



# Thyroid Antibodies

## Synonyms

Thyroid microsomal or peroxidase antibody, TPOAb

## Clinical Indication

Thyroid antibody (TAb) is a sensitive marker of immune thyroid damage (which is most extreme in Hashimoto's thyroiditis). Positive TAb indicates a 4-5 fold increase in the likelihood of developing overt hypothyroidism and also indicates an increased chance of post-partum thyroid dysfunction or amiodarone-induced hypothyroidism. Thyroid antibody levels do not correlate with degree of thyroid disease and cannot be used to monitor therapy.

## Part of Profile / See Also

Thyroid Function Tests

## Request Form

Combined Pathology manual Blood form or ICE request

## Availability / Frequency of Analysis

On request.

## Turnaround Time

Same day

## Patient Preparation

None required.

## Sample Requirements

### Specimen Type

Serum

### Volume

0.5 ml

### Container



Yellow top (SST) tube



Or Paediatric green top (lithium-heparin)



Or Paediatric orange top (lithium heparin)

## Reference Range & Units

0-34 iu/mL. Levels above 34 iu/mL are regarded as POSITIVE.

## Interferences

Thyroid antibody levels do not correlate with degree of thyroid disease and cannot be used to monitor therapy.

## Interpretation & Clinical

### Decision Value (if applicable)

In compensated (sub-clinical) hypothyroidism, positive TAb strongly supports a decision to treat with thyroxine. TAb has no role in monitoring thyroid treatment and should not be repeated once positive.

## References

## Test code

## Lab Handling

Analysed from primary tube and stored at 4°C.