

Table 2. Environmental factors favoring thyroid autoimmunity

Dietary factors

- Iodine excess
- Selenium deficiency

Pollutants

- Radioiodine
- Tobacco smoking
- Polychlorinated biphenyls
- Effects of global warming (possible)
- Metals
- Solvents

Hormones

- Female sex (10/1)
- Parity (OR =4.6)
- Post-partum
- Oral contraceptives

Infections

- Yersinia enterocolitica
- Hepatitis C virus

Therapy

- Interferon α
- Interferon β
- Interleukin 2
- (Amiodarone)
- (Lithium)
- Ipilimumab (Anti CTLA-4 mAb)
- Campath-1H (Alemtuzumab) anti CD-52 mAb
- Immune reconstitution syndrome
 - Bone marrow transplantation
 - Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) for AIDS

Stress

Small fetal size (fetal nutrition)

Direct trauma on thyroid

Seasonal variation

Allergy

Socioeconomic environment (lower exposure to infective agents)
