

Rehabilitation & Entitlements Policy Group



SOP Bulletin No. 165



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THE FOLLOWING RMA SOPs ARE TO TAKE EFFECT ON 08 MAY, 2013

New SOPs	Hyperthyroidism and thyrotoxicosis Hypothyroidism Hashimoto's thyroiditis Graves' disease
Revocations & Replacements	Aortic stenosis Goitre Chronic gastritis and chronic gastropathy
Amendments	Nil

NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Hyperthyroidism and thyrotoxicosis	New – 27 & 28 of '13
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Hypothyroidism	New – 29 & 30 of '13
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Hashimoto's thyroiditis	New – 31 & 32 of '13
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Graves' disease	New – 33 & 34 of '13
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Goitre	Revocation – 23 & 24 of '13 Replaces 21 and 22 of '00

- Terminology:
 - Goitre – enlargement of thyroid gland.
 - Hypothyroidism – insufficient thyroid gland function.
 - Hyperthyroidism – excess thyroid gland function.
 - Thyrotoxicosis – the condition caused by excess thyroid hormone. Thyrotoxicosis includes but is not synonymous with hyperthyroidism. The hormone excess may be due to:
 - overproduction by the thyroid gland (hyperthyroidism);

- increased release of stored hormone by the thyroid without overproduction (e.g. due to trauma or inflammation); or,
- a source outside the thyroid (dietary, tumour).
- Previously the only SOPs covering the thyroid were goitre and malignant neoplasm of the thyroid gland. The RMA has added four new thyroid disease SOPs. Two of them cover specific diseases and the other two cover the general functional states due to too little or too much thyroid hormone. The goitre SOP has also been updated.
- There is some overlap between the conditions covered by the SOPs. This has been largely dealt with by the exclusions in the SOP definitions. For example:
- Graves' disease is a leading cause of hyperthyroidism and goitre, but is excluded from both of those SOPs.
- Hashimoto's thyroiditis is usually associated with hypothyroidism and goitre, but again is excluded from both of those SOPs.
- Toxic thyroid adenoma and toxic multinodular goitre are both common causes of hyperthyroidism, but are excluded from the hyperthyroidism SOP and are covered only by the goitre SOP.
- To ensure that the correct SOP is applied, pay careful attention to the exclusions in the SOP definitions. In particular, note that three leading causes of hyperthyroidism are not covered by the hyperthyroidism and thyrotoxicosis SOP.
- There are some thyroid diseases that remain non-SOP, e.g. de Quervain's thyroiditis, acute thyroiditis, silent thyroiditis.
- The coverage of the previous goitre SOP has changed, most notably in that benign neoplasms of the thyroid (solitary nodules/adenomas) are now included.

Aortic stenosis	Revocation – 21 & 22 of '13 Replaces 54 and 55 of '02
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- There are new causal and worsening factors:
 - in the RH SOP only, for smoking, Paget's disease of bone and primary hyperparathyroidism, and;
 - in both the RH and BOP SOPs, for dyslipidaemia and alkaptonuria.
- The ionising radiation factor has been updated in the now standard way, into two factors, covering both a cumulative dose of radiation and therapeutic radiation for cancer.

Chronic gastritis and chronic gastropathy	Revocation – 25 & 26 of '13 Replaces 75 and 76 of '01
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- This SOP covers chronic infectious gastritis, as before.
- It now also covers symptomatic chronic gastropathy (damage to the stomach lining with minimal or no inflammation) due to a range of non-infectious causes.
- There are a number of forms of acute gastritis and chronic non-infectious gastritis that are specifically excluded from the SOP.
- A range of (rare) infectious causes have been added as factors for chronic gastritis, but the list is different for the RH and BOP SOPs.

- There are new gastropathy specific onset factors for bile reflux, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, other drugs, alcohol, and ionising radiation.

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