



Hypothyroidism in Dogs

Diagnosis



Tx Treatment

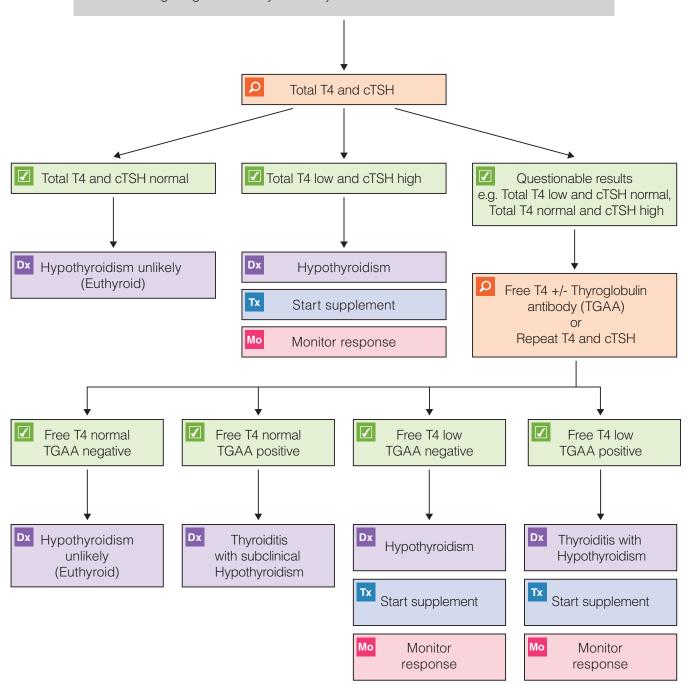


Dx Diagnosis

Result

Check

- Check history, clinical signs, CBC or Blood chemistry for evidence that supports the possibility of Hypothyroidism without evidence of non-thyroid illness.
- Avoid using drugs which may affect thyroid hormone levels.



^{*}This is an educational material on Hypothyroidism, and the methods of Treatment and Monitoring are explained with a focus on Hypothyroidism only.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Hypothyroidism

History and clinical signs

Metabolic signs:

Decreased activity, Weight gain, Exercise intolerance

Dermatologic change:

Alopecia, Rough hair coat, Seborrhea, Pyoderma, Pigmentation

CBC and Blood chemistry

CBC:

Normocytic normochromic nonregenerative anemia

Blood chemistry:

Hypertriglyceridemia, Hypercholesterolemia, Hyperglycemia, Increased creatine phosphokinase level

Dx Diagnosis (see front page)

Tx Treatment

Levothyroxine 10-20 µg/kg/sid-bid

Monitor

Treatment response:

Metabolic signs improve within days to weeks. Dermatologic signs improve within 2-3 months. Anemia improves within 3 months. Hyperlipidemia improves within weeks.

T4 monitor:

Targeted T4 is at the high end or just above the reference range at 4-6 hours after thyroid hormone supplementation.

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