# Thyroid Autoimmunity in Pediatric Patients with Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria

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Introduction:
The term Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria (CIU) applies when the cause of urticaria remains unknown; this is the case in 75% of patients with urticaria. Some patients with CIU have serological features of thyroid autoimmunity.
The aim of the present study is to investigate thyroid autoimmunity in pediatric patients diagnosed with chronic urticaria.

Material and methods:
A prospective study of patients younger than 15 years of age with a diagnosis of CIU, in which the values of TgAb (thyroglobulin antibodies), TSHROb (thyroperoxidase antibodies), TSHRAb (antibodies against TSH receptor), triiodothyronine (T3), thyroxine (T4) and TSH (thyrotropin) were determined.

Results:
We studied 21 patients with CIU. Nine (42.9% of the total) presented thyroid autoimmunity: Six (28.6%) had elevated TPOAb and in three (14.3% of the total) high TgAb and TPOAb values were found. Subclinical hypothyroidism (elevated levels of TSH with normal T3 and T4 values) was diagnosed in four patients (19%).

Discussion:
Thyroid autoimmunity was evidenced in several patients with CIU; subclinical hypothyroidism was diagnosed in some cases.
We recommend the investigation of thyroid autoimmunity in patients with CIU.