

1. Work with your partner and match the diseases with their definition

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| 1. Acromegaly | a) Disorder in which an underactive thyroid produces too little thyroxine. |
| 2. Addison's disease | b) Disorder in children in which the anterior pituitary overproduces growth hormone, resulting in abnormal enlargement of the extremities (nose, jaw, fingers, and toes) and the long bones, causing unusual height. |
| 3. Cushing's syndrome | c) Disorder caused by an overproduction of steroids (mostly cortisol) by the adrenal cortex, resulting in obesity and muscular weakness. |
| 4. Diabetes mellitus | d) Disorder in which an overactive thyroid produces too much thyroxine. |
| 5. Gigantism | e) Disorder in which the anterior pituitary overproduces growth hormone, resulting in abnormal enlargement of the extremities—nose, jaw, fingers, and toes; in children, the disorder produces gigantism. |
| 6. Hyperthyroidism | f) Disorder in which the adrenal cortex underproduces cortisol and aldosterone, resulting in the disruption of numerous bodily functions. |
| 7. Hypothyroidism | g) Disorder in which the body's cells cannot absorb glucose, either because the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or the cells do not respond to the effects of insulin that is produced. |

2. Acromegaly and gigantism

Acromegaly is a disorder in _____ (1) the anterior pituitary produces too much growth hormone (GH). This causes an increased growth in bone and soft tissue, especially in the extremities—nose, jaw, fingers, and toes. If the disorder occurs _____ (2) children who have not yet fully developed the increased levels of GH also result _____ (3) the exceptional growth of the long bones. This condition, a variation of acromegaly, is known as _____.(4)

Acromegaly is a rare disorder, occurring in approximately 50 _____ (5) of every 1 million people. _____ (6) men and women are affected. Because the symptoms come on gradually, the disorder is often not identified until the patient is middle aged.

In 90 percent of _____ (7) cases, acromegaly is caused by a noncancerous tumour that develops within the pituitary. The tumour causes the anterior pituitary _____ (8) ignore growth hormone inhibiting hormone (GHIH), a regulating hormone secreted by the hypothalamus that stops the pituitary from producing GH. GH _____ (9) thus secreted without a stopping mechanism.

The first step in treating acromegaly is the surgical _____ (10) of the tumour. Afterward, some patients require medications that help to reduce the secretion of GH. With treatment, an individual suffering from acromegaly may be able to live a normal _____ (11) span. Without treatment, an individual will most _____ (12) die early because of the disorder's adverse effects on the heart, lungs, and brain.

3. Addison's disease

Addison's disease is a disorder in which the adrenal cortex produces too little cortisol and aldosterone, resulting in the _____ (DISRUPT) of _____ (NUMBER) bodily functions. About 4 in every 100,000 people suffer from this disorder. It strikes men and women of all ages.

The most common cause of Addison's disease is the _____ (DESTRUCT) or shrinking of the adrenal cortex. In about 70 percent of the cases, this is caused by an autoimmune disorder: a

condition in which the body produces antibodies that attack and destroy the body's own tissues instead of foreign _____ (INVADE) such as viruses and bacteria. In the case of Addison's disease, antibodies attack and destroy cells of the adrenal cortex.

Addison's disease tends to be a gradual, _____ (SLOW) developing disease. By the time symptoms are noted, about 90 percent of the adrenal cortex has been destroyed. The most common symptoms include fatigue and _____ (LOSE) of energy, decreased appetite, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, muscle _____ (WEAK), _____ (DIZZY) when standing, and dehydration. Unusual areas of darkened skin and dark freckling also appear. Women suffering from the disease may stop having normal menstrual periods. As the disease progresses, the symptoms become more severe: abnormal heart rhythms, _____ (CONTROL) nausea and vomiting, a drastic drop in blood pressure, kidney _____ (FAIL), and _____ (CONSCIOUS).

