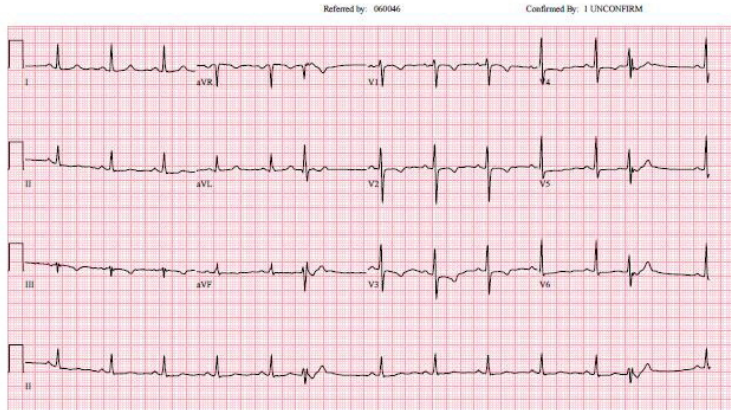


## 면역분석법 측정 간섭에 의한 갑상선자극호르몬 측정 오류를 보인 갑상선기능저하증 증례

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면역분석법은 다양한 측정 간섭에 의하여 부정확한 결과를 도출할 수 있고, 이러한 측정 오류는 환자를 진료할 때 불필요한 혼선을 초래할 수 있다. 저자들은 갑상선기능저하증을 진단받고 갑상선호르몬제(L-T4)를 복용하던 중 갑상선종독증상과 지속적인 TSH 증가 소견을 보였고 면역분석법 측정 간섭에 의한 TSH 측정 오류가 확인된 증례를 경험하였기에 보고하고자 한다. 52세 여자로서 14년 전부터 항고혈압제, 7년 전부터 갑상선기능저하증 치료를 위한 L-T4 0.15 mg을 복용하던 중, 수 년 전 시작된 가슴 두근거림이 최근 지속적으로 발생하여 내원하였다. 혈압은 163/90 mmHg 이었고, 맥박은 84회/분으로 불규칙하였다. 갑상선은 만져지지 않았다. 흉부단순촬영에서 심비대, 심전도에서 조기심방수축과 비특이적인 ST-T 변화가 관찰되었다(figure 1). T3 134 ng/dL (정상: 80~200), free T4 1.73 ng/dL (정상: 0.93~1.70), TSH >100 mIU/L (정상: 0.27~5.0)이었고, 갑상선과산화소항체와 갑상선글로불린항체는 양성이었다. L-T4의 일시적인 과다 투여로 판단하여 L-T4를 0.1 mg으로 감량한 뒤 증상은 호전되었으나 3개월 후 T3 113 ng/dL, free T4 1.47 ng/dL, TSH 70.14 mIU/L로 TSH는 계속 높았다. 뇌하수체 자기공명영상에서 뇌하수체는 정상이었다. TSH 면역분석법의 측정 오류 가능성을 알기 위해 여러 장비들로 동시에 측정한 결과 본원의 E170 시스템(Roche)으로 측정한 TSH는 88.85 mIU/L로 높았으나 타 병원의 Advia Centaur 시스템(Siemens)과 Architect 시스템(Abbott)으로 측정한 TSH는 각각 0.37 mIU/L, 0.24 mIU/L로 정상이었다. 이후 Advia Centaur 시스템으로 TSH를 측정하면서 L-T4 용량을 조절하였고, L-T4 0.025 mg을 투여한 뒤 4개월 후 free T4 1.01 ng/dL, TSH 2.86 mIU/L, 12개월 후 free T4 1.11 ng/dL, TSH 5.11 mIU/L 이었다.



## Medullary thyroid carcinoma revealed by persistent CEA elevation in a patient with thyroid nodule

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**Background:** Medullary thyroid cancer(MTC) is one of the thyroid carcinoma, which is originated from the parafoolcular C cell of thyroid. Tumor markers, such as calcitonin and carcinoembryonic antigen(CEA)can be strong and reliable pre-diagnostic indicators for MTC. CEA which is produced by MTC is less sensitive than calcitonin. However, CEA can be useful as a post-operative surveillance of cancer recurrence. We report a case of sporadic MTC revealed by persistent CEA elevation in a patient with thyroid nodule considered benign ultrasonographic features and cytology during long-term follow-up.

**Case report:** A 69-year old woman has been regularly monitored for right thyroid nodule at our hospital from 2004 to 2017. During follow-up, she had undergone ultrasound (USG)-guided fine needle aspiration (FNA) five times. All repeated cytological results were benign. The size of thyroid nodule was 1.33 x 1.04 x 2.27 cm and it was most isoechoic nodule with small cysts. It was no significant change at the final follow-up. In addition, she has had regular health screening. She had slightly increased CEA (56.3ng/mL, reference range<8ng/ml) and underwent gastroscopy, colonoscopy, and contrast-enhanced abdominal computed tomography for exclusion of malignancy in 2004. No pathology was detected and she has been regularly monitored. In 2017, we recognized that her CEA level(57.0ng/mL)was constantly abnormal. Calcitoninin serum (491 pg/mL, reference range <8pg/mL) and in FNA washout fluid(>1500 pg/mL)were measured. These were suggestive of MTC. On genetic analysis, the mutation of RET proto-oncogene was not detected. She has no family history. The patient underwent a total thyroidectomy. The histologic findings revealed MTC. On immunohistochemical analyses, the tumor cells were positive for thyroid transcription factor -1, CEA, synaptophysin, and chromogranin A. On follow-up, calcitonin and CEA were within normal range

**Conclusion:** In contrast to hereditary MTC, the early detection of sporadic MTC is difficult. MTC should be investigated after exclusion of gastrointestinal malignancy in cases with elevated CEA levels. CEA may be an important clue to a diagnosis of MTC

