

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER (I)

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Although there is no direct relation between the thyroid and parathyroid gland as regards physiology, there is many recent research reporting some relation between the two glands. Laing, et al., (1969) stated that the co-existence of surgical lesions of the parathyroid and thyroid glands appears sufficiently high to justify careful preoperative and operative evaluation of the other gland whenever surgery is required primarily for either of the two endocrine glands. About 40 % of patients with primary hyperparathyroidism have been found to have thyroid lesions of surgical significance. Since primary hyperparathyroidism is not a common disease whereas nodular thyroid changes are frequent, the finding of a parathyroid tumour or hyperplasia at the time of thyroid surgery may be only an incidental finding. Nevertheless this association occurs with sufficient frequency, as to justify surgical attention.

Although the recognition of calcitonin suggests a greater physiologic connection between the parathyroid and thyroid glands than appreciated before, the

significance of this or other humoral agents in the functional relationship between thyroid and parathyroid glands in man has not been fully studied.

AIM OF THE WORK

Our aim is to study the effect of various common thyroid disorders on parathyroid gland. Also to study the effect of operation on the parathyroid functions. We tried to clarify the relation between thyroid and parathyroid glands which have a near anatomical relation but have different functions.

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