Individuals suffering from Addison's disease are treated with steroid medications that replace cortisol and aldosterone in the body. Taking these medications for the rest of their lives, those individuals can expect to live a normal life span.

4. Listening

A) Cushing's disease

Watch the video and discuss the following questions with your partner:

1. Is there a difference between Cushing's disease and Cushing's syndrome? If so explain what.
2. How do we find out that a person is suffering from Cushing's disease?
3. Who is susceptible to this disease?
4. What treatment options are at our disposal?
5. What are the adverse effects of bilateral adrenalectomy?

B) Graves' disease/Hyperthyroidism

Watch the video and with your partner answer the following questions:

What is Grave's disease?

How is it diagnosed?

What treatment is available?

Read the sentences below and complete the gaps according to what you remember. Then listen once more and check

- 1 Grave's disease affects the _____ and as it is an autoimmune disease _____ are produced.
- 2 The symptoms include: _____, bulging _____, exophthalmos, nervousness and _____.
- 3 The doctor diagnoses Grave's disease if s/he discovers that the thyroid gland is _____ by doing _____.
- 4 The thyroid gland is also examined by an _____ scan to check that there are no _____.
- 5 In surgery, just the right _____ of thyroid gland must be removed. The disadvantage of this treatment is that it leaves a _____ and there is a risk of _____ one of the nerves in the neck.
- 6 Two other treatment options are _____ which should be taken on a regular basis and _____ to which you expose the thyroid gland. Both these methods _____ the activity of the thyroid gland.

- 5. a) Read the text quickly to find out what happens if thyroid gland is underactive in children.**
b) Read the text once more and complete the missing sentences. There is one which you do not need.

Hypothyroidism

Hypothyroidism is a disorder in which an underactive thyroid gland fails to produce or secrete as much thyroxine as the body needs. ____ (1) Thereby organs and tissues in every part of the body can be damaged.

The disorder is one of the most common chronic (long-term) diseases in the United States. ____ (2) Women are twice as likely as men to suffer from the disorder.

Hypothyroidism is most often the result of Hashimoto's disease. In this disease, the body's defence system fails to recognize that the thyroid gland is part of the body's own tissues and attacks it as if it were a foreign body. ____ (3) Infections caused by viruses and bacteria and a diet lacking iodine can also bring about hypothyroidism.

Symptoms commonly include fatigue, decreased heart rate, weight gain, depression, muscle pain or weakness, dry skin, extreme sensitivity to pain, and puffiness of the face. ____ (4) Such a state may be very dangerous for the patient.

If hypothyroidism occurs in early childhood, the condition is known as cretinism. This condition results in dwarfism. ____ (5) Cretins (those suffering from cretinism) have scanty hair and very dry skin. They are often mentally retarded. However, if the condition is discovered early enough and medications to replace thyroxin are given, mental retardation and other symptoms can be prevented.

Synthetic or man-made thyroid hormone medications are also given to adults to treat hypothyroidism. ____ (6)

- a) However, we have to point out that these may not appear until years after the thyroid has stopped functioning.
- b) This treatment generally maintains normal thyroid hormone levels, allowing an individual to lead a normal lifestyle.
- c) Silent thyroiditis is found less often than the other two.
- d) Since this hormone is essential to physical growth and body metabolism, a low supply of this hormone can slow life-sustaining processes.
- e) Sometimes the gland is destroyed in the process.
- f) As many as 11 million adults and children may be affected by hypothyroidism.
- g) That means that the head and trunk, which should be about the same length as the legs, grow about one-and-a-half times larger.

6. Look at the text once more and find the words for these definitions in the text:

- a) To have an influence on or effect on something _____
- b) Performing necessary functions which keep the body alive _____
- c) The body of a human or animal excluding the head and limbs _____
- d) To make available, to provide _____
- e) Vital _____
- f) Swelling _____
- g) Limited, not much, and less than is needed _____
- h) To give permission or opportunity _____