



Endocrine complications of cancer treatments

MANCHESTER
1824

The University
of Manchester

Dr Claire Higham

28.2.2019

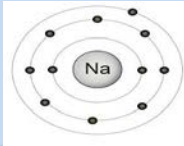


Consultant Endocrinologist
The Christie Hospital
Manchester, UK



Living With And Beyond

Electrolyte Disorders



Onco-Endocrinology

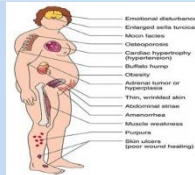
Pituitary hormone dysfunction



Acute Hormone Dysfunction



Paraneoplastic Syndrome



Diabetes



**Hypogonadism
POF
Infertility**



Bone Health



Obesity and Metabolic Risk



Cancer



Living With And Beyond

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Onco-Endocrinology

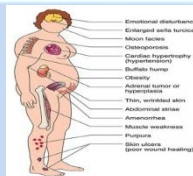
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Telephone call from Phil, Clinical Scientist

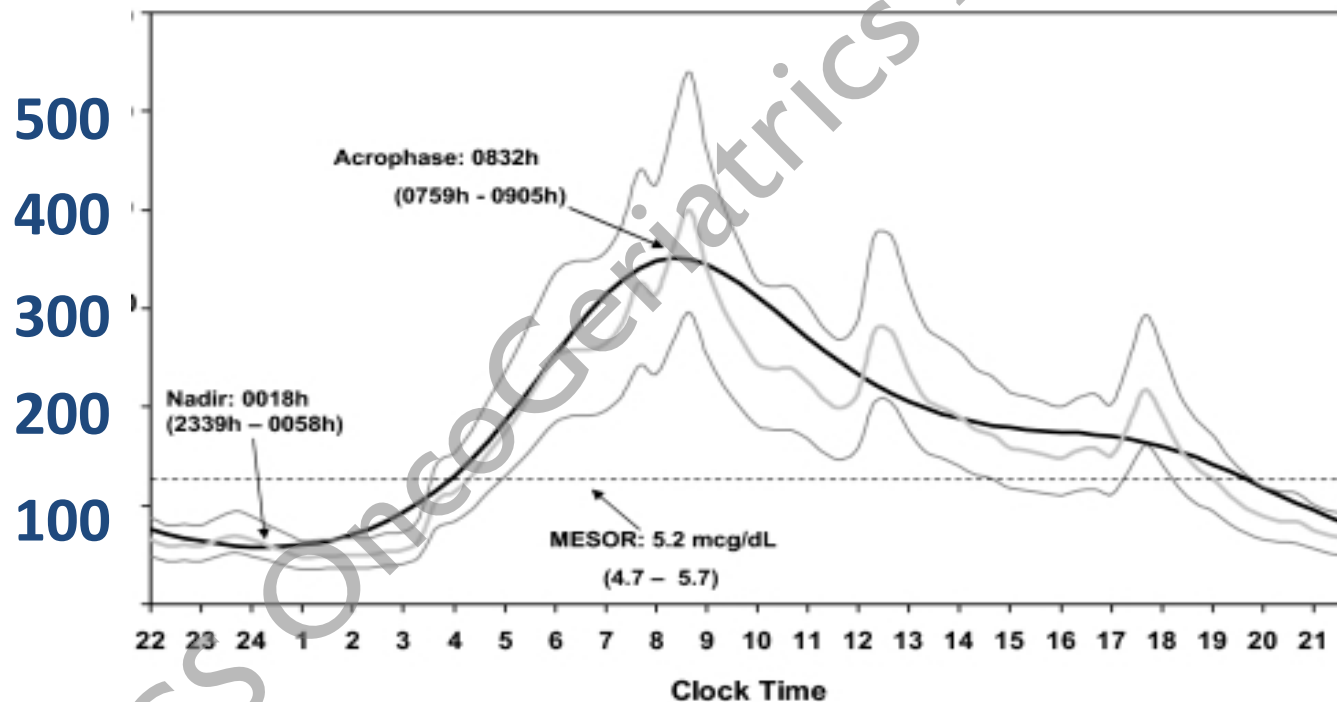
Mrs B 85 yr old lady

“serum cortisol is 85 nmol/l” (200-600)



