would not be candidates for early discharge. Those identified at risk can be given Vitamin D and Calcium supplementation as needed. The purpose of this study is to evaluate calcium levels pre and post total thyroidectomy and provide a statistical analysis.

Thyroidectomy is one of the major and frequent operations performed in general surgical units. Dr. William Stewart Halsted said that "The extirpation of

thyroid gland typifies perhaps better than any operation the supreme triumph of the surgeon's art".

Thyroid disorders and surgical management for thyroid disorders are more common in any surgeon's day to day life. In this modern medical era for every 3 hours one paper was presented about thyroid disorders. Post operative complications after thyroid surgery are variety and reported more frequently with budding and learning surgeons.

Hypocalcaemia after bilateral surgical resection of thyroid is a potential early complication. From 9.2% to 25% of transient hypocalcaemia are reported in literature and the incidence of permanent hypocalcaemia ranges from 0.5 to 2%.

Even in experienced hands the incidence of early transient post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia is quite significant, some studies shows up to 59%.

Careful meticulous dissection to identify and sparing at least 2 parathyroid glands under direct vision is mandatory to avoid postoperative reduced calcium levels and its complications, some studies says that postoperative hypocalcaemia is more frequent following bilateral resection of lobes than unilateral 9% and 1.9% respectively.

Early recognition and prompt initial treatment of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia is crucial for successful outcome in the postoperative period following thyroidectomy.

There are many predictors are under study till now to establish an effective protocol to be followed in the postoperative period in the thyroidectomy surgeries to manage post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia successfully.

But the availability of tests in small scale hospitals and the cost factor decides that serum calcium estimation post operatively is the most ideal tool for early diagnosis and management of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To determine the incidence of hypocalcaemia following total thyroidectomy - our institutional experience.
2. To study the prevalence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in response to age.
3. To study the various clinical presentations of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia.
4. Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia related to various pathological conditions of thyroid.
5. To correlate serum calcium level with clinical diagnosis.
6. To study the time of presentation of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia.

#### **Materials and Methods:**

##### **Source of data:**

- ❖ Prospective observational study.
- ❖ Cases for the present clinical study will be sourced from the patients aged 18-75 years

admitted to the general surgical wards of Narayana Medical College & Hospital, Nellore during the period from December 2016 to October 2018 and undergoing total thyroidectomy procedure.

#### **Review of Literature:**

Overall incidence of hypocalcaemia after total thyroidectomy was 23.6% and that of permanent hypocalcaemia was 1.61%. Onset was delayed up to 3rd postoperative day in 13 % patients.

Hypocalcaemia was significantly associated with thyroidectomy for Grave's Disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, and with incidental parathyroidectomy.

8% of patients following thyroidectomy developed postoperative hypocalcaemia, of which 16.6% were considered permanent. If total thyroidectomy was the procedure 15.8% of the patients developed hypocalcaemia and the other 5.4% were after subtotal thyroidectomy.

The hypocalcaemia was 11.4% in toxic goitre, 12% were malignant goitre and 3.6% were simple multinodular goiter. When preservation of parathyroid glands and their blood supply is enforced during thyroidectomy, the incidence of postoperative hypocalcaemia and permanent hypoparathyroidism can be consistently decreased.

Randall L. Baldassarre et al. Studied 119,567 patients who underwent thyroidectomy of which 5.5% developed hypocalcaemia. Total thyroidectomy resulted in a significantly higher increased incidence (9.0%) of hypocalcaemia when compared with unilateral thyroid lobectomy.

Thyroidectomy with bilateral neck dissection, the strongest independent risk factor of postoperative hypocalcaemia resulted in an incidence of 23.4%. Patients aged 45 years to 75 years were less likely to have postoperative hypocalcaemia compared with their younger and older counterparts.

Additional factors independently associated with postoperative hypocalcaemia included female gender, non teaching hospitals, and malignant neoplasms of thyroid gland.

Salem Nourledine et. al. retrospectively studied 304 patients who underwent total thyroidectomies of which mild and significant hypocalcaemia occurred in 68 (22.4%) and 91 (29.9%) patients, respectively.

They concluded that low postoperative levels of intact parathyroid hormone (iPTH), female sex and the presence of malignant neoplasm appear to predict hypocalcaemia after total thyroidectomy. The percentage of patients requiring calcium treatment was: 24 h (15%), 2-7 days (26%), 8-180 days (33%), >1 year (9%).

The extent of surgery to central and or lateral neck lymph nodes is responsible for a high rate of transient hypoparathyroidism owing to a high probability of

unplanned parathyroidectomy or parathyroid gland devascularization.

Routine supplementation therapy with oral calcium or vitamin D effectively prevents symptomatic hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy and may allow for a safe early discharge. The combination of oral calcium and vitamin D may further reduce the rate of post operative hypocalcemia, without inhibiting parathyroid hormone secretion.

Inpatients receiving calcium and vitamin D supplements, the decrease in serum calcium was less, and symptoms of hypocalcemia were minimized and no patient experienced a hypocalcemic crisis. By contrast, hypocalcemic symptoms were more severe in patients who had undergone CND but did not receive supplements.

Oral administration of 1 µg of calcitriol twice per day and 500 mg of calcium salts 3 times per day after total thyroidectomy significantly decreases the risk of severe postoperative hypocalcemia.

In a study conducted by Sakouti et. al. regarding the incidence of transient and permanent hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy for thyroid cancer reveals higher incidence of hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy in malignant diseases of the thyroid. The incidence increases more with surgeries combined with radical neck dissection.

The incidence of post-thyroidectomy hypocalcemia is more in the toxic thyroid diseases than non-toxic diseases; this also attributes to the extensive surgical dissection in the toxic disorders to avoid recurrence of the disease.

### Surgical anatomy and embryology of the thyroid gland:

Surgeons should have in-depth knowledge of the surgical anatomy and embryology of the thyroid and parathyroid glands to apply it during thyroid surgeries to avoid potential complications like hypocalcaemia.

At third week of intrauterine life thyroid is derived from endoderm of the 4th pharyngeal pouch.

It develops as a midline diverticulum from the foramen caecum and descends downwards in a complex pathway, crosses hyoid anteriorly encircling the lower border of hyoid and takes a curve after touching the posterior surface of hyoid then descend downwards.

By 6 weeks of intrauterine life the central column of cells got reabsorbed and becomes thyroglossal duct which bifurcates to form thyroid lobes. The pyramidal lobe is a remnant of the thyroglossal duct which extends from foramen caecum to the isthmus seen in 55% of patients.

Para follicular C cells derived from ultimobranchial bodies/ neural crest cells from 4th and 5th branchial pouch, they are more numerous in the

upper thyroid lobes. Parathyroid glands and thymus develop from 3rd and 4th pharyngeal pouches. (16)

Thyroid glands weigh about 10 to 20 gms in adults highly vascular endocrine gland of the human body next to adrenals, thyroid gland consists of 2 lobes and isthmus it is located in the anterior triangle of the neck deep to the investing layer of deep cervical fascia, lateral lobe was in relation to the tracheoesophageal groove medially and carotid sheath laterally, and sternocleidomastoid, sternohyoid, sternothyroid, superior belly of omohyoid was in relation to the anterior and lateral surfaces, thyroid disorders such as malignancy, thyroiditis, goitre, previous surgery in the neck, previous irradiation in the neck can considerably alter the normal anatomy of the gland. (17)

### Tubercle of Zuckerkandl:

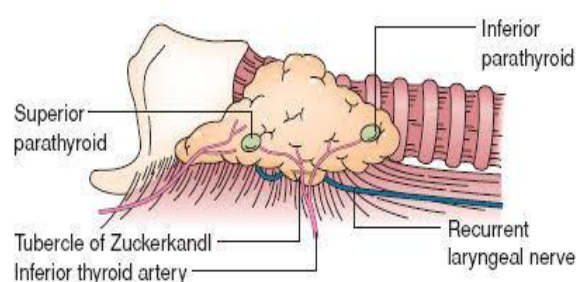


Figure 1: Tubercle of Zuckerkandl

It is an extension of thyroid gland on the posterior aspect of both lateral thyroid lobes, it is important due to recurrent laryngeal nerve is in posterior relation to this tubercle, surgeon can use this landmark to identify this nerve, in some studies this tubercle is in deep relation to recurrent laryngeal nerve, this variation may mislead surgeon and resultant injury to the nerve is disastrous.

### Blood supply:

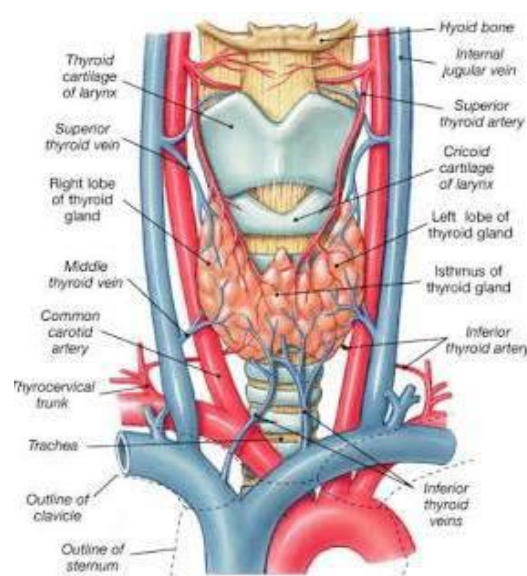
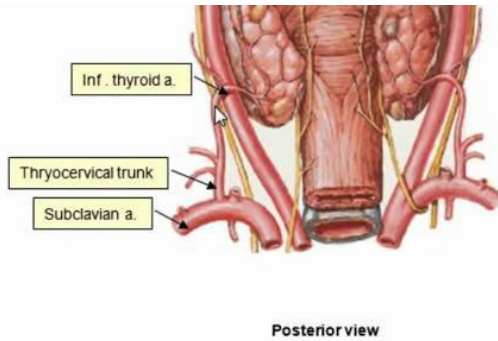


Figure 2: Blood supply of thyroid gland.

