

Ongoing surveillance (from 4-6 months of age)

Decide whether testing will be venous (TSH, free T4 and TPO antibodies) or a dried blood spot test (TSH) in accordance with the clinical presentation, local arrangements and preferences of the CYP and their parents/carers.

Offer all infants with Down syndrome thyroid function testing at 4-6 months, again at 12 months and annually thereafter, unless they are already receiving treatment for thyroid disorder or develop signs of thyroid dysfunction when earlier testing would be indicated.

Dried blood spot test TSH concentration above local laboratory-defined normal reference range.

Offer venous blood test for TSH, free T4 and TPO antibodies within 5 working days. Consider initiating treatment while awaiting test results if TSH very high and clinical suspicion of hypothyroidism.

Annual surveillance, unless signs and symptoms of thyroid dysfunction develop when earlier testing would be indicated.

Follow guidelines for abnormal or marginally abnormal initial venous blood test findings.

Table of abbreviations

Free T3	Free thyroxine 3
Free T4	Free thyroxine 4
TSH	Thyroid stimulating hormone
TPO antibodies	Thyroid peroxidase antibodies
TRAb antibodies	Thyroid stimulating hormone receptor
CYP	Child/young person