Is Mrs B's cortisol normal?: circadian rhythm of cortisol

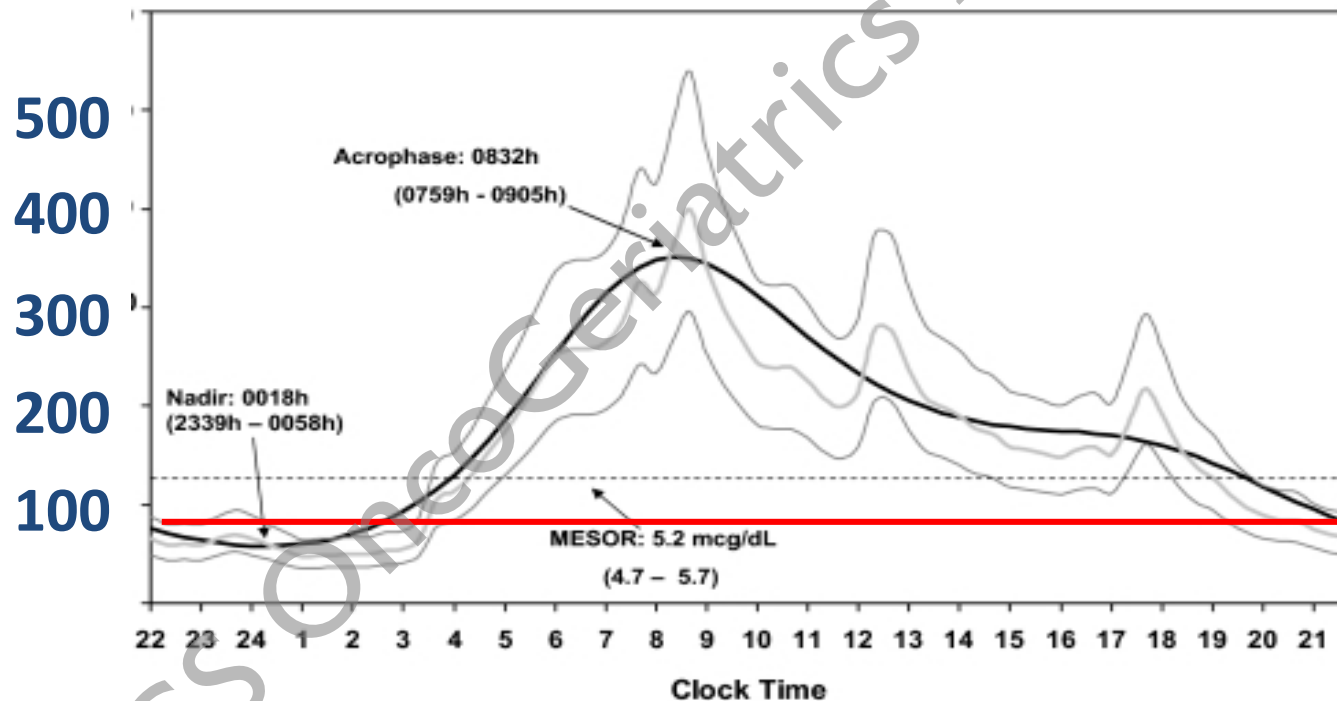
serum
cortisol
nmol/l





Is Mrs B's cortisol normal?: circadian rhythm of cortisol

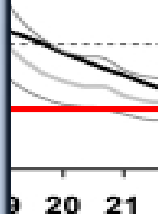
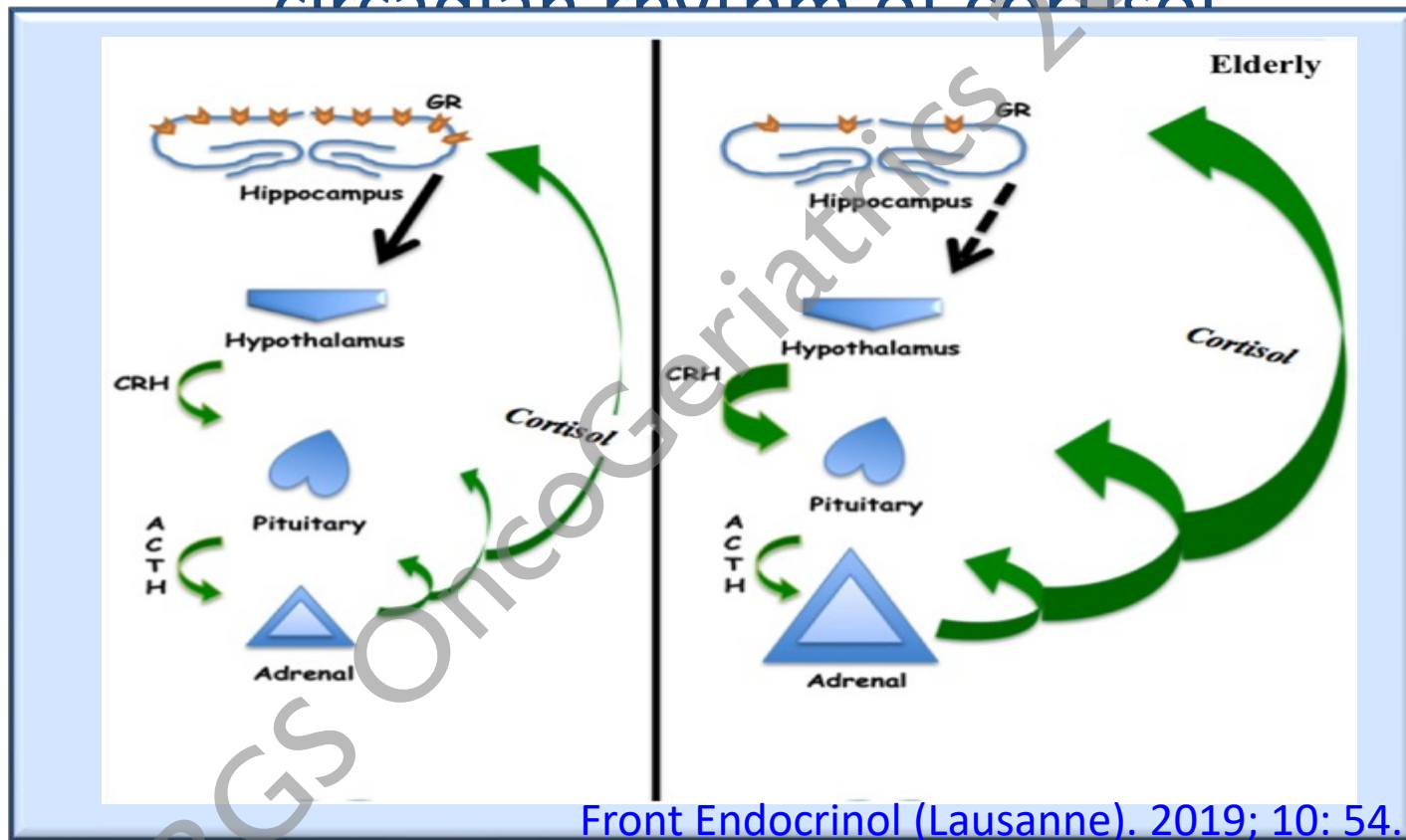
serum
cortisol
nmol/l





Is Mrs B's cortisol normal?:

circadian rhythm of cortisol

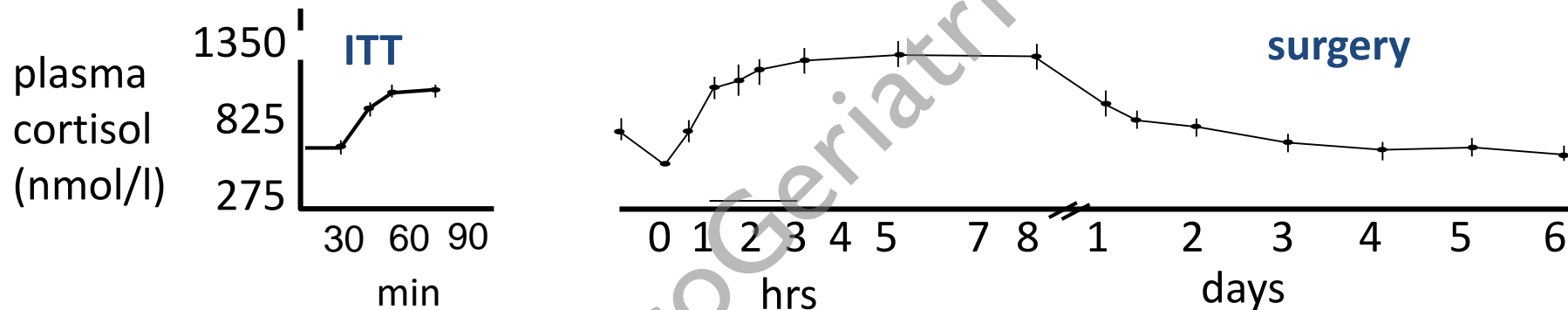


serum
cortisol
nmol/l

Front Endocrinol (Lausanne). 2019; 10: 54.



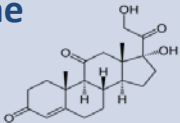
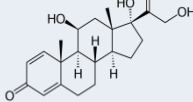
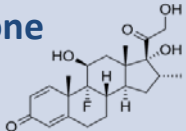
Is Mrs B unwell?: cortisol response to hypoglycaemia and major abdominal surgery



- Peak cortisol of 20 mcg/dl = 551 nmol/l predicts an adequate response to surgery
- Gold Standard for comparing tests of adrenal function – the Short Synacthen Test (Abdu et al 600 nmol/l)



Is Mrs B on glucocorticoid therapy ?

