

**Table 1 | Important causes and underlying mechanisms of thyrotoxicosis in adults**

Causes	Underlying mechanisms
Graves' disease	Autoimmunity; stimulation of thyrocytes by TSH receptor antibodies
Toxic multinodular goitre	Autonomous thyroid nodules
Toxic nodule	Autonomous thyroid nodule
Thyroiditis:	
Subacute thyroiditis	Release of preformed thyroid hormones; possibly viral infection
Silent thyroiditis	Release of preformed thyroid hormones
Postpartum thyroiditis	Release of preformed thyroid hormones; autoimmunity
Drugs:	
Levothyroxine/triiodothyronine	Exogenous ingestion of thyroid hormones; iatrogenic or factitious
Amiodarone	Release of preformed thyroid hormones (type 2; thyroiditis) or excess thyroid hormone production (type 1; Jod-Basedow phenomenon)
Lithium	Release of preformed thyroid hormones (thyroiditis) or autoimmunity
Interferon $\alpha$	Release of preformed thyroid hormones (thyroiditis) or autoimmunity
Highly active antiretroviral therapy	Autoimmunity or release of preformed thyroid hormones (thyroiditis)
Tyrosine kinase inhibitors	Release of preformed thyroid hormones (thyroiditis) or autoimmunity
$\beta$ human chorionic gonadotrophin mediated hyperthyroidism:	
Gestational hyperthyroidism	Stimulation of thyrocytes by $\beta$ human chorionic gonadotrophin
Choriocarcinoma	Stimulation of thyrocytes by $\beta$ human chorionic gonadotrophin
Hydatidiform mole	Stimulation of thyrocytes by $\beta$ human chorionic gonadotrophin
Struma ovarii	Ovarian teratoma with autonomous thyroid tissue
Non-autoimmune familial hyperthyroidism	Constitutive activation of TSH receptor due to germline mutation
TSH secreting pituitary adenoma	Stimulation of thyrocytes by excess TSH secreted by pituitary adenoma

TSH=thyroid stimulating hormone.