SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION:
Lugol’s iodine is used primarily for the observation of protozoan cysts in wet mount preparations of fecal specimens. It may also be used when testing for starch, amyloid or corpora amylacea.

REAGENTS:
Iodine, Potassium Iodide

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS:
For in vitro diagnostic use only.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION:
Use a clean, wide-mouthed container that allows ready access to and visualization of the specimen. The lid should be tight fitting. Unpreserved specimens should be examined within 1 hour after passage. If immediate examination is not possible, store the specimen in the refrigerator or at room temperature not longer than a few hours.

RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR OPTIMUM RESULTS:
1. For wet mount preparations: A small portion of feces is comminuted in a drop of Lugol’s Iodine Solution.
2. Mount with a coverslip and seal with nail polish or paraffin-petrolatum (1:1) mixture kept liquid in a heated water bath.

RESULTS:
In a correctly stained cyst, the cytoplasm appears yellow and the nuclei stand out as lighter refractile bodies. The glycogen masses stain reddish to dark brown.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
Biological Stain Commission, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York, Staining Procedures Used by the Biological Stain Commission, The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1960.
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology Manual.

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