

Author's response to reviews

Title: Diagnostic accuracy of basal TSH determinations based on the intravenous TRH stimulation test: An evaluation of 2570 tests and comparison with the literature

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Replies to the reviewers as of July, 8th, 2007

1. [Beat Mueller](#): no comment.

2. [Georg Brabant](#):

“Question concerning the TRH testing where your are bound to find positive answers...”

The comment is extremely important. In order to check the validity of the procedure the laboratory results were also evaluated according to the levels of free thyroid hormones. Both the TRH test and the free TH gave similar results. We have referred to this in the discussion (page 7 of the manuscript):

“The normal range for TSH after TRH stimulation allowed us a similar categorical classification of patients as done with the values of free TH, thus underscoring the physiological meaning of the TRH test”.

We have added a citation of Dr. Brabant’s paper [1] where a panel of European specialists recently discussed the situation of TSH values. Unfortunately we cannot discuss this paper in detail since it only refers to external data, i.e. they did not present any data of their own.

Reference List

1. Brabant G, Beck-Peccoz P, Jarzab B, Laurberg P, Orgiazzi J, Szabolcs I *et al.*: **Is there a need to redefine the upper normal limit of TSH?** *Eur J Endocrinol* 2006, **154**: 633-637.