	Immunoassay	Result (nmol/l)	Mass spectrometry	Result
Hydrocortisone 	same as endogenous cortisol	300 nmol/l	same as endogenous cortisol	300 nmol/l
Prednisolone 	cross reactivity dependent on assay	240 nmol/l	cortisol distinguishable from prednisolone	<50 nmol/l
Dexamethasone 	no cross reactivity	< 50 nmol/l	no cross reactivity	< 50 nmol/l
Inhaled GCs (fluticasone/ beclamethasone/ budesonide/ ciclesonide)	cross reactivity dependent on assay (usually minimal)		no cross reactivity	

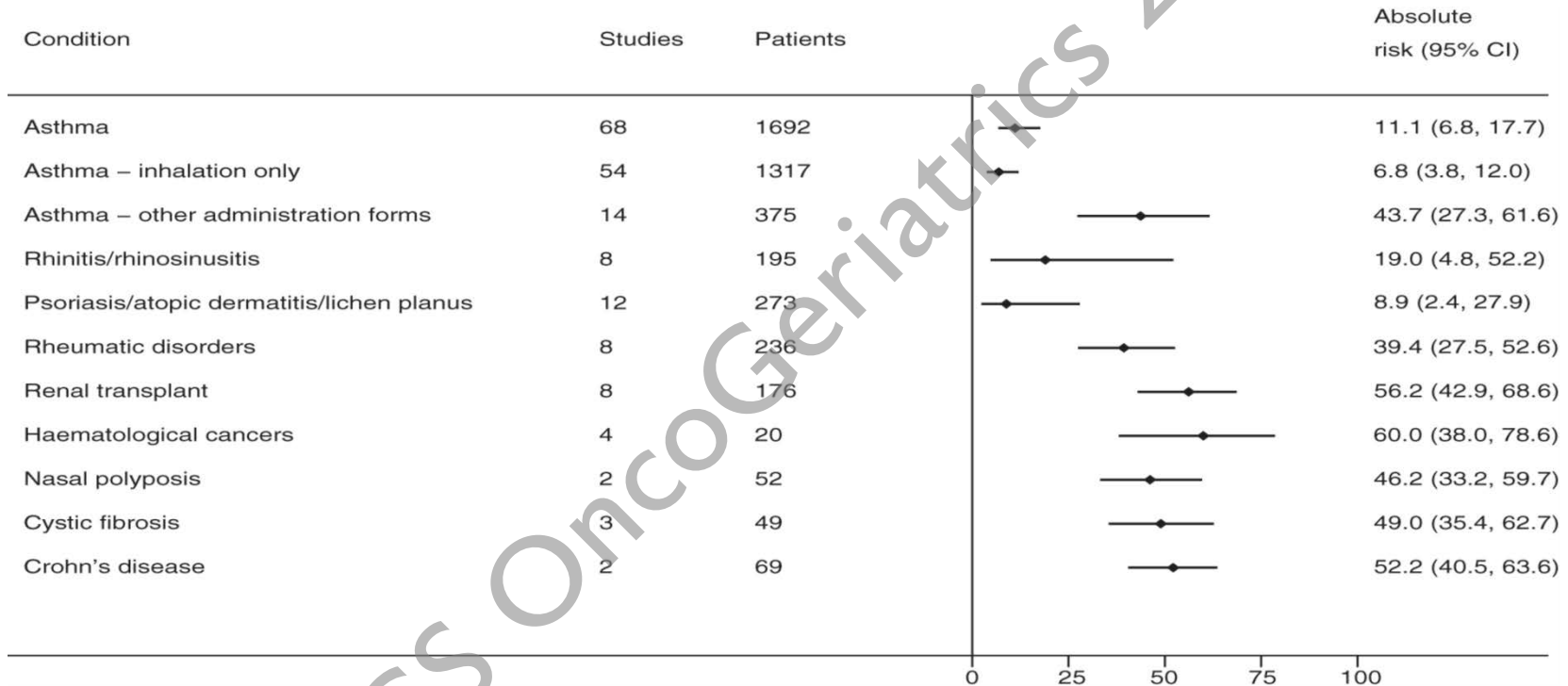


Dose equivalence (physiological) A reminder!

oral prednisolone	3.75-6.25 mg per day
oral hydrocortisone	12.5-15 mg per day
oral dexamethasone	0.75 mg per day

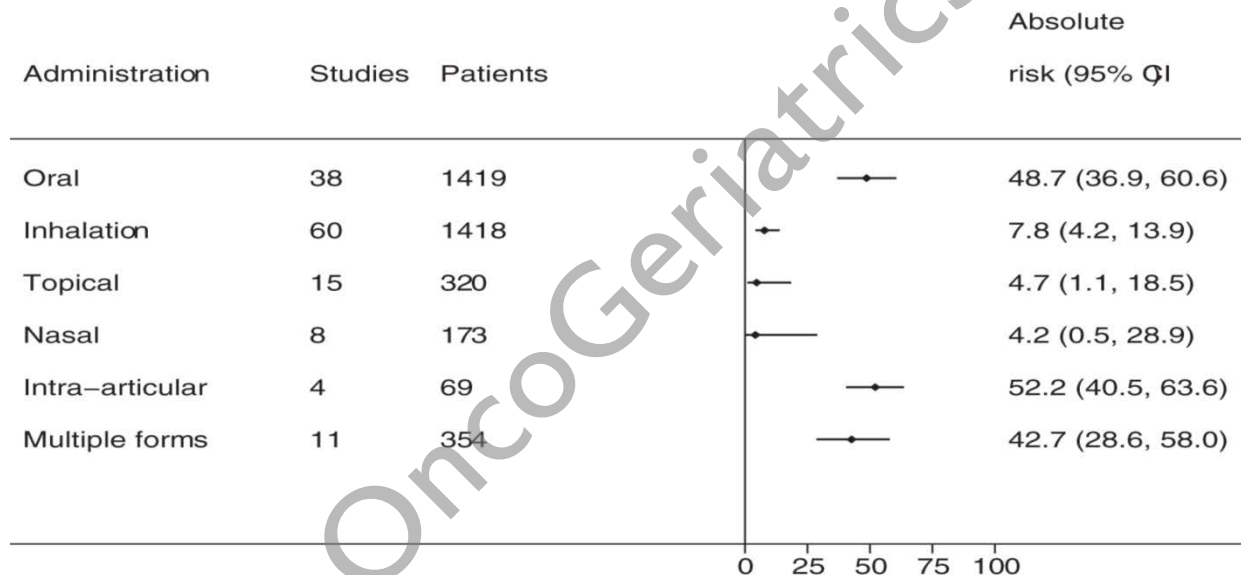


Has Mrs B recently been on any glucocorticoid therapy?





Has Mrs B recently been on any glucocorticoid therapy – what about inhalers/creams/injections?





Has Mrs B recently been on any glucocorticoid therapy – what about inhalers/creams/injections?