Arises from the external carotid artery. It is parallel to the course of external laryngeal nerve. In order to avoid external laryngeal nerve injury, superior pedicle to be ligated near the gland. The corresponding vein drains into the internal jugular or common facial vein. Terminal posterior branch of superior thyroid artery contribute some blood supply to the parathyroid glands. In a study 67% of superior parathyroid supplied by single vessel, 33% supplied by 2 or more vessels.

**Artery supplying to the inferior pole of thyroid:**

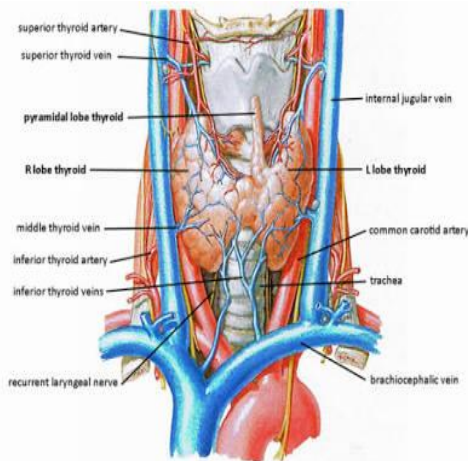


**Figure 3:** Inferior pole of thyroid.

Derived from the thyrocervical trunk, but in 15% arises from the subclavian artery. Multiple terminal branches of this vessel are in relation to the recurrent laryngeal nerve, in order to avoid injury to the vessel we should ligate the inferior thyroid pedicle away from the gland, it is the major blood vessel to parathyroid glands. It supplies inferior and superior parathyroid glands. Ligation of the artery supplying inferior pole of thyroid bilaterally results in permanent hypoparathyroidism, hence studies suggested that identify and ligate these vessels separately by 3 to 4 times near the capsule.

Thyroidea artery arises from the brachiocephalic trunk or aorta supplying lower part of isthmus. Vein draining the inferior pole of thyroid is the largest, variable and asymmetric bilaterally and drains into brachiocephalic vein on either side.

**Middle thyroid vein**



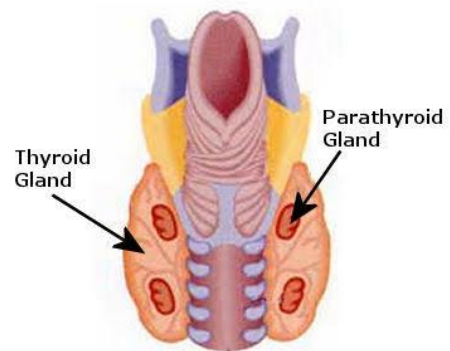
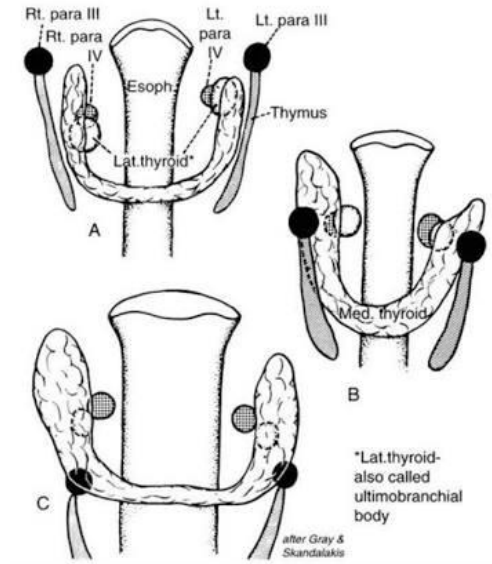
**Figure 4:** Veins of thyroid.

Middle thyroid veins are short and stubby and drains into internal jugular vein.

Kocher's vein is a rare variation found between middle and inferior thyroid vein.

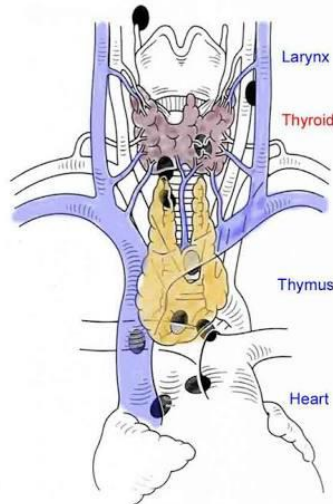
Variations of vessels supplying thyroid gland like double vessels, altered course or absence may result in complications like post thyroidectomy ischemic necrosis of parathyroids, torrential bleeding or hematoma.

**Embryology and surgical anatomy of Parathyroid Glands:**



**Figure 5:** Development of Parathyroid glands.

Develops during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> week of intrauterine life. They develop as epithelial thickening of the dorsal endoderm of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> bronchial pouches. The inferior parathyroid is derived from the 3<sup>rd</sup> pouch. On development it subsequently migrates along with the thymus to the inferior position and becomes the inferior parathyroid gland. In some variants it descends along with thymus into the mediastinum. So its position is variable, developmental anomalies like variation in the location, number can be seen.



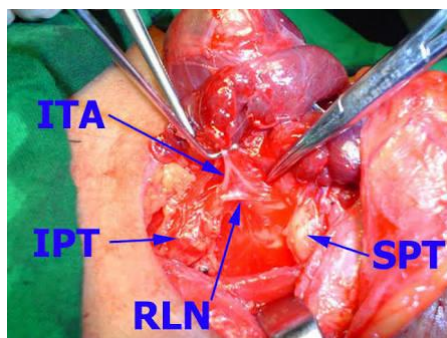
**Figure 6:** Variations of position of parathyroid.

They are seen in the posterior surface of thyroid gland having a connective tissue capsule and having separate blood supply. It appears golden yellow to light brown in colour, sometimes parathyroid may be seen within the capsule of thyroid.



**Figure 7:** Parathyroids and its blood supply.

Libutti et al in his study reported that 7% incidence of intrathyroidal parathyroid gland and advised careful ultrasonographic location of parathyroids before proceeding for thyroidectomy. The surgeon should search superior parathyroids 2.5 cm above the junction of inferior thyroid artery and lower pole of thyroid gland and 2.5 cm below this point look for inferior parathyroids.



**Figure 8:** Parathyroid on surgical field.

Variations like absent parathyroids have been reported and such cases can result in hypoparathyroidism

after thyroidectomy with even injury to single gland of parathyroid.

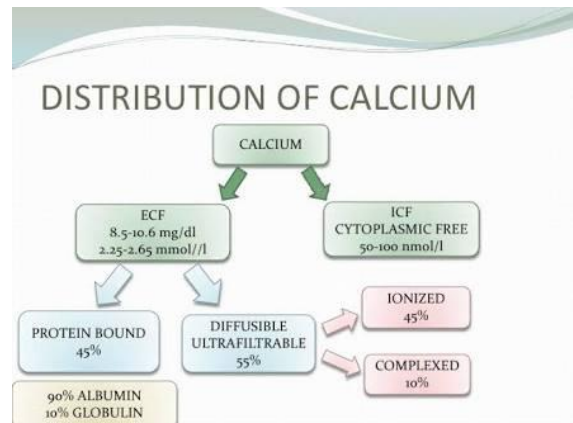
For locating parathyroid glands in operating table we can use methylene blue. On table measurement of parathormone levels can be used as predictor of hypocalcaemia after surgery.

**Histology:**

Principle cells or chief cells secrete parathormone, neoplastic glands may show water clear cells.

**Calcium metabolism:**

Few words about calcium levels in various organs of body and how they are regulated.



**Figure 9:** Calcium distribution.

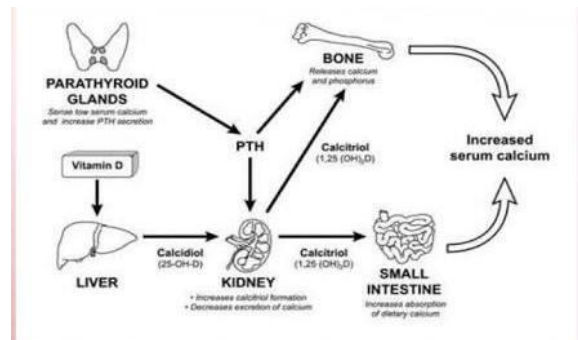
Blood plasma calcium levels are maintained in very narrow limits. Slight changes can result in hypo or hypercalcaemia.

An average adult human contains about 1 kilogram of calcium of which majority is in the form of skeletal calcium phosphate.

ECF contains 23 mmol of calcium of which 9 to 11 mmol are in the plasma.

ICF contains very minimal or negligible calcium.

It is on regular feedback control involving two major hormones parathormone secreted by parathyroid glands and calcitonin secreted by parafollicular C cells of thyroid and Vitamin D.



