

BENIGN AND MALIGNANT THYROID DISEASE IN PATIENTS WITH ACROMEGALY

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Introduction and objectives:

- Acromegaly is characterized by a chronic increase of GH and IGF-1 levels that may induce various clinical symptoms and multisystem comorbidities.
- The purpose of this study: to evaluate the type and frequency of thyroid disease most often associated with acromegaly patients.

Methods:

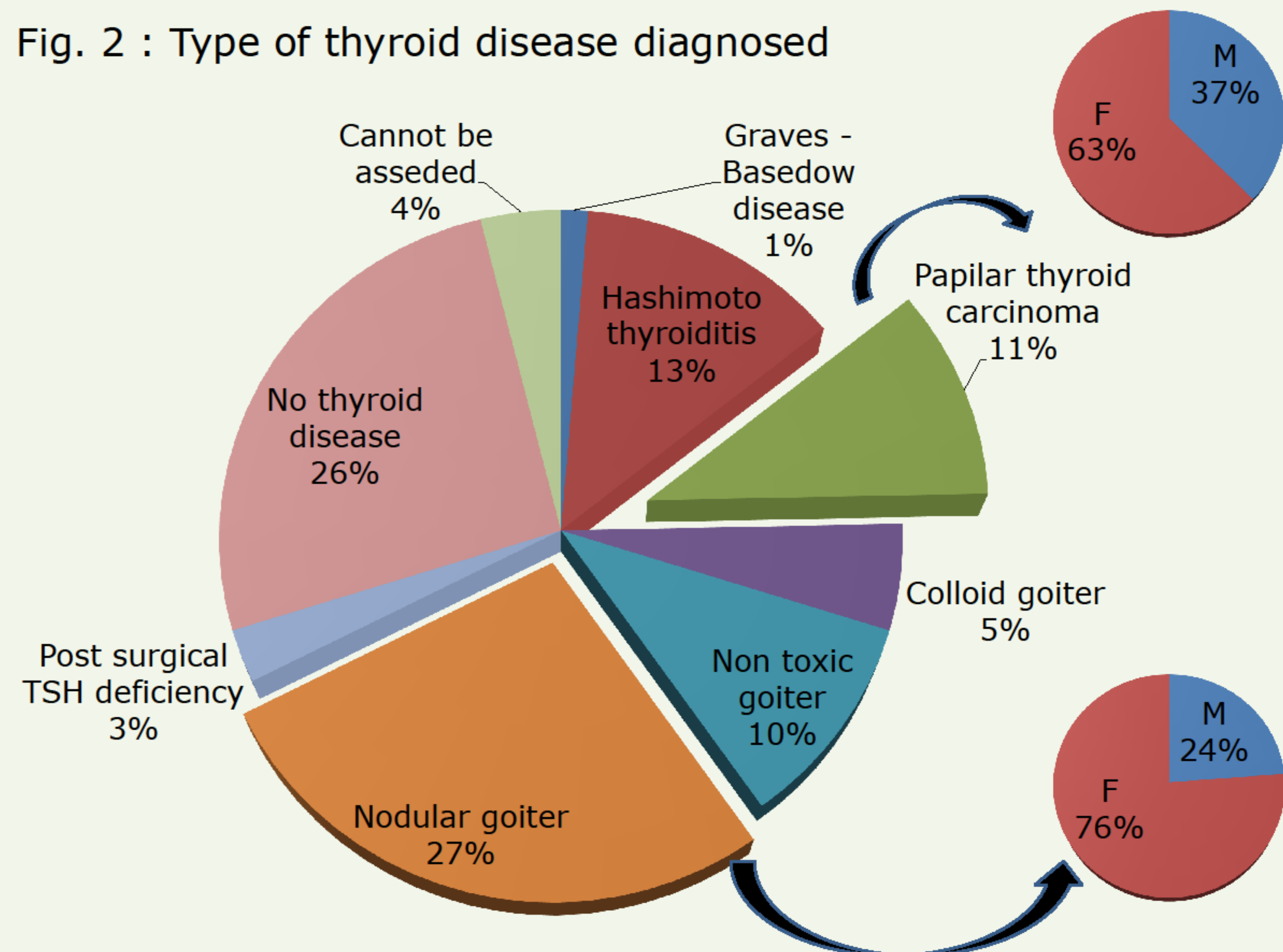
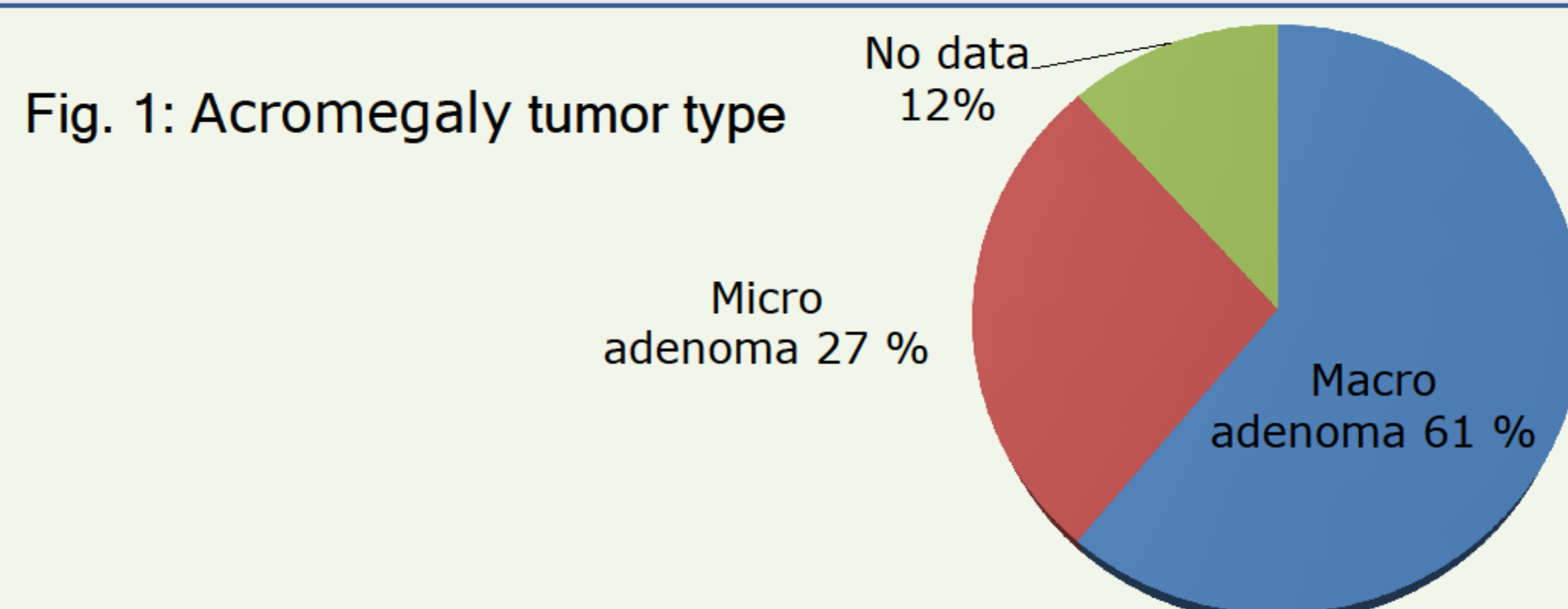
- retrospective observational study (data obtained from observation charts).
- patients evaluated between July 2007 – July 2014 in the Endocrinology department.
- 77 patients (58 females and 19 males).
- mean age = 54 years.
- recorded data: acromegaly status, sonographic thyroid morphology, thyroid function, and pathological data after surgical cure.
- 5 patients were excluded due to insufficient data.

Results :

- Acromegaly status: active for 49% of the patients, controlled in 37% and cured in 14%.
- 96% of the patients received treatment for the acromegaly - most common combination: surgical treatment + radiotherapy + medication (39%).
- Thyroid disease was diagnosed in 54 patients (70.12%).
- Thyroid disease – most frequent ≥ 60 years old range.
- Acromegaly - most frequent in the 40 - 50 years old range.
- Thyroid cancer prevalence = 10.38%.
- Other malignant disease diagnosed in 5% of the patients (insulinoma, cervical cancer, endometrial cancer, testosterone secreting adrenal adenoma).
- No cases of colon cancer were identified.

Conclusions:

- An increased risk of thyroid cancer is speculated in patients with acromegaly.
- Careful screening and systematic thyroid evaluation is recommended.
- Larger scale prospective studies are needed in order to more accurately determine the risk of thyroid disease in acromegaly patients.



References:

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