- high dose/long term glucocorticoids highest risk – consider routine testing
- can occur even after low dose, topical Rx - low threshold for testing if symptomatic
- warn patients of potential risk

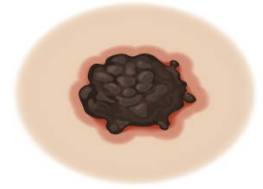


Key Points

- What was the time of the serum cortisol sample ?
- Is the patient unwell?
- Is the patient currently taking glucocorticoids?
 - oral/intra-articular/inhaled/topical
- How is serum cortisol measured in my hospital?
- Has the patient had previous glucocorticoids?
 - oral/intra-articular/inhaled/topical
 - exclude HPA axis suppression



81 yr old gentleman



Performance Status 1

Medical History

endovascular repair for AAA aged 70

BP 183/74

Medications

Doxazosin 2mg od, Aspirin 75mg od, Allopurinol 300mg od Finasteride 5mg, Digoxin 125mcg od, Pravastatin 40mg od Indapamide 2.5mg od, Carvedilol 12.5mg od, Ramipril 10mg od



81 yr old gentleman

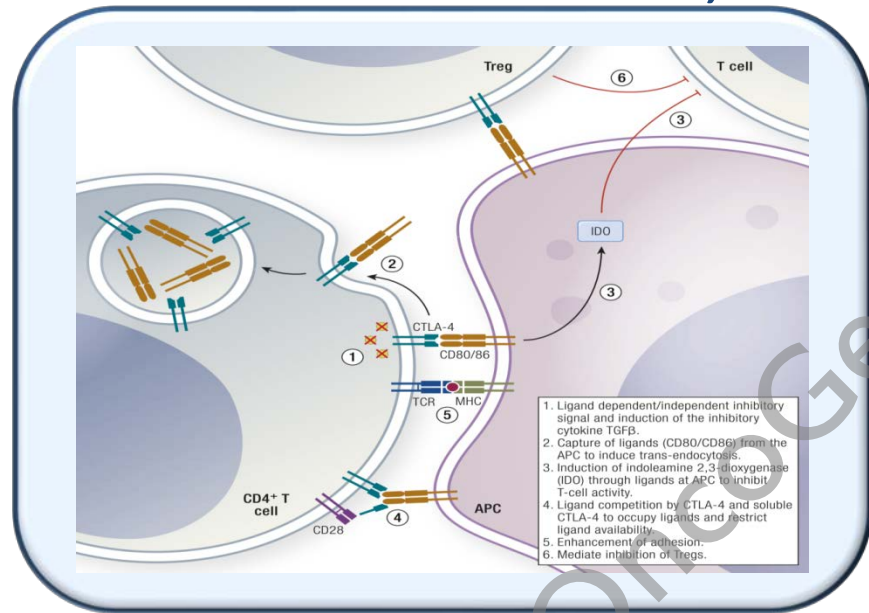


metastatic melanoma
stage IV M1c

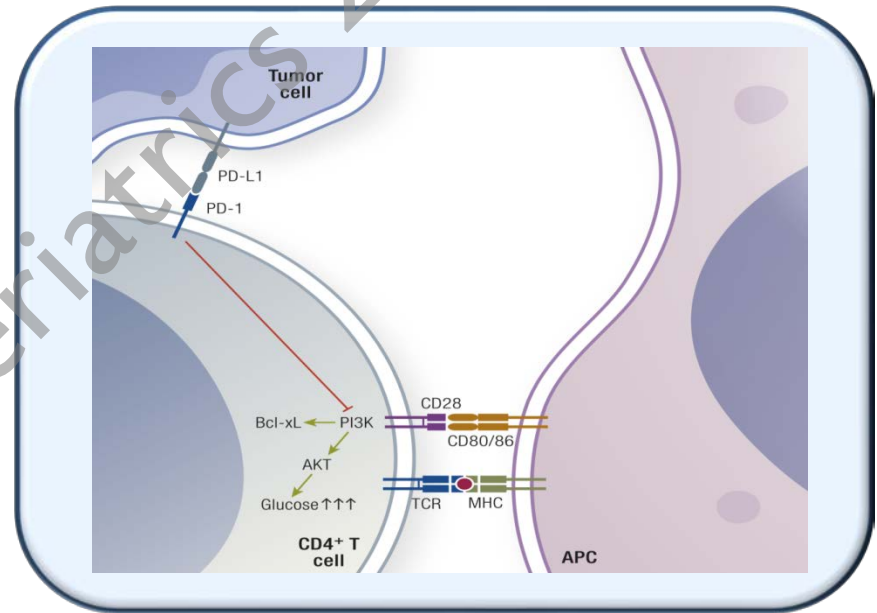
Pembrolizumab mono



Monoclonal antibodies targeting CTLA-4 , PD-1 and PDL-1



CTLA-4 inhibits conventional
T-cell activity



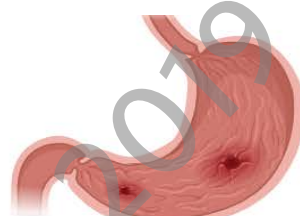
some tumour cells express PDL-1
to avoid immune detection



melanoma



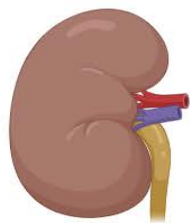
hepatocellular carcinoma



gastric cancer



microsatellite insufficient or instability high colorectal cancer



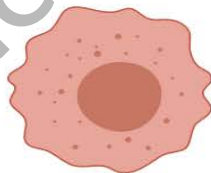
renal cell carcinoma



**FDA
approved
indications
(May 2018)**



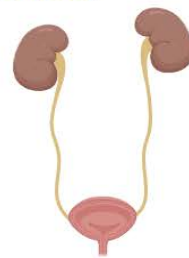
non small cell lung cancer



Hodgkin Lymphoma



head and neck squamous cell cancer



urothelial cancer



81 yr old gentleman



metastatic melanoma
stage IV M1c

Pembrolizumab mono



81 yr old gentleman

- 5 months into treatment
- falls, confusion and tiredness
- admitted to Acute Oncology Unit



81 yr old gentleman

- 5 months into treatment
- falls, confusion and tiredness
- admitted to Acute Oncology Unit
- Serum sodium 125 mmol/l (135-145 mmol/l)
- BP 90/40



Management of a life-threateningly unwell (CTCAE grade 3-4) patient

Assess for the following signs/symptoms:

- hypotension (systolic BP <90 mmHg)
- postural hypotension (>20mmHg drop in BP from standing to sitting)
- dizziness / collapse
- hypovolemic shock
- abdominal pain, tenderness and guarding
- nausea and vomiting
- tachycardia +/- cardiac arrhythmias
- fever
- confusion/delirium
- coma
- hyponatraemia/hyperkalemia/hypoglycemia
- pre-renal/renal failure

Severe, potentially life threatening and possibility of hypoadrenalism: needs urgent management

Measure (alongside other acute assessment measures as indicated e.g. blood cultures):

- random serum cortisol and plasma ACTH (footnote 1)
- U+Es/LFTs/CRP/FBC/TSH/FT4/glucose (footnote 2)
- Prolactin, testosterone/oestradiol, LH/FSH (footnote 3)

Treat as adrenal insufficiency as per [Society for Endocrinology Emergency Endocrine Guidance](#): (footnote 4)

Hydrocortisone (immediate bolus injection of 100 mg hydrocortisone i.v. or i.m. followed by continuous intravenous infusion of 200 mg hydrocortisone per 24 h (alternatively 50 mg hydrocortisone per i.v. or i.m. injection every 6 h))

Rehydration with rapid intravenous infusion of 1000 mL of isotonic saline infusion within the first hour, followed by further intravenous rehydration as required (usually 4-6 L in 24 h; monitor for fluid overload in case of renal impairment and in elderly patients)