**Figure 10:** Calcium metabolism.

**Parathyroid hormone:**

Parathormone is a peptide containing 84 aminoacids. Its secretion is regulated by serum calcium and magnesium. Parathormone secretion is not under the control of pituitary gland. Stimulating factors are hypercalcemia and hypomagnesemia.

**Action of Parathormone:**

1. It causes mobilisation of calcium out of the bone.
2. It causes increased absorption of calcium from the kidney.
3. It causes increased excretion of phosphate in the kidney.
4. It increases absorption of calcium from the GIT.

In overall Parathormone cause increase in serum calcium level.

Parathormone action is balanced by calcitonin.

**Few important functions of calcium:**

1. For optimal functioning of clotting factors.
2. Neurotransmission regulation by preventing the leaking of sodium into theneural axons.
3. Major supporting material in skeletal system.
4. Act as a effective 2<sup>nd</sup> messenger in muscle contraction.
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> messenger in releasing insulin from pancreas.

**Normal range of calcium:**

Total calcium 2.2 to 2.6 mmol/lit (9 to 10.5mg/dl).  
 Ionised calcium 1.3 to 1.5 mmol/lit( 4.5 to 5.6mg/dl).

Amount of total calcium altered with serum albumin levels.

Ionised calcium is not associated with serum albumin level. So estimation of ionised calcium is more precious than total calcium in hypocalcaemia. But in normal serum albumin levels total calcium level will also reflect biological effects of calcium.

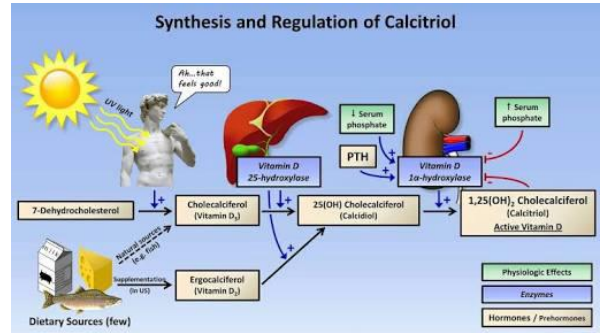
**For calculation of corrected calcium:**

$$\text{Corrected calcium (mg/dl)} = \text{measured total calcium in mg/dl} + 0.8(4.0 - \text{serum albumin in gm/dl})$$

**Absorbtion of calcium:**

Calcium is absorbed in intestine and bound to calbindin. It is transferred into endoplasmic reticulum of intestinal epithelial cell. From there PMCA1calcium pump transport it into the body. Active transport and major transport occurs in the duodenum. Passive occurs in the jejunum and ileum, Absorptionof calcium is regulated by calcitriol in the blood(vit-D).

Due to the parathyroid stimulation cholicalciferol converted into 1-25dihydroxycholicalciferol in kidney which regulates absorption of calcium in the gut.



**Figure 11:** Action of Vitamin D.

**Hypocalcaemia:**

Acute hypocalcaemia may endanger the life, so close monitoring in the post operative period, early identification of signs and symptoms of hypocalcaemia and effective replacement management is crucial in the management of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia

**Definition of hypocalcaemia**

- Serum calcium level lower than 8.2 mg/dl (2.05mmol/lit)
- Ionised calcium level lower than 4.4mg/dl (1.1mmol/lit)

**Signs and symptoms of hypocalcaemia:**

**1. Neurological disturbances:**

- Seizures
- Dementia
- Emotional problems like anxiety/depression.
- Chovestek sign- Tapping at the angle of jaw over the course of facial nerveproduces twitching of facial muscles which are supplied by it.



**Figure 12:** Elicitation of Chovestek sign.

- Trousseau's sign- Induced carpedal spasm by increasing the pressure in blood pressure cuff wrapped around the arm.



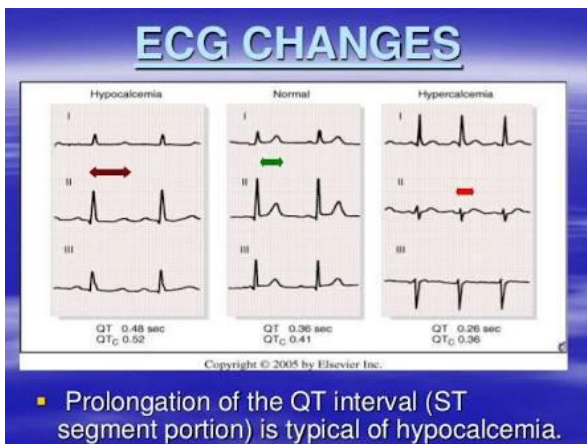
**Figure 13:** Elicitation of Trousseau's sign.

- Parasthesia over extremities.
- Parasthesia in the perioral region.
- Myalgias and muscle spasms.
- Tetany-or carpopedal spasm
- Thumb in palm deformity or obstetricians hand.



**Figure 14:** Carpopedal spasm.

**2. Cardiovascular disturbances:**



- Prolongation of the QT interval (ST segment portion) is typical of hypocalcemia.

**Figure 15:** ECG changes of hypocalcaemia.

- Prolonged QT interval.
- Hypotension.
- Cardiac failure.

**3. Autonomic disturbances:**

- Biliary colic.
- Bronchospasm.
- Diaphoresis.

**Classification of hypocalcemia:**

**Based on symptoms:**

1. Asymptomatic
2. Moderate hypocalcemia with numbness, tetany, chvostek sign, trousseau sign
3. Severe hypocalcemia with ecg, changes U waves, QT prolongation or bronchospasm.<sup>(24)</sup>

**Based on duration:**

1. Temporary hypocalcaemia - Less than 6 months duration.
2. Permanent Hypocalcaemia- More than 6 months.

**Management of Hypocalcaemia:**

For asymptomatic hypocalcaemia per oral replacement of calcium starting with the low dose and titrate according to 24 hours serum calcium assessment.

For moderate hypocalcaemia, patient can be treated in general ward with initial high dose of oral calcium along with calcitriol supplementation 0.5 microgram daily.

For severe hypocalcaemia, patient treated in Intensive care unit with intravenous calcium gluconate 10ml diluted in 100ml normal saline over 15 mins slow iv and frequent monitoring of serum calcium levels and continuous cardiac monitoring. Once normocalcaemia level reached then with over to oral calcium supplementation with Vit D.

**Thyroidectomy:**

After putting the patient in semi fowler position with hyperextension of neck with a sandbag and head support with a ring.

Prepare the patient's neck with betadine and spirit as per the institutional protocol.

Mark the incision line by 2-0 silk in the lower skin crease.

By lower collar skin crease incision or Kocher's incision skin, subcutaneous tissue and platysma is divided in the same line.

After establishing good control of bleeding superior and inferior flaps are raised.

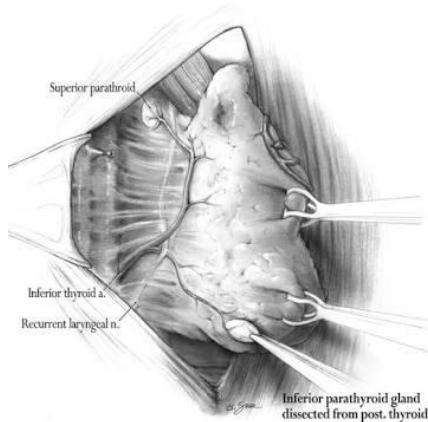
Superior flap raised up to superior border of thyroid cartilage and inferior flap raised up to sternal notch for exposing the field adequately. Small incisions and inadequate raising of flaps and inadequate exposure of field may result in difficult dissection or bleeding and disturbance to parathyroid blood supply.

Open the deep fascia in the midline vertically, retract the strap muscles laterally, in some cases with huge thyroid swelling may need division of strap muscles for better exposure.

To avoid injury to the ans cervicalis always divide the strap muscles on its upper half.

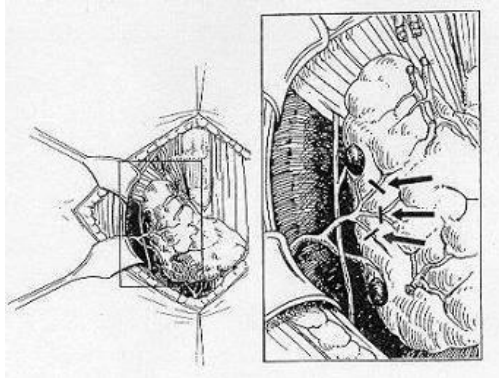
After thorough examination of the pathology of the thyroid gland, and parathyroid glands position retract the lobe of the thyroid medially and above in order to taut the middle thyroid vein, careful dissection should be made to ligate this vein.

Identify and protect the parathyroids intraoperatively by its typical colour.



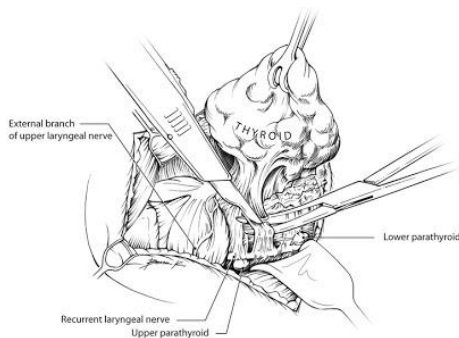
**Figure 16:** Exposing Parathyroids during surgery.

