# POTASSIUM IODIDE – MECHANISM OF ACTION

J. Wolff MD, PhD NIH (Emeritus)



Increased Retention of thyroidal <sup>131</sup> is not a problem because of the long biological half-life !

#### THYROID EFFECTIVE IODINE HALF-LIFE

 $t_{1/2}(eff) = t_{1/2}(phys) \times t_{1/2}(biol) / t_{1/2}(phys) + t_{1/2}(biol)$ 

ISOTOPE	DIET	t1/2(biological)	t1/2(effective)
t <sub>1/2</sub> -(phys)		days	days
1311 (8d)	ldef.	40	6.7
131 <sub>I</sub> (8d)	ldef. +KI	80	7.3
131 <sub>I</sub> (8d)	Isuff.	80	7.3
131 <sub>I</sub> (8d)	Isuff. +KI	120	7.5
1331 (0.87d)	ldef.	40	0.85
133 <sub>1</sub> (0.87d)	ldef. +KI	80	0.86



**Iodide Administered** [Ι<sup>-</sup>] μΜ

# T4 Formed

#### COMPARISON OF THE INHIBITION OF THYROID FUNCTIONS BY IODIDE, IODOLACTONES, AND 2-IODOHEXADECANAL

FUNCTION	INHIBITION BY	INHIBITION BY	INHIBITION BY
	IODIDE	IODOLACTONE	2-IODOHEXA-
			DECANAL

Iodination	+	+	+
H2O2 Generation	+	+	, + <sup>1</sup>
TPO Activity	+		+
cAMP Generation	+	+	+
RNA Synthesis	· · · · · · · · ·	· + · ·	
Protein Synthesis	+	+ .	
Thyroid Cell Proliferation	+ ,	+	
IP3 Formation	+	+	+
Goitrogenesis	+	+	

### **Iodolactones**



5,8,11-trienoic acid 1,14-lactone

## **From Plasmalogens**





Tab Var	le 4.9 Absorbed Doses in Thyr ious Schedules of Administrat	oid Gland and E <sub>d</sub> for ion of Stable Iodine	
Schedules	Amount of iodide (mg) and schedule of administration	Absorbed dose (rad) per µCi of daily intake of I <sup>131</sup>	<sup>E</sup> d' <sup>%</sup>
1	10 daily	3 0 +1 3	87 6+4 1
2	10, daily	$0.75\pm0.19$	96 6+2 A
2	100, daily	$0.75 \pm 0.10$	90.0-2.4
3	100, twice a day	0.50±0.02	97.711.2
4	200, daily	0.30±0.05	98.6±1.1
5	200, once every other day	$1.00\pm0.12$	95:5±1.5
6	200, once every third day	2.50±0.35	88:6±3.4
7	Control (without KI)	22.0±1.50	-

# FREQUENT OBJECTIONS TO KI

Cost

Low (Maine Yankee - 5K)

Shelf-LifeLong (Foil Wrapped)(98% after 11y- US Pharm)

Side Reactions (Without Denominator) Mostly Case Reports

Prolonged Biologicall Half-Life

Minor



## KI Distribution (18 million doses)

Newborns15 mgChildren <5y</td>50 mgOthers50 mgincl. Pregnant Women70 mgAdultsno Rx

#### Extrathyroidal side effects after KI prophylaxis

	Children		Adults		
Symptoms	No	%	No	%	
None	11,482	95.4	4,833	95.5	
lodine mumps	0		0		
Headache	22	0.18	35	0.69	
Stomachache	43	0.36	32	0.63	
Diarrhea	23	0.19	6	0.12	
Vomiting	286	2.38	43	0.85	
Shortness of breath	13	0.11	32	0.63	
Skin rashes	129	1.07	63	1.24	
Others	42	0.35	10	0.20	
Total prophylaxis	12,040		5,061		

#### RARE SIDE REACTIONS

SUBACUTE THYROIDITIS

4 CASES (0.08%)

**SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION** 

2 CASES REQUIRED HOSPITALIZATIO

TINCTURE OF IODINE GASTROENTERITIS MANY

Iodide Can Block Radioiodine Uptake by the Thyroid Virtually Completely

 Not by Lowering Specific Activity – Capacity of Thyroid Too Great
By Producing Iodinated Inhibitors – Requires Higher Iodide Levels than for Protein Iodination

#### CONCLUSIONS

KI EFFECTIVE - 40% DOSE REDUCTION. COULD BE 90% IF INSTITUTED EARLY

**NO INCREASE IN CANCER AFTER 15 YEARS** 

**NO PERMANENT THYROID DAMAGE AFTER 4 YEARS** 

SPEED, I.E. PRE-PLANNED DISTRIBUTION, ESSENTIAL LATE DISTRIBUTION BETTER THAN NOTHING

SHORT - TERM KI SAFE - BENEFITS OUTWEIGH RISKS WATCH NEWBORNS, MULTINODULAR GOITER, SENSITIVITY

