

OVERT HYPERTHYROIDISM CAUSES 20% INCREASED RISK OF MORTALITY

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study applies to our patients. It makes sense to try to reduce the very high levels of thyroid hormone to the reference range as quickly as possible by one of the usual treatments—antithyroid drugs, radioiodine, or thyroidectomy. The current reason to bring the high thyroid levels to normal may not be to reduce mortality but because our patients feel better and

because important morbidities of hyperthyroidism such as tachycardia, atrial arrhythmias, tremor, and accelerated bone loss are reduced by lowering the thyroid hormone levels.

— **Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD**

References

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