Ligate the inferior thyroid artery branches after identifying the recurrent laryngeal nerve using 3 to 4 separate clamps close to the capsule leaving behind the vessels supplying parathyroids.



**Figure 17:** Ligation of inferior thyroid artery.

Carefully ligate the vessels supplying the upper pole after careful dissection near the gland.



**Figure 18:** Dissection in the field.

Blunt dissection made to separate the lobe from trachea, and underlying ligaments and vessels ligated and divided. The same procedure to be repeated on the opposite side.

Carefully divide the attachments between the isthmus and trachea and don't forget to look for pyramidal lobe or aberrant thyroids to avoid resurgeries which may be a high risk for post operative hypocalcaemia. After achieving complete haemostasis wound should be closed in layers leaving a glove drain in situ as per the institutional protocol.

**Complications of Total Thyroidectomy:**

1. Wound hematoma
  - Early life threatening complication.
  - Resulting in airway obstruction.
  - May need immediate surgical intervention.
2. Hypocalcemia
  - May be temporary or permanent.
  - Need early diagnosis and prompt treatment.
3. Seroma collection.
4. Infection.
5. Hypertrophic scar or keloid.
6. Recurrent laryngeal nerve palsy.
7. Superior laryngeal nerve palsy.
8. Horners syndrome.
9. Chyle leak.
10. Loss of voice.
11. Tracheomalacia.
12. Hypothyroidism.
13. Airway obstruction.

**Post thyroidectomy complications incidence are increased with:**

1. Extent of the disease (large size).
2. Extent of the surgery (long duration and difficult recovery from anaesthesia).
3. Reoperative surgeries done for recurrent diseases.
4. Extra thyroidal extension of diseases.
5. Surgeries combined with neck dissection.
6. Reexploration for post operative hematoma

**Some Predictors of Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcemia:**

1. Regular preoperative and post operative serum calcium estimation.
2. Intraoperative and postoperative parathyroid hormone level estimation.

**Parathormone as a predictor:**

Perioperative and peroperative estimation of parathyroid hormone level in blood is a well documented predictor of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in literature (fewins J et al).

For that parathormone estimation was done intra operatively and 1 hour and 24 hours after surgery.

A fall in parathormone level immediately after surgery that is 1 hour and continuing fall in 24 hours is strongly associated with hypocalcaemia (lam and ker et al).

Parathormone level 8 picogram/ml associated with hypocalcaemia and more than 9 picogram/ml does not produce hypocalcaemia. But the availability of this test and the cost are the limiting factors in low scale hospital setups.

#### **Calcium as predictor:**

Various studies regarding serial calcium estimation and analysis postoperatively and the prediction value of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia shows varying results.

But the cost factor of the parathormone estimation may necessitate the use of calcium estimation even in small health care delivery systems. In a study conducted by (ancutaleahu et al) shows patient with positive calcium trend such that, rise of postoperative calcium levels on serial estimation shows normocalcaemic pattern and excludes hypocalcaemia successfully in 96.2% of patients.

The same study shows the patients with negative calcium trend like that a serial fall in serum calcium level after thyroid surgeries may result in hypocalcaemia in 51.6% of patients.

From this pattern of results he concluded, positive calcium trend patients can be discharged earlier without the fear of hypocalcaemia and patients with negative calcium trends should be monitored some more days for hypocalcaemia or starting oral supplementation of calcium.

#### **Prevention of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia:**

In order to prevent Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia, the surgeon must have adequate knowledge about surgical anatomy and embryology of thyroid and parathyroid glands.

The surgeon and anaesthetist team should have a good rapport in order to give pleasant and smooth anaesthesia during surgery and during recovery. Cuff of endotracheal tube must be smaller in size in order to avoid laryngeal edema.

The surgeon must ensure good exposure of the operating field with good light source. Perfect haemostasis to be maintained for identification of parathyroids in the operating field with naked eyes.

Meticulous dissection to be done throughout the procedure. Prompt recognition of parathyroids by its size, colour and location or some other protocols according to the institution like methylene blue dye detection in the field.

Carefully identify and protect the blood supply to the parathyroids. To preserve the blood supply of parathyroids the surgeon should ligate inferior thyroid artery at its terminal branch level.

Avoid parathyroid hematoma.

Avoid excessive suction in the field.

In case of accidental injury to parathyroid glands or its blood supply resulting in colour change, do immediate parathyroid auto transplantation in the same side sternocleidomastoid.

In case of accidental parathyroid hematoma noted by its bulge and congested appearance, don't hesitate to open the capsule of parathyroid by small incision and note the perfusion of the gland by its colour change. If the perfusion of the gland is doubtful don't hesitate to do parathyroid auto transplantation. Close postoperative follow up and early diagnosis and management also play a crucial role in post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia.

#### **Parathyroid Auto Transplantation:**

Accidental removal of parathyroid glands during thyroid surgery may result in temporary or permanent hypocalcaemia. In order to prevent this potential life threatening complication, some studies suggested that immediate auto transplantation of parathyroid glands on the operating table in the sternocleidomastoid muscle is recommended (Testiny M et al).

It is performed on table whenever a surgeon identifies a devascularised parathyroid gland. Parathyroid auto transplantation was described by F.H. Lahey in 1926. Delayed auto transplantation surgeries can be done after cryopreservation of parathyroid gland in the post operative period.

It can be preserved up to two years. But the success rate of immediate auto transplantation is higher than delayed transplantation 85 to 99% in immediate to 71% in delayed respectively. Parathyroid auto transplantation is highly recommended in completion thyroidectomies, huge nodular goitre, radical head and neck surgeries, total thyroidectomy with radical neck dissection (testini M et al). Parathyroid auto transplantation reduces the risk of permanent hypocalcaemia.

So inadvertently removed parathyroid glands during complicated neck surgeries should be auto transplanted in the ipsilateral sternocleidomastoid.

The operating surgeon must carefully examine the resected thyroid on table to identify any accidentally removed parathyroid gland as a routine procedure for parathyroid auto transplantation.

Specimen examination on table may show congested or ischemic parathyroids is treated with incision of the capsule of the parathyroid to prevent necrosis.

If the colour is satisfying after this procedure leave it as such or transplant it to the same side sternocleidomastoid.

Some surgeons prefer routine parathyroid auto transplantation in all total thyroidectomy patients to avoid lifelong replacement of calcium.

**Method of collection of data:**

Consecutive cases undergoing total thyroidectomy in Narayana Medical College & Hospital, Nellore will be selected for the study.

- Direct interview with the patient and obtaining a detailed history regarding age, sex, symptoms and thorough clinical examination.
- Pre operative investigations: Serum calcium, Thyroid profile, FNAC, USG of neck, serum albumin levels.
- Post operative investigations including serum calcium, albumin levels at day 1, day 2 and day 5 post-op & Histopathological examination of the specimen.
- Following parameters considered for statistical analysis: age, gender, final diagnosis, HPE (benign or malignant), principal procedure, presence and number of parathyroid glands in surgical specimen sent for histopathological examination if detected.
- All the cases will be followed upto discharge.
- Hypocalcaemia diagnosed when serum corrected calcium level dropped below 8mg/dL.
- Corrected Calcium level =  $[0.8 \times (\text{normal albumin} - \text{patient's albumin})] + \text{serum Calcium level}$ . (Normal albumin: 4 g/dl )

**Inclusion criteria:**

Patients aged more than 18 (18-75) years of age including both genders admitted and positively diagnosed as having thyroid swellings requiring total thyroidectomy and willing for surgery.

**Exclusion criteria:**

- Previous thyroid operation or irradiation.
- Concomitant parathyroid diseases.
- Complications which cannot be attributed to surgery due to natural course of the disease.
- Thyroid lobectomy, isthmectomy and hemithyroidectomy.
- Patient already on calcium supplementation.

**Results:**

In this study we followed 51 patients who were undergone total thyroidectomies on various indications.

These patients are selected from, patients undergoing total thyroidectomies in 1st surgical unit, Narayana medical college and hospital from the period of December 2016 to October 2018, after meticulous history taking and fulfilling the inclusion and exclusion criterias mentioned in this study proposal. After thorough history taking we excluded patients undergoing surgeries other than total thyroidectomies like hemithyroidectomy near total and sub total thyroidectomies, in the age group of above 18 years.

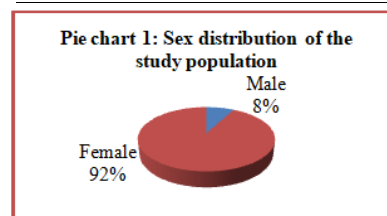
We excluded patients with preoperative altered calcium levels in order to avoid previous altered parathyroid functions and excluded patients with previous history of radiation and also excluded patients already on calcium supplementation.

We followed all patients met our study criteria with serial estimation of serum calcium levels post operatively by day 1, day 2 and day 5 and also records history about various presentations of postoperative hypocalcaemia like perioral numbness, carpopedal spasm, trousseau sign, chovestek's sign, ECG changes of hypocalcaemia and other neurological symptoms.

