Reviewer’s report

Title: Using Hashimoto thyroiditis as gold standard to determine the upper limit value of thyroid stimulating hormone in a Chinese cohort

Version: 0 Date: 07 Apr 2016

Reviewer: Zeeshan Javed

Reviewer's report:

1) The diagnostic criteria for diagnosing Hashimoto's thyroiditis is not clearly explained. Kindly discuss further.

2) The manuscript is not referenced properly.

3) The definition of subclinical hypothyroidism needs revision.

4) The language used, especially under discussion, is very complex and statistical which is difficult to understand. Kindly revise.

5) It is only mentioned that drug and family history of participants were taken but has not been mentioned anywhere which could be major underlying confounding factors. Kindly discuss further and categorise participants.

6) There are other major confounding factors which need explanation especially personal history of autoimmune disorders, dietary habits and daily intake of iodine and total body iodine status.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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