

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Twenty patients aged over 50 years with lone atrial fibrillation were examined and investigated for total serum thyroxine and total serum triiodothyronine estimation.

Hyperthyroidism was found in five patients (three females and two males) which accounts for 25% of these cases.

Although diagnosis of thyroid disease is problematic in older persons because results of biochemical thyroid function tests are often difficult to interpret, screening for occult thyrotoxicosis in patients aged over 50 years suffering from lone atrial fibrillation is of great importance as thyrotoxic atrial fibrillation is a correctable cardiac disorder.