**Description of study population:**

**Table 1:** Sex distribution of the study population

Sex of the study population	No of patient
Male	04
Female	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>



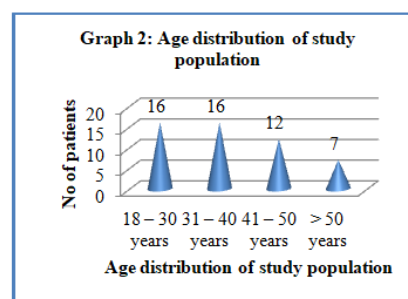
In this study we followed 47 female patients and 4 male patients underwent total thyroidectomy.

**Age distribution of study population:**

We categories the study population according to the distribution of age in to four groups.

**Table 2:** Age distribution of the study population

Age distribution of study population	No of patients
18 – 30 years	16
31 – 40 years	16
41 – 50 years	12
> 50 years	07
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>



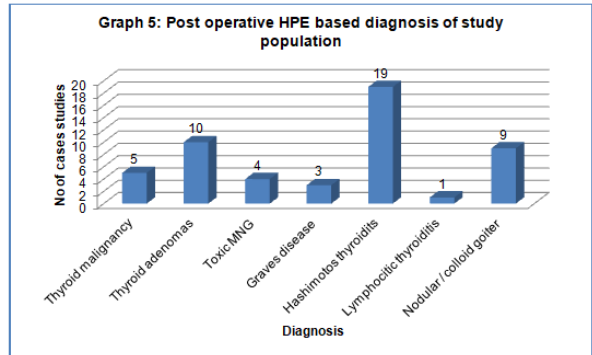
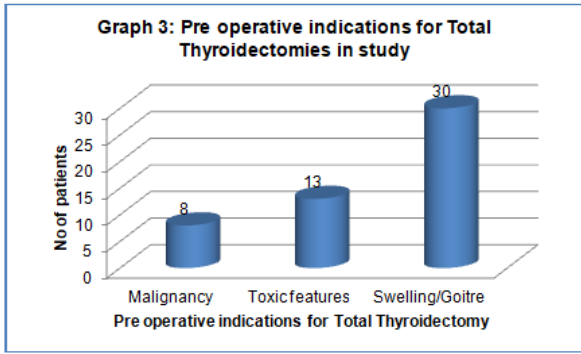
16 patients fall in the group 1, 16 patients fall in the group 2, 12 patients fall in the group 3 and 4 patients fall in the group 4.

**Table 3:** Pre operative indications for total thyroidectomy in study population

Pre operative indications for Total Thyroidectomy	No of patients
Malignancy	08
Toxic features	13

Swelling/Goitre	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>

Nodular / colloid goiter	09
<b>Total no of cases</b>	<b>51</b>



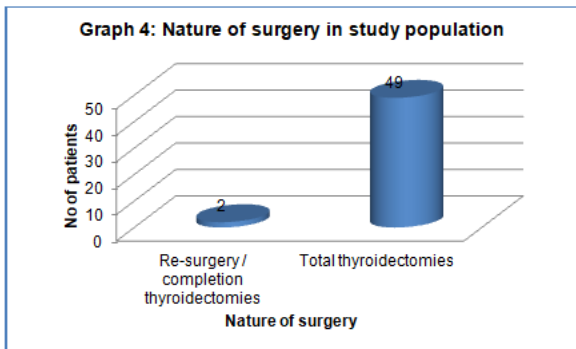
According to preoperative indicators of thyroidectomy of these 51 patients, 8 patients are posted for thyroidectomy for suspecting malignancy, 13 patients are posted for thyroidectomy for toxic features after controlling toxicity, 30 patients are posted for thyroidectomy for complaints like swelling or goiter or pressure effects.

Of the 51 total thyroidecomised patients, post operative follow up shows the following HPE reports.

5 patients underwent total thyroidectomy shows papillary thyroid carcinoma in their specimen, 10 patients showing thyroid adenoma, 4 patients HPE report reveals toxic Multinodular goiter and 3 patients specimen shows Graves disease. Hashimoto's thyroiditis reported in post thyroidectomy specimens of 19 patients and lymphocytic thyroiditis in 1 patient and 9 patients with nodular or colloid goiter.

**Table 4:** Nature of surgery in study population

Nature of surgery	No of patients
Re-surgery / completion thyroidectomies	02
Total thyroidectomies	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>



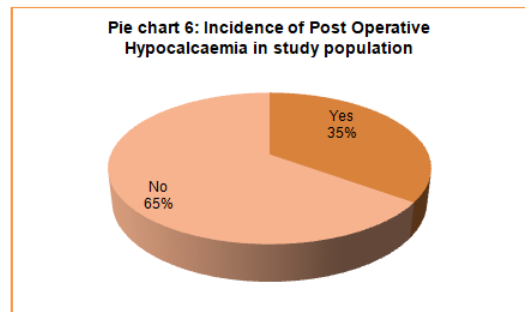
**Post thyroidectomy Hypocalcemia in the study population:**

In our study we documented 18 patients out of 51 patients of study population had experienced signs and symptoms of hypocalcemia in their post operative period.

**Table 6:** Incidence of Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcemia in study population

Post operative Hypocalcemia in study	No of patients	Percentage
Yes	18	35%
No	33	65%

Of these 51 total thyroidectomies 2 patients are posted for completion thyroidectomy (re surgery) followed after previous hemithyroidectomy or subtotal thyroidectomy with preoperative benign FNAC report and postoperative histopathological finding shows papillary malignancy for one patient, and recurrent toxicity for another patient.



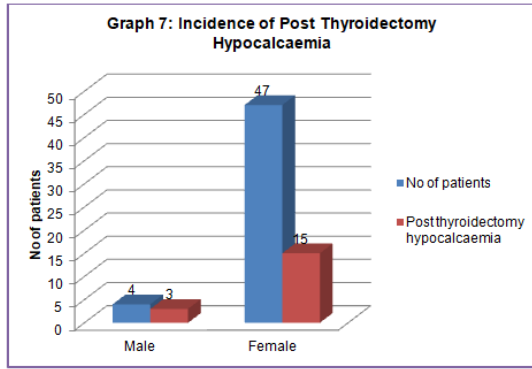
**Table 5:** Post operative HPE based diagnosis of study population

Diagnosis	No of cases studies
Thyroid malignancy	05
Thyroid adenomas	10
Toxic MNG	04
Graves disease	03
Hashimoto's thyroiditis	19
Lymphocytic thyroiditis	01

In denotes approximately 35% of study population experienced hypocalcemia in their post operative period.

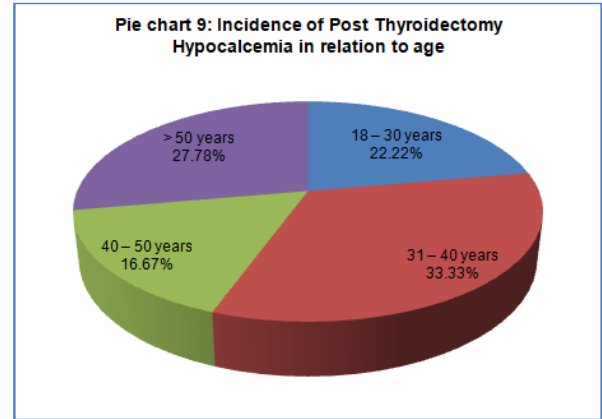
**Table 7:** Incidence of Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia in relation to sex in study population

Sex of study population	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia
Male	04	03
Female	47	15



Of these 3 males out of 4 male patient experienced hypocalcaemia in their post operative period, this approximates 75%.

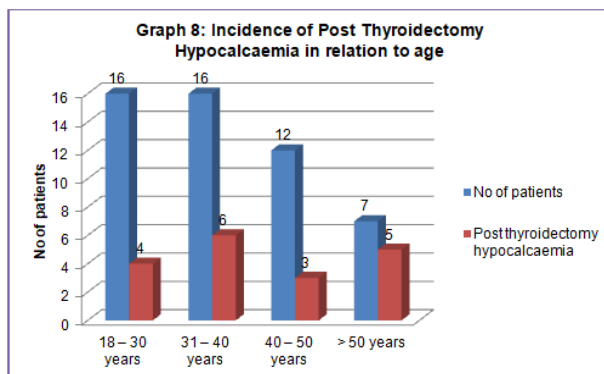
Out of 47 female patients 15 patients shows signs and symptoms of hypocalcemia, this approximates 32%.



22.22% of 18 to 30 years patients experienced post operative hypocalcaemia, 33.33% of 31 to 40 years experienced hypocalcaemia, 16.67% of 41 to 50 years experienced hypocalcaemia and 27.78% of more than 50 years experienced post operative hypocalcemia.