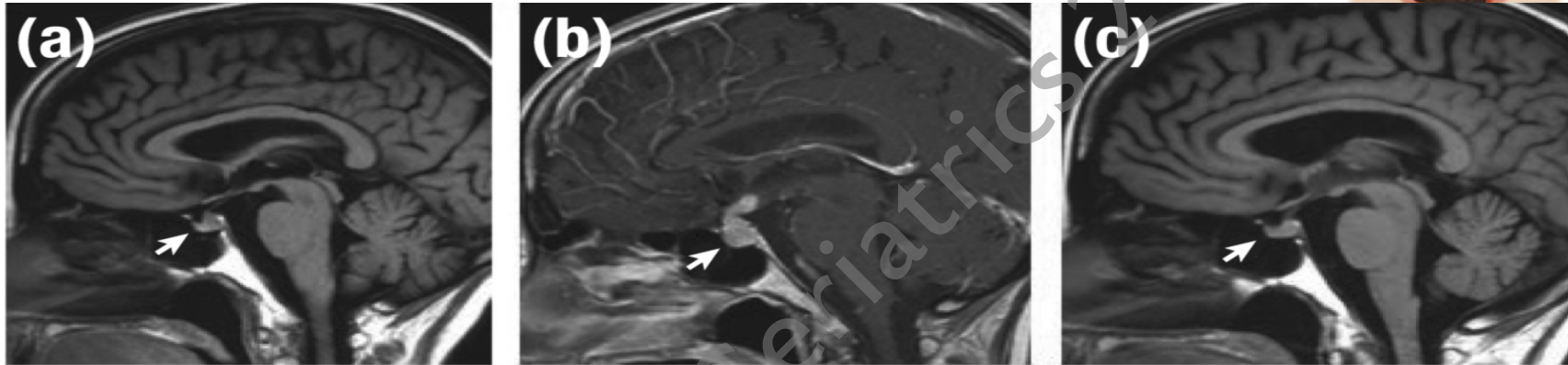


81 yr old gentleman

- 5 months into treatment
- falls, confusion and tiredness
- admitted to Acute Oncology Unit
- Serum sodium 125 mmol/l (135-145 mmol/l)
- Serum cortisol 97 nmol/l



CPI induced hypophysitis

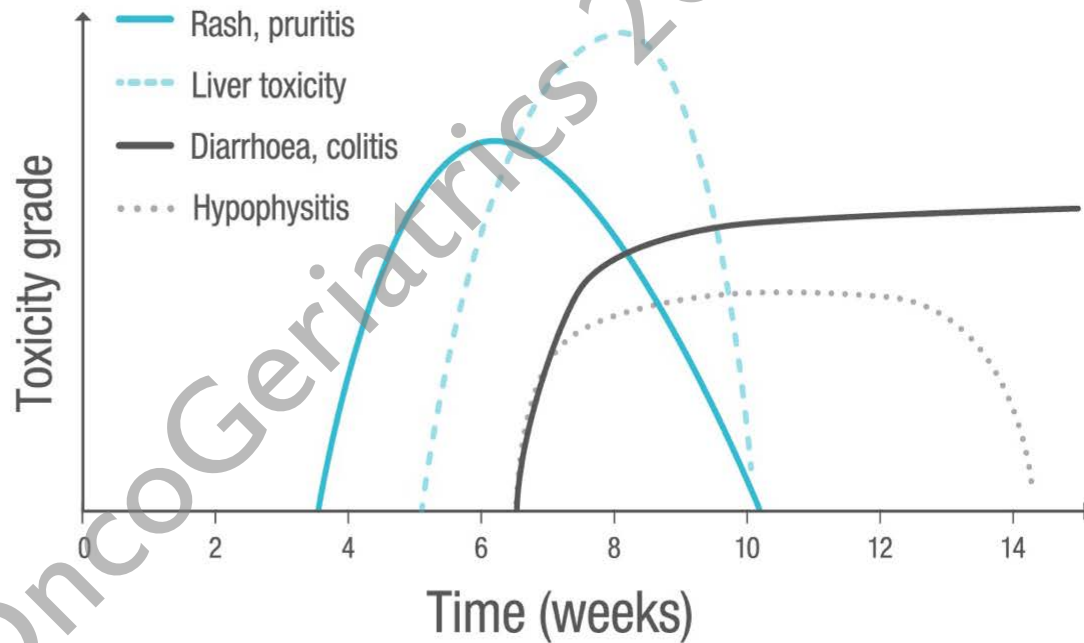


- admitted to Acute Oncology Unit
- serum sodium 125 mmol/l (135-145 mmol/l)
- serum cortisol 97 nmol/l
- ACTH < 5 ng/ml
- SST at 18/12 serum cortisol 60 mins: 189 nmol/l



Incidence and epidemiology

Time to onset and resolution of occurrence of immuno-related adverse events following Ipilimumab treatment



Weber JS et al. J Clin Oncol 2012;30:2691–2697.
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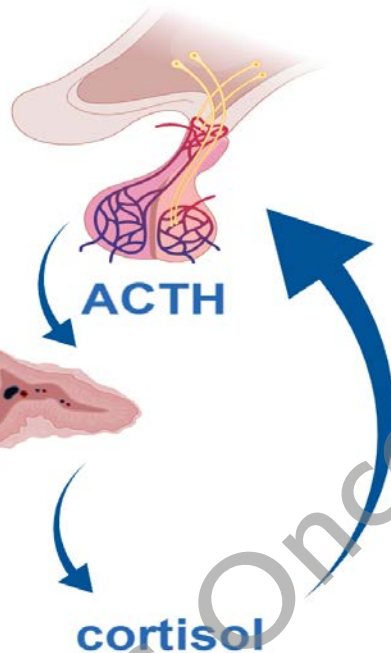
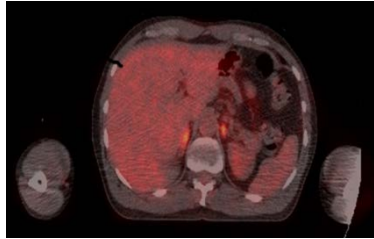


Watch out for adrenalitis !

- serum sodium 125 mmol/l (135-145 mmol/l)
- serum cortisol 97 nmol/l
- treated with high dose hydrocortisone for 3/7
- hyponatremia resolved
- reducing regimen of H/C 10,5,5 mg
- serum sodium 125 mmol/l



Watch out for adrenalitis !



