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Diseases and Conditions

# Hyperparathyroidism

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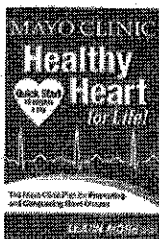
Preparing for your appointment

Tests and diagnosis

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## Definition

By Mayo Clinic Staff

Hyperparathyroidism is an excess of parathyroid hormone in the bloodstream due to overactivity of one or more of the body's four parathyroid glands. These oval, grain-of-rice-sized glands are located in your neck. The parathyroid glands produce parathyroid hormone, which helps maintain an appropriate balance of calcium in the bloodstream and in tissues that depend on calcium for proper functioning.



Parathyroid glands

Two types of hyperparathyroidism exist. In primary hyperparathyroidism, an enlargement of one or more of the parathyroid glands causes overproduction of the hormone resulting in high levels of calcium in the blood (hypercalcemia), which can cause a variety of health problems. Secondary hyperparathyroidism is a result of another disease that causes low levels of calcium in the body. Surgery is the most common treatment for hyperparathyroidism.

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## Symptoms



May 13, 2011

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- Vitamin D deficiency
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- X-ray
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- Electrocardiogram
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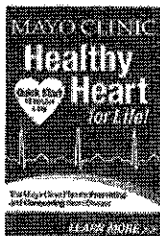
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## In-depth

### Lifestyle and home remedies

#### Daily water requirement

Drinking eight glasses of water a day yet still feel thirsty? Find out why satisfying your water needs may not be that simple.

#### Strength training basics

Wonder if you should add strength training to your fitness program? The short answer is yes. Here's why.

### Risk factors

#### Depression

Take control of your mood and health. Explore the many depression treatment options and learn coping skills.

### Symptoms

#### Dry skin

Extreme temperatures — hot or cold — can take a toll on your skin. Here's how to pamper and protect it.

#### Fatigue

Fatigue can signal many things. Here are some tips to help you decipher why you're wiped out and to regain your energy.

#### Headache

Most headaches aren't caused by a serious illness, but some could be a sign of a life-threatening condition.

#### Peripheral neuropathy

Peripheral neuropathy symptoms can range from annoying to disabling. Learn how to deal with the burning, numbness and tingling.

### Tests and diagnosis

#### Bone density test

Are you at risk of fractures due to weakened bones caused by osteoporosis? A bone density test will tell.

#### Electrocardiogram

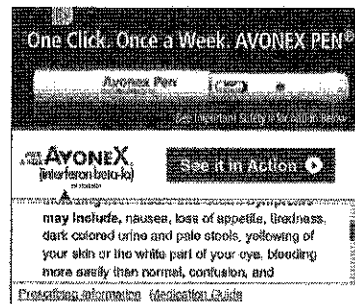
An electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG) is a test that provides valuable clues about your heart health. Here's what you need to know about the test.

#### Urinalysis

Urinalysis can be used to assess your overall health, detect a wide range of disorders, or monitor a medical condition or treatment.

#### X-ray

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