**Table 8:** Incidence of Post thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia in relation to age in study population

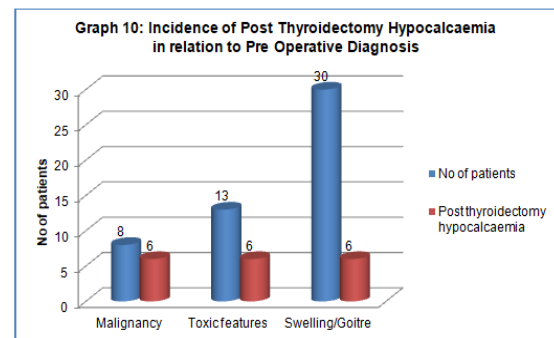
Age distribution of study population	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia	Percentage
18 – 30 years	16	4	22.22%
31 – 40 years	16	6	33.33%
40 – 50 years	12	3	16.67%
> 50 years	07	5	27.78%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>



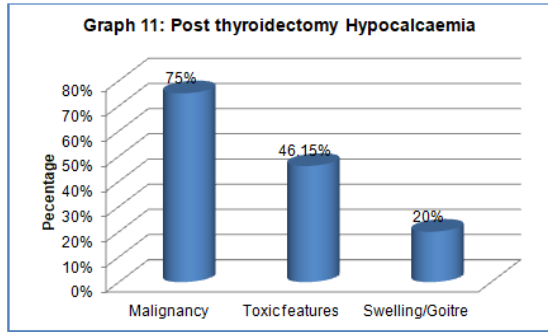
According to age distribution 4 patients in the age group of 12 to 30 years and 6 patients in the age group of 31 to 40 years, and 3 patients in the age group of 41 to 50 years and 5 patients in the age group of more than 50 years are affected by post operative hypocalcaemia.

**Table 9:** Incidence of Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia in relation to Pre OP indicators in study population

Pre operative indications for thyroidectomy	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia	Percentage
Malignancy	08	6	75%
Toxic features	13	6	46.15%
Swelling/Goitre	30	6	20%



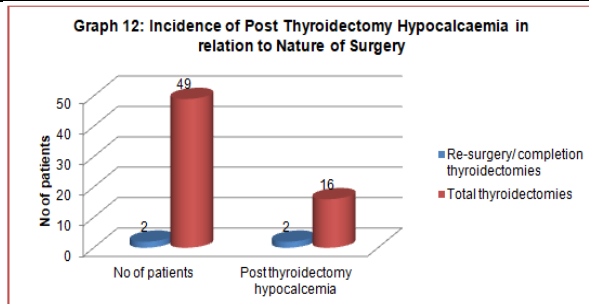
Patients underwent total thyroidectomy with pre operative diagnosis of malignancy experienced 75% of post operative hypocalcaemia and approximately 46% of patients with toxic features experienced post operative hypocalcaemia, only 20% of patients with swelling or goiter are reported with post operative hypocalcaemia.



Patients who underwent resurgeries like completion thyroidectomy shows 100% incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia

**Table 10:** Incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in relation to nature of surgery

Nature of surgery	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia	Percentage
Re-surgery/ Completion thyroidectomies	02	02	100%
Total thyroidectomies	49	16	32.65%

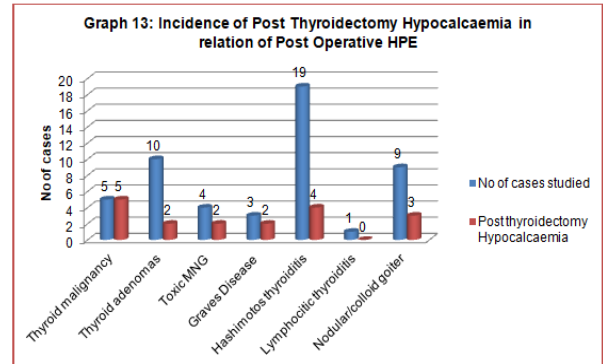


According to final post operative HPE based diagnosis, the incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia experience in our study was 5 out of 5 thyroid malignant patients experienced post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia and 20% of thyroid adenomas, and 50% of toxic Multinodular goiter patients, 67% of Graves disease patients and 21% of hashimotos thyroiditis patients and 33% of nodular or colloid goiter patient experienced post operative hypocalcaemia.

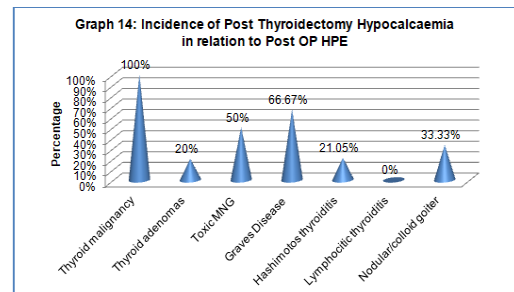
**Table 11:** Incidence of Post Thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia in relation to Post Operative HPE

Diagnosis	No of cases studied	Post thyroidectomy Hypocalcaemia	Percentage of hypocalcaemia
Thyroid malignancy	05	05	100%
Thyroid adenomas	10	02	20%
Toxic MNG	04	02	50%
Graves Disease	03	02	66.67%
Hashimotos thyroiditis	19	04	21.05%
Lymphocitic thyroiditis	01	00	0%
Nodular/colloid goiter	09	03	33.33%

Thyroid malignancy	05	05	100%
Thyroid adenomas	10	02	20%
Toxic MNG	04	02	50%
Graves Disease	03	02	66.67%
Hashimotos thyroiditis	19	04	21.05%
Lymphocitic thyroiditis	01	00	0%
Nodular/colloid goiter	09	03	33.33%

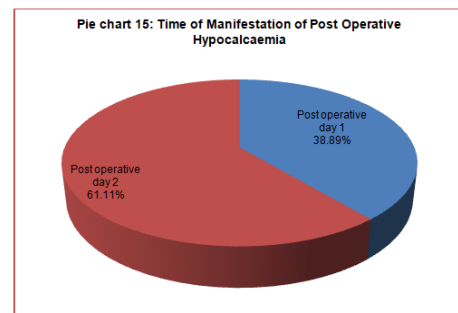


In our study 18 patients out of 51 patients experienced post operative hypocalcaemia, majority of them manifested the symptoms on post operative day 2 such that 61%, remaining patients presented on post operative day 1.



**Table 12:** Time of presentation of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in study population

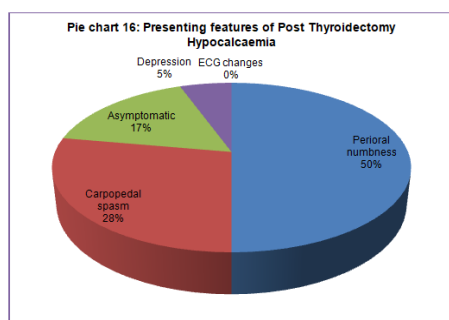
Day of presentation of hypocalcaemia	No of patients	Percentage
Post operative day 1	7	38.89%
Post operative day 2	11	61.11%



**Table 13:** Presenting feature of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in study population

Presenting symptom of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia	No of patients
Postoperative day 1	7
Postoperative day 2	11

Perioral numbness	9	> 50 years	07	5	71.4%
Carpopedal spasm	5				
Asymptomatic	3				
Depression	1				
ECG changes	0				



Most common presenting features in our study was perioral numbness. About 50% patient's first complaint during hypocalcaemia is perioral numbness.

**Discussion:**

Thyroid diseases are more common in females, as in many literature. Our study population also reflects the same .male 7.8% and female contributes 92.15% of thyroid disorders.

**Table 14:** Sex distribution

Sex of study population	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia
Male	04	03
Female	47	15

In our study, results show that thyroid diseases that may need thyroid surgeries are frequent in the middle age group between 30 to 40 years. But the post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia incidence is more common in the advancing age group i.e more than 50 years. A study conducted by Erbil Yet al named the impact of age, vit D level and incidental parathyroidectomy on postoperative hypocalcemia after total or near total thyroidectomy reveals that in advancing ages the level of vit D fall postoperatively increases tremendously. So the incidence 25 times greater for the patients of more than 50 years of age.

In the present study total number of patients aged above were 07 out of which 5 patients developed post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia.

**Table 15:** Age distribution

Age distribution of study population	No of patients	Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia	Percentage
18 – 30 years	16	4	25%
31 – 40 years	16	6	37.5%
40 – 50 years	12	3	25%

Benign diseases shows less incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia than the malignant diseases, this attribute to the extensive surgical dissection performed in malignant disorders in order to obtain tumour clearance. In a study conducted by sokouti M et al, regarding the incidence of transient and permanent hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy for thyroid cancer reveals higher incidence of hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy in malignant diseases of thyroid. The incidence increases more with surgeries combined with radical neck dissection.

The incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia is more in the toxic thyroid diseases than non toxic diseases, this also attributes to the extensive surgical dissection in the toxic disorders in order to avoid recurrence of the disease.

The same reason can explain the 100% incidence of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia in the resurgeries in our study, and in resurgeries some literatures postulates that extensive fibrosis can be a reason for vascular compromise that results in hypo parathyroidism. Indications for total thyroidectomy in our study population shows majority of them are resected for thyroid mass or goiter.

In our study period we concentrated mainly on immediate postoperative hypocalcaemia and due to the poor compliance of patients permanent hypocalcaemia was not analysed.

Our study shows the incidence of postoperative hypocalcaemia was approximately 35%, In literature it was reported from 27% to 80%. During the study period we did parathyroid auto transplantation for 4 patients who are found to be with accidental injury to the parathyroid glands found on table and post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia didn't manifest in that patients.

In a study conducted by Low and lam et al, where their team follow routine parathyroid auto transplantation incidence of hypocalcemia was less, patients presenting with hypocalcaemia are whom parathyroid auto transplantation was not done zendenius et al reported in his study that he did 100 case series with total thyroidectomy and parathyroid auto transplantation and concluded there was no permanent hypocalcaemia in his study group.