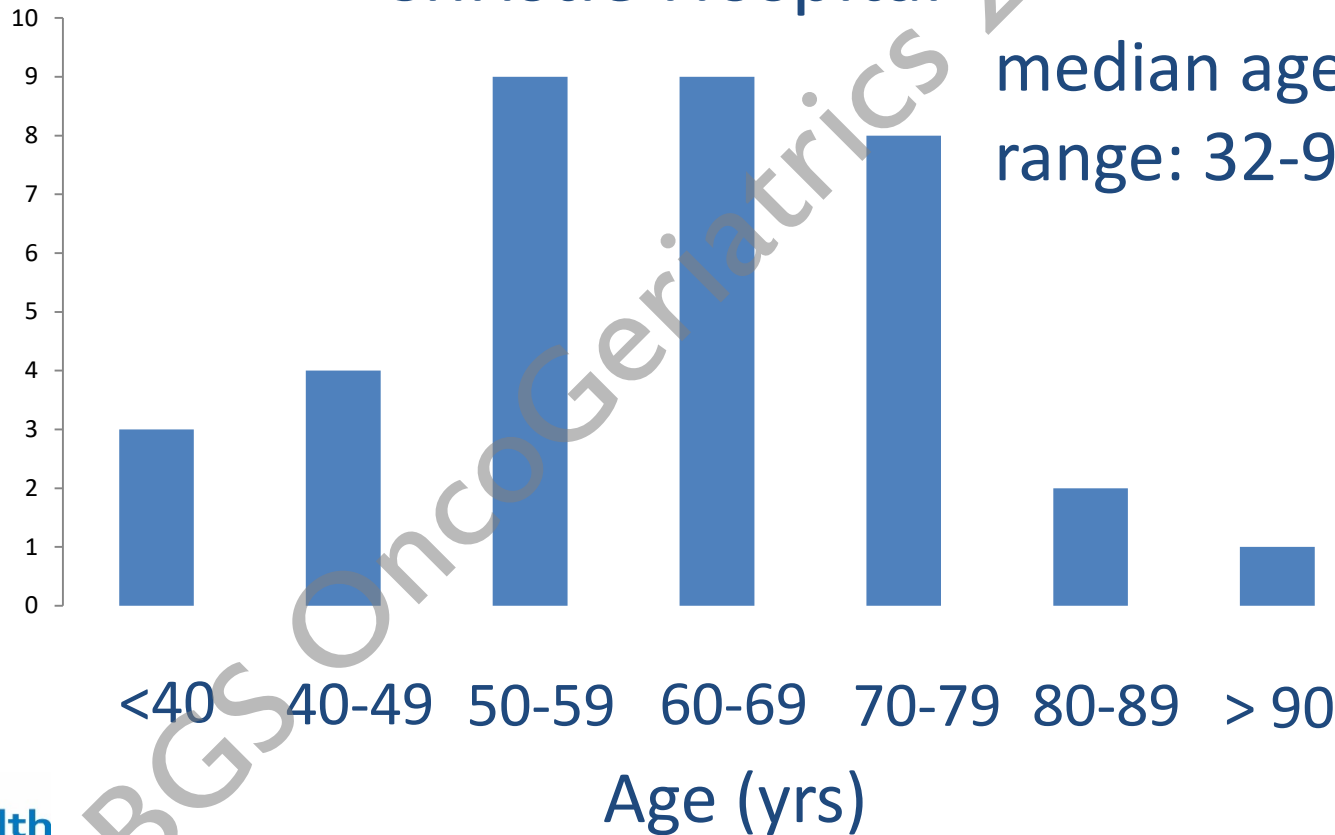
- serum sodium 125 mmol/l
- serum cortisol 97 nmol/l
- ACTH 200 ng/ml (0-46)
- plasma renin activity activity 19.8 nmol/l/hr (0.3-2.2)
- aldosterone < 100 pmol/l

hydrocortisone 10, 5 mg
fludrocortisone 100 mg



Age distribution in CPI induced HPA damage Christie Hospital

number
of
patients



median age: 61 yrs
range: 32-92 yrs



Available Clinical Guidance

- **American Society of Clinical Oncology**

Brahmer JR et al J Clin Oncol. 2018;36(17):1714–1768.

- **European Society for Medical Oncology**

Haanen J et al Ann Oncol. 2017;28(suppl_4):iv119–iv142.

- **UKONs Initial Management Guidelines**

Version 3 in draft

- **UK Society for Endocrinology Emergency Guidance**

Higham CE et al, Endocr Connect. 2018 Jul;7(7):G1-G7

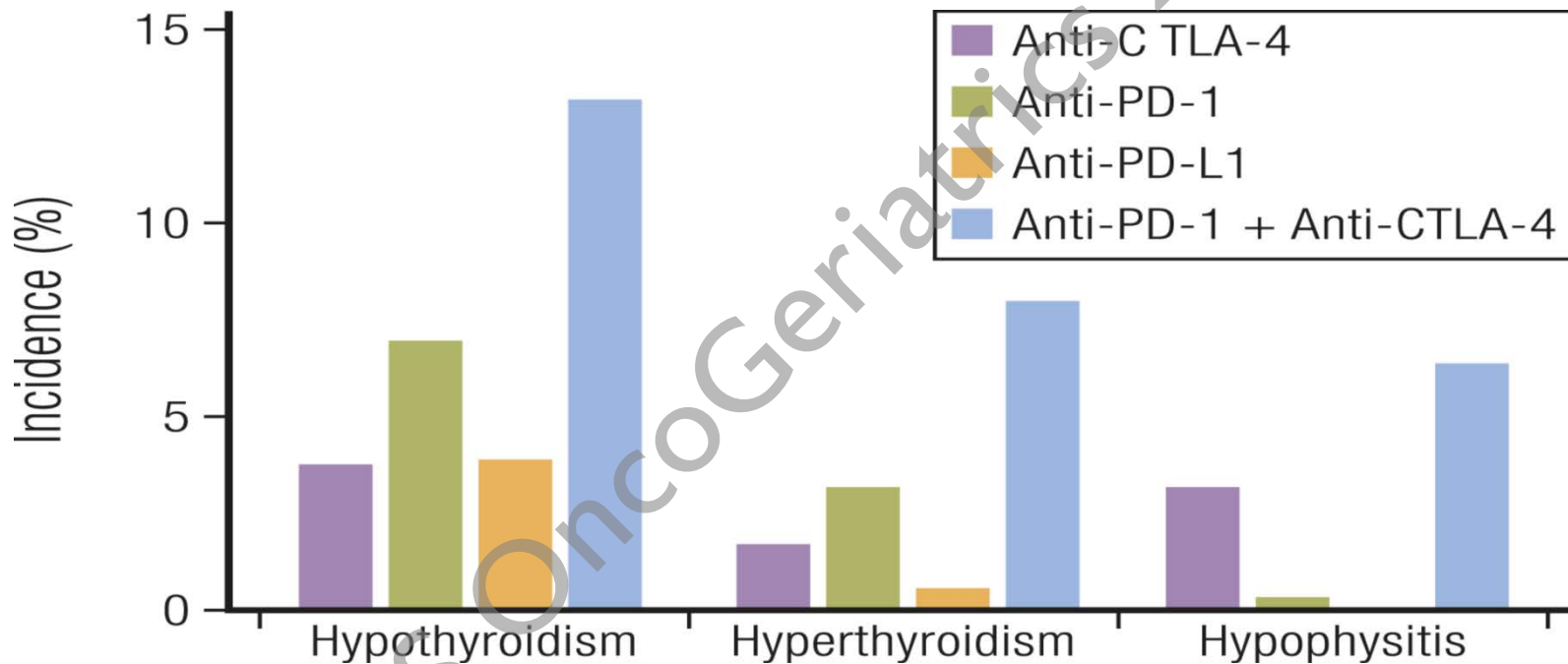


Areas of Uncertainty

- the use of high dose IV methylprednisolone in hypophysitis/adrenalitis
 - minimal evidence of recovery of ACTH axis
 - possible excess mortality with high dose IVMP
 - possible role if visual compromise/intractable headache
 - ? severe hypoadrenalism
- can immunotherapy be safely continued following endocrinopathy?
- does the development of toxicity relate to better clinical outcomes?
- are toxicities age dependent?

