

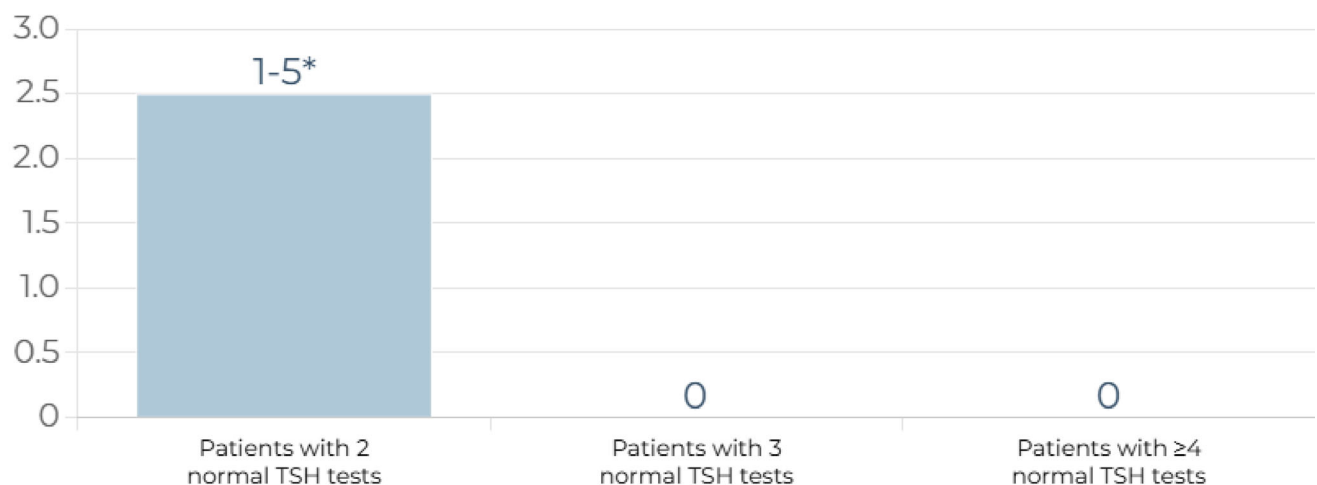
Annual thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) testing is sufficient to monitor stable levothyroxine monotherapy in patients with primary hypothyroidism.^{1,2}

A TSH value within the laboratory reference interval excludes most cases of primary thyroid dysfunction. **If initial TSH testing is normal, repeat testing is usually unnecessary** unless there is a change in clinical condition.^{1,2}

This Portrait shows your ordering of thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) tests in patients with no known thyroid disease, or those on levothyroxine monotherapy for primary hypothyroidism.



Number of patients with repeat normal TSH tests ordered by you in the year 2022.



*Precise numbers are concealed to protect privacy (due to small numbers)

PLEASE NOTE: The accuracy of your prescribing Portrait is dependent on the completeness of patient visit data and precision of diagnosis coding.

REFERENCES AND NOTES

1. [Province of British Columbia. Thyroid Function Testing in the Diagnosis and Monitoring of Thyroid Function Disorder.](#)
2. Therapeutics Initiative. Thyroid testing in primary hypothyroidism. *Therapeutics Letter*. 2025 (April); 154:1-3.

DATA & DEFINITIONS

Patients included: Patients 18 years and older on the test collection date with at least two TSH tests recorded in BC Provincial Laboratory Information Solution (PLIS) database in 2022 and referred by you between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

Patients excluded: We excluded people who had a diagnosis code for pregnancy within 1 year before or after (up to December 31, 2023) the TSH test, people with hyperthyroidism (defined as at least 1 TSH test with a value below reference range based on all available data up to December 31, 2022 and regardless of ordering practitioner), people taking other thyroid medications in addition to or instead of levothyroxine, and those with central thyroid disorders (those taking thyroid therapy plus hydrocortisone or prednisone for 10 or more days).

Clinicians included: Family physicians and nurse practitioners (NP) registered by MSP as an active practice, or physicians registered primarily as GP-emergency medicine and FP-emergency medicine physicians who had ≥ 100 prescriptions (for any drug) filled at a community pharmacy in 2022, according to PharmaCare and PharmaNet data.



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Register for the UBC CPD course [Navigating Thyroid Testing in Primary Hypothyroidism: Practical Approaches for Health Professionals](#).

REGISTER through UBC CPD to access the online course. You will be prompted to login first. If you do not have an account, select "Create account." If you have questions or need assistance accessing the course, please contact cpd.online@ubc.ca

Also, see the patient handout: [Understanding Thyroid Tests: A Patient's Guide](#)

FOR DETAILED DEFINITIONS AND REFERENCES SEE: WWW.TI.UBC.CA/PORTRAIT-THYROID