For prevention of post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia many authors followed identification of parathyroid intra operatively by various methods. Some of them are Esselstyn CB used parathyroid blush on table, Silverberg used methylene blue staining of parathyroids, Ramao used iv methylene blue for identification of parathyroids, Sofola et al used polarised spectral imaging, Pederson et al used portable gamma camera with sestamibi radio tracer, Yao et al touching print preparations, still the studies are going on. A higher

incidence of hypocalcaemia was noted in nontoxic nodular goiters but was associated with incidental parathyroidectomy. But we noticed that incidental removal of the gland was significantly associated with hypocalcaemia. This feature was interestingly noted along with nontoxic nodular goiters without risk factors. So we feel that a refinement in the surgical technique could have improved the outcome. The capsular dissection technique of mobilization ensures intact parathyroid glands with vascular pedicles. Thomusch *et al.* noted lateral ligation of inferior thyroid arteries (ITA) as a strong determinant of hypocalcaemia. But in one observational study, lateral ligation of the trunk of ITA did not cause significant hypocalcaemia following subtotal thyroidectomy for Grave's disease. This observation indicates an additional blood supply apart from the branches of ITA, possibly from thyroid gland itself.

In a study conducted by Nair C.G et al, Randall L. Baldassarre et al, Salem L Noureldine et al, Sakouti M hypocalcemia noticed were 23.6%, 5.5%, 29.9% and 28%, in our study out of 51 patients 18 patients developed hypocalcemia which is approximately corresponds to 35.5%.

**Table 16:** Comparison of studies

Study	% of hypocalcemia
Nair C.G et al	23.6%
Randall L Baldassarre et al	5.5%
Salem L Noureldine et al	29.9%
Sakouti M	28.7%
Present study	35.9%

In a study conducted by Randall L. Baldassarre, Thyroidectomy with bilateral neck dissection, the strongest independent risk factor of postoperative hypocalcemia resulted in an incidence of 23.4%. Additional factors independently associated with postoperative hypocalcemia included female gender, nonteaching hospitals, and malignant neoplasms of thyroid gland.

In this present study all the malignant thyroid swellings developed hypocalcemia after thyroidectomy this attribute to the extensive surgical dissection performed in malignant disorders in order to obtain tumour clearance.

In a study conducted by C. Gopalakrishna Nair et al 806 patients were analyse and the incidence of hypocalcaemia was 23.6% (n = 190) and that of permanent hypocalcaemia was 1.61% (n = 13). Onset was delayed up to 3rd postoperative day in 13 patients. Hypocalcaemia was significantly associated with thyroidectomy for Grave's Disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, and with incidental parathyroidectomy.

**Table 17:** Percentage of patients developed hypocalcemia

Study	Within 6 hours	1 <sup>st</sup> POD	2 <sup>nd</sup> POD	3 <sup>rd</sup> POD
CG Nair (n = 806)	21 (11.05%)	110 (57.88%)	46 (24.22%)	13 (6.84%)
Present study (n = 51)	---	7 (38.89%)	11 (61.11%)	---

**Conclusion & Summary:**

- From our study we concluded that post thyroidectomy transient hypocalcaemia is a frequent complication which can be prevented with preoperative preparation of patients with extreme caution and preoperative meticulous dissection, prompt identification of parathyroids and postoperative frequent monitoring of serum calcium and early treatment can prevent significant morbidity.
- Parathyroid auto transplantation should be considered in accidental injury to parathyroids during the procedure.
- Resurgeries of thyroid should be done with extreme caution.
- For treating patients more than 50 years surgeon should careful in preventing hypocalcaemia.
- While doing surgeries for malignant and toxic lesions for thyroid, the surgeon should consider total thyroidectomy as not only a thyroid removing surgery but also a surgery done to preserve parathyroids.
- For small scale hospitals serial monitoring of serum calcium levels preoperatively and postoperatively combined with careful monitoring of signs and symptoms of hypocalcemia is a efficient and cost effective tool to detect post thyroidectomy hypocalcemia.

**References:**

1. Nair CG, Babu MJ, Menon R, Jacob P. Hypocalcaemia following totalthyroidectomy: An analysis of 806 patients. Indian J Endocr Metab 2013;17:298-303
2. HanyAly. Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia. Egyptian Journal of Surgery Jan., 2008; No 1, Vol 27.
3. Randall L. Baldassarre, David C. Chang, Kevin T. Brumund, and Michael Bouvet. Predictors of Hypocalcemia after Thyroidectomy: Results from the Nationwide Inpatient Sample. International Scholarly Research Network, ISRN Surgery, Volume 2012; Article ID 838614
4. Salem I. Noureldine, Dane J. Genther, Michael Lopez, Nishant Agrawal, Ralph P. Tufano, et al. JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2014;140(11): 1006-1013. doi:10.1001/jamaoto.2014.2435
5. D. Glinoeer, G Andry, G Chantrain and N. Samil. Clinical aspects of early and late hypocalcemia after thyroid surgery. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2000; 26: 571-577.
6. Nair CG, Babu MJ, Menon R, Jacob P. Hypocalcaemia following total thyroidectomy: An analysis of 806 patients. Indian J EndocrMetab 2013;17:298-303.

7. Hany Aly. Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia. Egyptian Journal of Surgery, Jan., 2008; No 1, Vol 27.
8. Randall L. Baldassarre, David C. Chang, Kevin T. Brumund, and Michael Bouvet. Predictors of Hypocalcemia after Thyroidectomy: Results from the Nationwide Inpatient Sample. International Scholarly Research Network, ISRN Surgery, Volume 2012; Article ID 838614
9. Salem I. Noureldine, Dane J. Genther, Michael Lopez, Nishant Agrawal, Ralph P. Tufano. JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2014;140(11):1006-1013. doi:10.1001/jamaoto.2014.2435
10. D. Glinioer, G Andry, G Chantrain and N. Samil. Clinical aspects of early and late hypocalcemia after thyroid surgery. European Journal of Surgical Oncology 2000; 26: 571-577
11. Ottavio Caviechi, Ottavio Piccin, Umberto Caliceti, Angelo Decataldis, Renato Pasquali, and Alberto Rinaldi Ceroni. Transient Hypoparathyroidism following thyroidectomy: a prospective study and multivariate analysis of 604 consecutive patients. Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery 2007; 137: 654-658.
12. Rocco Bellantone, Celestino Pio Lombardi, Marco Raffaelli, Mauro Boscherini, Pier Francesco Alesina, Carmela De Crea, Emanuela Traini and Pietro Princi. Is routine supplementation therapy (calcium and vitamin D) useful after total thyroidectomy?. Surgery Italy, Volume 132, Number 6.
13. Jong-Lyel Roh, Jae-Yong Park and Chan Il Park. Prevention of Postoperative Hypocalcemia With Routine Oral Calcium and Vitamin D Supplements in Patients With Differentiated Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma Undergoing Total Thyroidectomy Plus Central Neck Dissection. December 30, 2008, V C 2008 American Cancer Society.
14. F. Tartaglia et al. Randomized study on oral administration of calcitriol to prevent symptomatic hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy. The American Journal of Surgery 190; 2005: 424-429.
15. Sakouti M, Montazeri V, Golzari S. The incidence of transient and permanent hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy for thyroid cancer. Int J Endocrinol Metab 2010;1;7-12.
16. Ottavio Caviechi, Ottavio Piccin, Umberto Caliceti, Angelo Decataldis, Renato Pasquali, and Alberto Rinaldi Ceroni. Transient Hypoparathyroidism following thyroidectomy: a prospective study and multivariate analysis of 604 consecutive patients. Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, 2007; 137: 654-658.
17. Rocco Bellantone, Celestino Pio Lombardi, Marco Raffaelli, Mauro Boscherini, Pier Francesco Alesina, Carmela De Crea, Emanuela Traini and Pietro Princi. Is routine supplementation therapy (calcium and vitamin D) useful after total thyroidectomy?. Surgery Italy, Volume 132, Number 6.
18. F. Tartaglia et al. Randomized study on oral administration of calcitriol to prevent symptomatic hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy. The American Journal of Surgery 190; 2005: 424-429.
19. Kim YS. Impact of preserving the parathyroid glands on hypocalcemia after total thyroidectomy with neck dissection. J Korean Surg Soc 2012;83:75-2.
20. Warren FM, Andersen PE, Wax MK, Choen JI. Intraoperative parathyroid hormone levels in thyroid and parathyroid surgery. Laryngoscope 2002; 112:1866-70
21. Roh JL, Park JY, Park CI. Prevention of postoperative hypocalcemia with routine oral calcium and vitamin D supplements in patients with differentiated papillary thyroid carcinoma undergoing thyroidectomy plus central neck dissection. Cancer 2009; 115: 251-258
22. Ancuta Leahu, Vanessa Carroni, G. Bilotti, Calcium level, a predictive factor of hypocalcemia following total thyroidectomy, Jurnalul Chirurgie, lasi, 2009; Vol 5. Nr.2 (ISSN 1584-9341)
23. Last RJ. Anatomy: Regional and Applied, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins 1972; p.602
24. Bliss RD, Gauger, PG, De Ibride, LW. Surgeons approach to the thyroid gland: surgical anatomy and the importance of the technique. World J Surg 2000; 24:891-897.
25. Gray SW, Skandalakis JE. Embryology for surgeons 1<sup>st</sup> ed Philadelphia: Saunders, 1972.
26. Pelizzo MR, Toniato A, Gemo G, Zucker K and Istuberculum: an arrow pointing to the recurrent laryngeal nerve (constant anatomic landmark) J Am Coll Surg 1998; 187:333-336.
27. John E. Skandalakis the embryologic and anatomic basis of modern surgery ISBN 960-399-119-8 page 50.
28. Nobori M, Saiki S, Tanaka N, Harihara Y, Shindo S, Fujimoto Y. Blood supply of the parathyroid gland from the superior thyroid artery surgery. 1994; 115:417-423.
29. Hunt PS, Poole M, Reeve TS. A reappraisal of the surgical anatomy of the thyroid and parathyroid glands. Br J Surg 1968; 55:63.
30. Manthorner HR, Caylor HD, Schlotthauer CF, Pemberton J de J. Observations on the lymphatic connections of the thyroid gland in man, Anat Rec 1927; 36:341.
31. Farr HW, Fahey TJ Jr, Nash AG, Farr CM. Primary hyperparathyroidism and cancer. Am J Surg 1973; 126: 539.
32. Libutti SK, Barlett DL, Jaskowiak NT, Skarulis M, Marx SJ, Speigel AM, Fraker DL, Doppman JL, Shawker TJ, Alexander HR. The role of thyroid resection during reoperation for persistent or recurrent hyperparathyroidism, Surgery 122:1183-8, 1997.
33. Hooghe L, Kinnaert P, Van Geertruyden J. Surgical anatomy of hyperparathyroidism, Acta Chir Belg 1992; 92:1.



