

**Table 2.** Thyroid hormones at the various time-points of the study

	<b>Time-point</b>	<b>SHAM</b>	<b>SEVO</b>	<b>DESF</b>	<b>PROP</b>
<b>T<sub>3</sub> (ng/dl)</b>	t <sub>0</sub>	86.33±5.70	85.28±12.55	70.20±18.02	72.35±13.47
	t <sub>1</sub>	86.61±5.17	88.11±17.28	74.63±24.75	78.04±17.57
	t <sub>2</sub>	79.55±17.97	80.48±9.63	60.75±11.02	62.56±16.73 † <sup>(.014)</sup>
<b>T<sub>4</sub> (µg/dl)</b>	t <sub>0</sub>	5.53±2.51	6.32±1.32	5.83±1.93	5.78±1.51
	t <sub>1</sub>	6.49±2.88	7.34±1.40 ** <sup>(.001)</sup>	6.69±1.88 * <sup>(.023)</sup>	6.59±1.74 ** <sup>(.002)</sup>
	t <sub>2</sub>	6.84±3.01	5.86±1.21 † <sup>(.025)</sup>	5.76±2.08 † <sup>(.032)</sup>	5.61±1.93
<b>TSH (mU/L)</b>	t <sub>0</sub>	0.34±0.12	0.55±0.45	0.29±0.11	1.23±2.34
	t <sub>1</sub>	0.33±0.12	0.49±0.43	1.50±2.72	1.25±2.39
	t <sub>2</sub>	0.29±0.12	0.57±0.45	0.29±0.12	1.22±2.29
<b>T<sub>3</sub>/T<sub>4</sub> ratio (values multiplied by 1000)</b>	t <sub>0</sub>	18.67±10.31	14.25±5.08	12.37±2.81	13.05±3.29
	t <sub>1</sub>	15.73±8.26	12.75±5.41	10.53±2.18	12.37±3.37
	t <sub>2</sub>	14.89±2.87	14.40±4.43	10.31±4.88	12.65±6.16

T<sub>3</sub>, triiodothyronine; T<sub>4</sub>, thyroxine; TSH, thyroid-stimulating hormone; \*, p <0.05 compared to time-point 0 within the group; \*\*, p <0.01 compared to time-point t<sub>0</sub> within the group; †, p <0.05 compared to time-point t<sub>1</sub> within the group; t<sub>0</sub>, immediately after premedication; t<sub>1</sub>, 20 min after the administration of the anaesthetic agent and at the end of surgery; t<sub>2</sub>, 4 hours after starting the anaesthetic agent. Values represent mean±SD. Values inside parentheses represent exact p values. DESF: desflurane; PROP: propofol; SEVO: sevoflurane. (To convert to SI units multiply by 12,87 for T<sub>4</sub> values and by 0.015 for T<sub>3</sub> values).