

Table 2. Characteristics of the 228 children at the time of diagnosis of autoimmune thyroiditis (AT)

Gender n (%)	
female	191 (83.8)
male	37 (16.2)
Pubertal status n (%)	
- prepubertal (Tanner I)	86 (37.7)
- pubertal (Tanner II-IV)	142 (62.3)
Age in years (mean $\pm$ SD)	10.2 $\pm$ 2.5 (range 3.3-15.3)
Ethnicity	
Greek	218
Albanian	9
German	1
Autoimmune disease other than AT n (%)	15 (6.6)
rheumatoid arthritis:	6 (5 girls, 1 boy)
vittiligo:	7 girls
alopecia:	2 girls
Family history of thyroid disease in a first degree relative n (%)	174 (76.3)
Family history of autoimmune disease other than AT in a first degree relative n (%)	20 (8.8)
Thyroid hormone status n (%)	
euthyroid:	130 (57.0)
subclinical hypothyroidism:	75 (32.9)
hypothyroidism:	19 (8.3)
hyperthyroidism (Hashitoxicosis):	4 (1.8)
*Goiter n (%)	63 (28)
*Thyroid nodules n (%)	32 (14)

*The prevalence of goiter and thyroid nodules in the general pediatric population in the same geographic region is 3.2 and 5.1%, respectively.¹⁵