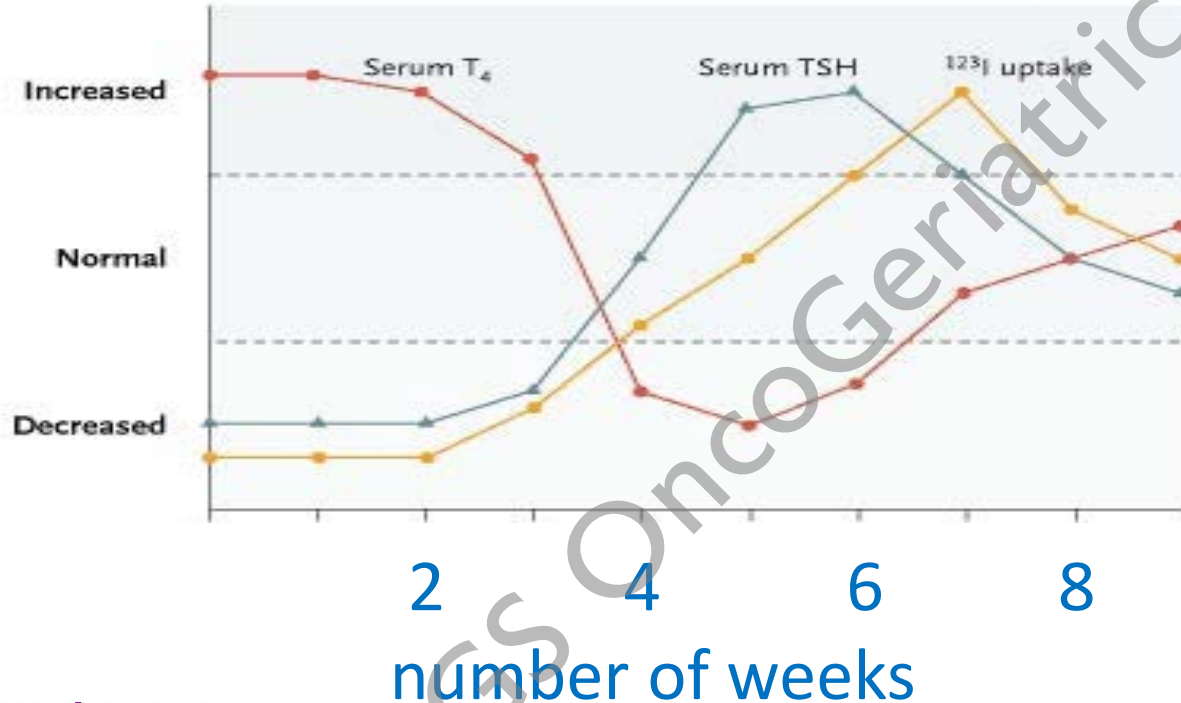


Spectrum of endocrinopathies

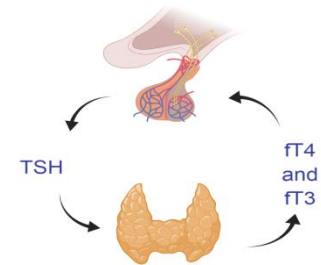




Usual Course of Destructive Thyroiditis

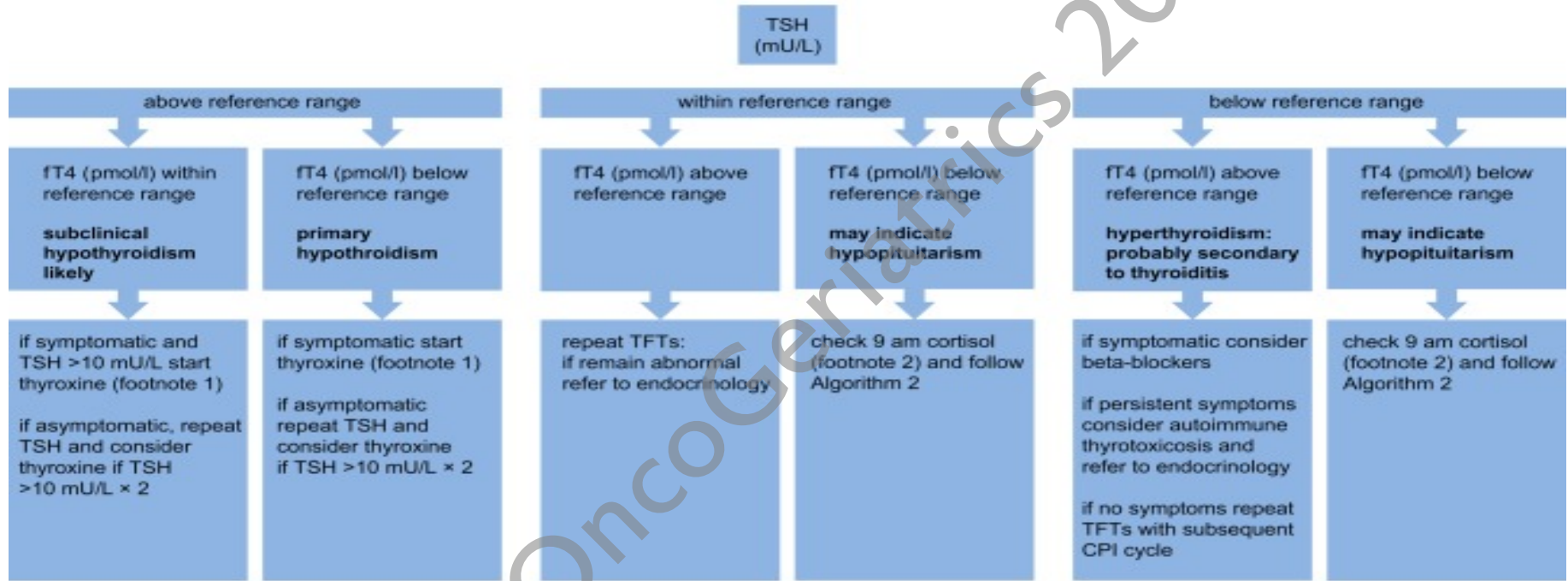


- mainly asymptomatic
- TPO and TSHR Ab variable





Management of patient with mild/moderate symptoms (CTCAE grade 1–2) compatible with thyroid dysfunction



Footnotes:

Footnote 1

Footnote 2

Start levothyroxine 75 mcg od unless history of AF/IHD (start with 25 mcg).

If hypopituitarism suspected check cortisol and commence hydrocortisone if necessary prior to starting levothyroxine management.

