Advisory Panel Recommendation

The recommended minimum retesting interval for TSH for monitoring people with known thyroid disease who have had an adjustment to their treatment (i.e., are under active investigation or management) is 6 weeks.

Exceptions to this recommendation that may require more frequent testing include people with overt hyperthyroidism because of the risk of life-threatening conditions (e.g., acute thyrotoxicosis), children and adolescents, and people who are pregnant.

Advisory Panel Implementation Advice

Because of variation in clinical cases, labs may consider creating test codes for specific clinical exceptions to support automatic bypasses to the recommended minimum retesting interval.

Using Minimum Retesting Intervals in Practice

These minimum retesting interval recommendations are intended to inform decisions about repeat testing. Clinicians should exercise clinical judgment as there may be exceptions (e.g., certain patient populations) and scenarios in which the recommendations do not apply. Labs will need to consider their local context and the capabilities of the laboratory information system when implementing minimum retesting intervals.
For a more detailed look at the guidance produced by the Advisory Panel on Minimum Retesting Intervals for Lab Tests, view the full report on cadth.ca:

**Minimum Retesting Intervals for Lab Tests**