Thyroid Dysfunction in Chinese Children with Down Syndrome

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Thyroid dysfunction, especially primary hypothyroidism, is common among patients with Down Syndrome. The clinical features of hypothyroidism cannot be easily distinguished from those of Down syndrome and a screening programme is necessary for early detection. This study showed that the prevalence of primary hypothyroidism was 33% among boys and 31% in girls while the prevalences of thyrotoxicosis and Hashimoto thyroiditis was each at 1.3%. (HK J Paediatr (new series) 2004;9:114-117)

Key words: Chinese; Congenital hypothyroidism; Down syndrome; Primary hypothyroidism