- Surgery done
- Surgical notes
- PTAT Y/N
- Post operative serum calcium
- POD-1-
- POD-2-
- POD-5-
- Perioral numbness
- Carpopedal spasm
- Mood changes
- ECG changes
- Treated with

**MASTER CHART**

SI. NO.	Reg. No.	Name of the patient	Age	Sex	Pre OP Indication	Procedure Done	Date of Surgery	Post OP HPE	Pre OP serum calcium in mg/dl	Serum calcium in 1st POD	Serum Calcium in 2nd POD	Serum Calcium in POD 4	Prenting symptom	Treatment
1	20170366653	S. Indiramma	65	F	Recurrent Papillary Carcinoma	Completion Thyroidectomy	05-03-2017	Papillary Carcinoma	8.5	7.5	7.8	8.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
2	20170461793	Sujana T	70	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	02-05-2017	Nodular goitre with cystic degeneration	9	8.5	8.5	8.5		
3	20170505132	K. Nagamma	37	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	07-05-2017	Graves disease	8.7	7	7.5	8.4	Carpopedal Spasm	IV
4	20170645544	Sukumaramma	57	F	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	20-06-2017	Papillary Carcinoma	9	8.5	8	9	Asymptomatic	Oral
5	20170707175	A. Gangadevi	28	F	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	10-07-2017	Follicular Adenoma	9	9	8.5	8.5		
6	20170737818	Roshini	30	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	18-07-2017	Adenomatous Hyperplasia	8.8	8.5	9	9		
7	20170831125	Anitha N	27	F	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	14-08-2017	Papillary Carcinoma	8.8	8.5	7.5	8.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
8	20170974345	Shakeela Bhanu	38	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidectomy	02-10-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9.5	9	9	9		
9	20170311868	Najuma SD	28	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	12-03-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9.5	9.5	9	9		
10	20160647236	Ramanamma	42	F	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	12-03-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	8.5	9	7.8	8.8	Peri oral numbness	Oral
11	20170313937	Najunni SK	42	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	10-03-2017	Adenomatous Hyperplasia	9	9	8.5	9		
12	20170360626	Venkatamma D	50	F	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	04-04-2017	Papillary Carcinoma	9	8.5	8	9	Asymptomatic	Oral
13	20170372267	Prabhavathi M	40	F	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	15-04-2017	Adenomatous Hyperplasia	8.5	8.5	8.5	9		
14	20170443146	G. Guramma	35	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	21-05-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9.5	9	8.5	9		
15	20170663364	V. Sukumaramma	30	F	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	24-06-2017	Microfollicular Adenoma	10	9	9	9		
16	20170737552	P. Munemma	35	F	Recurrent Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	16-07-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9	7.5	7.8	8.5	Carpopedal Spasm	IV
17	20170737818	SK. Roshini	44	F	Toxic Goitre	Total Thyroidectomy	18-07-2017	Lymphocytic Thyroiditis	10	9.5	9	8.5		
18	20170808386	V. Polamma	39	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	06-08-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9	9	9	8.5		
19	20170808607	V. Narasamma	28	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	05-08-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9	8.5	9	8.8		
20	20170827734	Hymavathi	50	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	14-08-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	8.5	85	8.8	8.8		
21	20170861825	Venkateswaralu Y	55	M	Papillary Carcinoma	Total Thyroidectomy	04-08-2017	Papillary Carcinoma	8.5	7.5	8	8.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
22	20170861922	P. Rajamma	30	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidectomy	28-08-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	8.8	8.5	9	9		
23	20170870932	G. Subbamma	24	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidectomy	04-09-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9.2	9	9	9		
24	20170934621	G. Padma	30	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	10-09-2017	Colloid Goitre	9	9	8.8	9		
25	20170934563	C. Rathamma	49	F	MNG	Total Thyroidectomy	14-09-2017	Colloid Goitre	9	8.5	7.8	8.8	Peri oral numbness	Oral

**MASTER CHART**

SI. NO.	Reg. No.	Name of the patient	Age	Sex	Pre OP Indication	Procedure Done	Date of Surgery	Post OP HPE	Pre OP serum calcium in mg/dl	Serum calcium in 1st POD	Serum Calcium in 2nd POD	Serum Calcium in POD 4	Prenting symptom	Treatment
26	20171252867	K. Sailaja	48	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	21-12-2017	Colloid Goitre	9.5	9.5	9	9		
27	20171245347	K. Chinamma	41	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	26-12-2017	Microfollicular Adenoma	9.6	9	9	9		
28	20171269925	V. Aggemma	26	F	Primary Thyrotoxicosis	Total Thyroidecomy	29-12-2017	Colloid Goitre	9.8	8.8	8	9	Asymptomatic	Oral
29	20161208291	Subbarathnamma D	30	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidecomy	10-12-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	8.8	8.5	8.8	9		
30	20161208072	Narayanamma R	55	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidecomy	14-12-2016	Colloid Goitre	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5		
31	20161142606	Nagamma Y	37	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	13-11-2016	Colloid Goitre	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.5		
32	20170608994	Ankamma P	60	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	05-06-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	8.4	8.5	8.5	9		
33	20170639397	Jyothi K	40	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	16-06-2017	Hashimotos Throidits	9	9	8.8	9		
34	20170557089	Venkata Ramanamma B	65	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	04-05-2017	Colloid Goitre	8.5	7	7.8	8.5	Carpopedal Spasm	IV
35	20170639233	Vani U	35	F	Toxic Goitre	Total Thyroidecomy	10-06-2017	Toxic MNG	9	7	7.5	8	Carpopedal Spasm	IV
36	20180614758	Sujatha T	31	F	Solitary Thyroid Nodule Left	Total Thyroidecomy	05-06-2018	Follicular Adenoma	9.5	8.5	7.2	8.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
37	20180615092	Guravamma Y	35	F	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	11-06-2018	Toxic MNG	10	10	9	9		
38	20180553353	Lalithamma D	26	F	Diffuse Goitre	Total Thyroidecomy	13-05-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	10.5	10	9.5	9		
39	20180582492	Sankaramma G	40	F	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	18-05-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	9	9	9	8.5		
40	20180614906	Naramadha K	46	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	04-06-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	9.5	9	7.5	8.5	Carpopedal Spasm	IV
41	20180614819	Sukuna Kumari G	34	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	20-06-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	8.5	8.5	8.8	8.5		
42	20180614750	Kanakadurga N	48	F	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	29-06-2018	Toxic MNG	8.8	8	8.5	8.5		
43	20180614927	Ramanamma C	39	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	29-06-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	9	8.5	9	9		
44	20180380407	Suselamma P	30	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	09-03-2018	Hashimotos Throidits	9.5	9	8	9.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
45	20180543524	Kathyani G	30	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	11-05-2018	Microfollicular Adenoma	10	10	9.5	9.5		
46	20160734281	Rama Krishnaiah P	29	M	Primary Thyrotoxicosis	Total Thyroidecomy	10-07-2016	Follicular Adenoma	10.5	8.5	7.8	8.5	Peri oral numbness	Oral
47	20161210861	Venkataiah B	39	M	Toxic MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	14-12-2016	Toxic MNG	9	7.5	8	8.5	Depression	IV
48	20161208495	Madhan K	22	M	Primary Thyrotoxicosis	Total Thyroidecomy	20-12-2016	Adenomatous Hyperplasia	9	9	9	8.5		
49	20180802162	Kanthamma B	37	F	Primary Thyrotoxicosis	Total Thyroidecomy	10-08-2018	Graves disease	9.5	9	9	9		
50	20180762964	Vijaya Kumari A	36	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	19-07-2018	Colloid Goitre	8.5	8.5	9	9.2		
51	20180669344	Polamma K	50	F	MNG	Total Thyroidecomy	22-06-2018	Colloid Goitre	8.8	8.5	7.8	8.8	Peri oral numbness	Oral