[SOCIETY FOR ENDOCRINOLOGY ENDOCRINE EMERGENCY GUIDANCE: Acute management of the endocrine complications of checkpoint inhibitor therapy.](#)

Higham CE, Olsson-Brown A, Carroll P, Cooksley T, Larkin J, Lorigan P, Morganstein D, Trainer PJ; Society for Endocrinology Clinical Committee. *Endocr Connect.* 2018 Jul;7(7):G1-G7



Key Points

- Spectrum of endocrinopathy is treatment specific
- Onset can be insidious -low threshold for measurement
9am cortisol and ACTH
TSH and fT4 / fT3
- HPA axis insufficiency can be rapidly fatal
thyroxine replacement can trigger adrenal crisis
all patients on adrenal replacement need
 - sick day rules
 - hydrocortisone emergency pack
 - Endocrinology review



82 yr old gentleman

referred with

- fatigue
- weight gain and reduced concentration
- loss of libido and erectile dysfunction

9am testosterone **3.5** nmol/l (8.4-31)

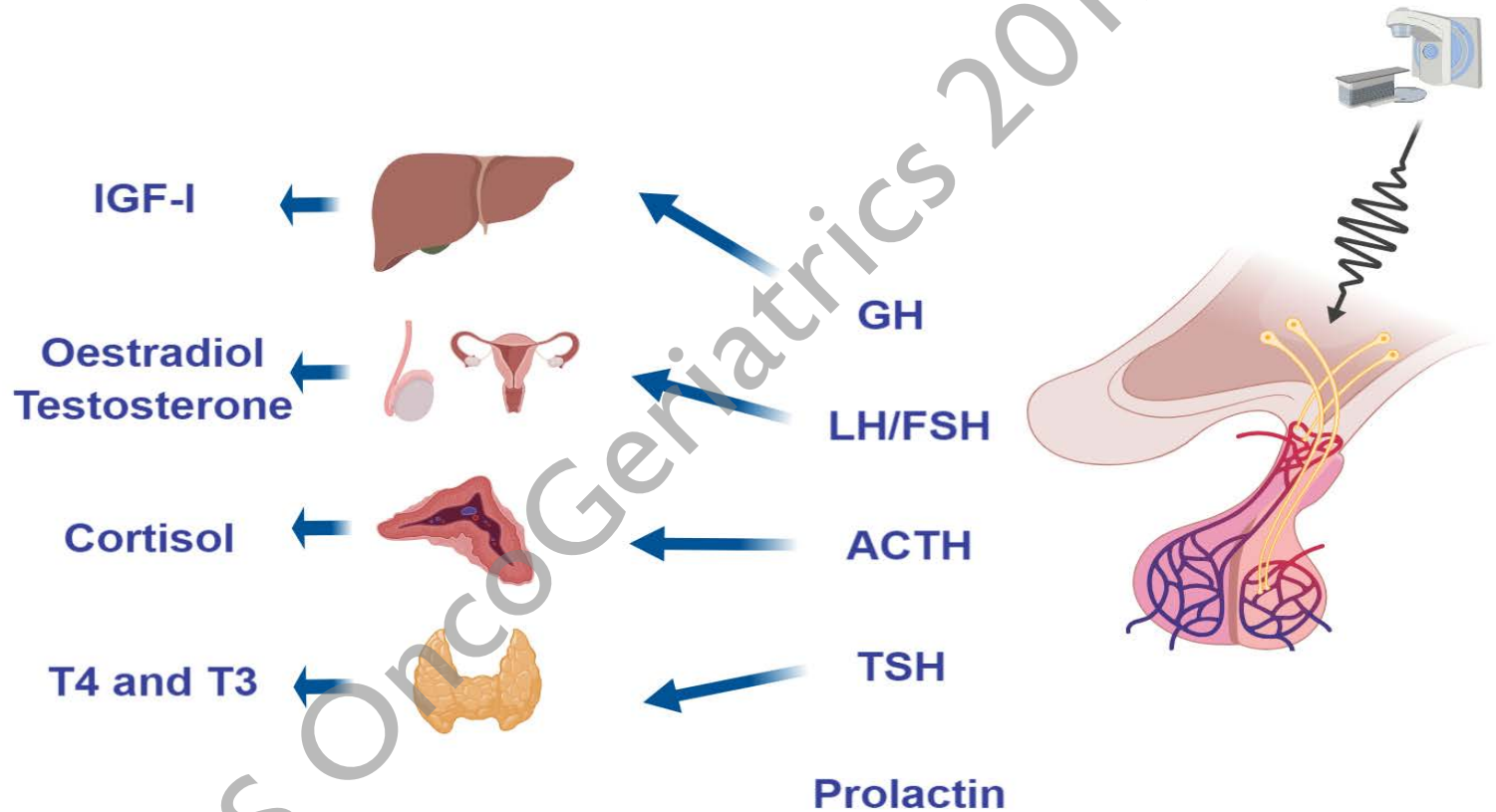
TFTs: fT4 14.5 pmol/l (9-22), TSH **0.06** mU/L (0.55-4.78)

on 75mcg of thyroxine



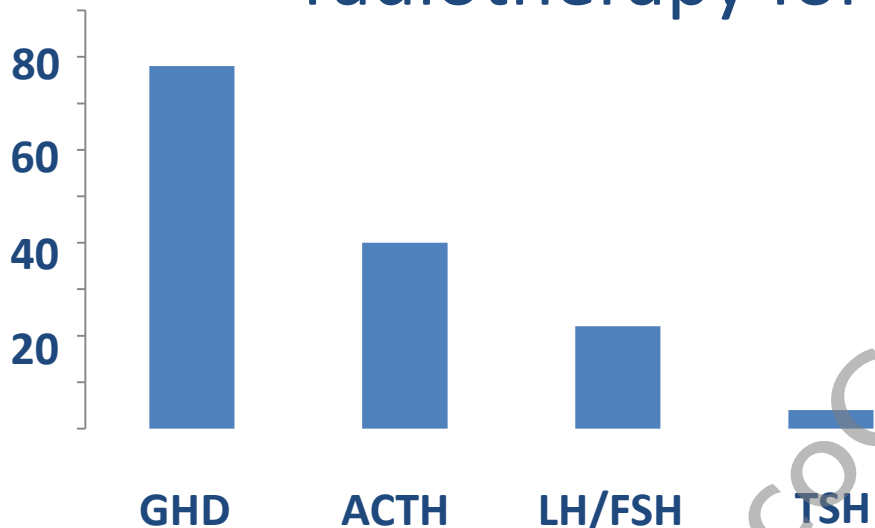
12 years earlier

- squamous cell carcinoma of nasopharynx
- 5,742cGy radical radiotherapy
- Lost to follow-up after 5 yrs (tumour free)





Pituitary axis dysfunction following radiotherapy for nasopharyngeal cancer



- dynamic axis testing
- mean radiation dose 66 Gy
- mean of 7 yrs post treatment



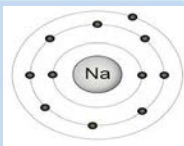


Key Points

- Radiotherapy dose to adult pituitary gland > 30Gy
 - head and neck/nasopharyngeal cancer
 - brain tumours (childhood and adult)
 - lymphoma/plasmacytoma/sarcoma
- High chance of hypopituitarism up to 20yrs after Rx
- Under - diagnosed and under-screened

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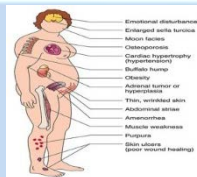
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Infertility**



Bone Health



Obesity and Metabolic Risk



Cancer



Acknowledgements

- **Society for Endocrinology clinical guidance**

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Professor James Larkin, SfE clinical committee

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- **Head and neck oncology**

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Prof Nick Slevin

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