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ID#	Lugol's Solution of Iodine	Price
EX103	Lugol's Solution of Iodine - Discussed in Folk Medicine , Dr Jarvis understood something about the benefits of iodine that few others do today. 1 oz. bottle with dropper; shipping: \$4.95 or 2 bottles shipped for \$5.95 MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET for Lugol's Solution of Iodine	\$9.95 ea. 1 oz. Bottle
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The Usefulness of Iodine

An Excerpt from

Folk Medicine by D.C. Jarvis, MD

FOLK MEDICINE IN VERMONT is interested in three R's-Resistance, Repair, and Recovery. First the individual asks himself whether his resistance to disease is as it should be. Next, is he able to repair tissue injury due to accident should it occur? Finally, if sickness should come, is his body able to bring about recovery? Somehow during the passing years he has learned that iodine is related to the ability to resist disease.

Iodine is necessary for the thyroid gland's proper performance of its work. The human thyroid gland is located in the front of the lower part of the neck. All the blood in the body passes through the thyroid gland every 17 minutes. Because the cells making up this gland have an affinity for iodine, during this 17-minute passage the gland's secretion of iodine kills weak germs that may have gained entry into the blood through an injury to the skin, the lining of nose or throat, or through absorption of food from the digestive tract. Strong, virulent germs are rendered weaker during their passage through the thyroid gland. With each 17 minutes that rolls around they are made still weaker until finally they are killed if the gland has its normal supply of iodine. If it does not, it cannot kill harmful germs circulating in the blood as Nature intended it should.

It is well established that the iodine content of the thyroid gland is dependent upon the iodine available in the food and water intake of the individual. If the iodine intake is low the gland is deprived of an element it needs to do its work.

We learn in Vermont folk medicine, however, that this gland performs other functions besides killing harmful germs in the blood. The first is the rebuilding of energy with which to do the day's work. There is a definite relationship between the amount of energy you have and your iodine intake. The first question in the presence of a condition of depleted energy is, Is the soil of the state in which one lives iodine-poor? Second, is the deficiency being made up by supplementary means? All soils containing granite are iodine-poor and Vermont is one of them. This fact is very important to people living in Vermont and well may be important to those living elsewhere. When energy and endurance run low in relation to doing the day's work, then the taking of iodine needs to be considered.

A second function of iodine is to [calm the body and relieve nervous tension](#). When nervous tension runs high there is irritability and difficulty in sleeping well at night, and the body is continually on a combat basis, organized for fight and flight. All these points [stress](#) a body's need for iodine to lessen nervous tension, relax the body and enable it to organize for peace and quiet, by the building and storing of body reserves against time of need. I have learned through Vermont folk medicine that it is possible to repeatedly change an irritable, impatient, and restless child under ten years of age into a calm, patient individual within two hours' time by giving one drop of Lugol's solution of iodine by mouth in a vegetable or fruit juice or in a glass of water made acid in reaction by adding a teaspoonful of apple cider vinegar. I have repeatedly prescribed this in order to make it possible for a mother of a racehorse-type little boy or girl to be able to live comfortably with the child. I have never seen it fail to calm down a nervous child.

A third function of iodine in the human body relates to clear thinking. The mind simply works better when the body is supplied the iodine it needs.

Then there is the matter of the storing of unwanted fat. Iodine is one of the best oxidizing catalysts we have. A catalyst is the match which touches off in the body the fire that burns up the food we take in each day. If this food is not properly burned off, it may be stored as unwanted fat.

Now while the thyroid gland helpfully stores iodine from the blood passing through it every 17 minutes, the gland may also be made to lose that stored iodine if, for example, we take in drinking water to which chlorine is added, or use too much sodium chloride, whose common name is table salt. There is a well-known law of halogen displacement. The halogen group is made up as follows:

Halogen	Relative Atomic Weight
Fluorine	19.
Chlorine	35.5
Bromine	80.
Iodine	127.

The critical activity of any one of these four halogens is in inverse proportion to its atomic weight. This means that any one of the four can displace the element with a higher atomic weight, but cannot displace an element with a lower atomic weight. For example, fluorine can displace chlorine, bromine and iodine because fluorine has a lower atomic weight than the other three. Similarly, chlorine can displace bromine and iodine because they both have a higher atomic weight. Likewise, bromine can displace iodine from the body because iodine has a higher atomic weight. But a reverse order is not possible. A knowledge of this well-known chemical law brings us to a consideration of the addition of chlorine to our drinking water as a purifying agent. We secure a drinking water that is harmful to the body not because of its harmful germ content but because the chlorine content now causes the body to lose the much-needed iodine.

Because we may live in an iodine-poor area; because drinking water may be treated with chlorine; because we may be sick too often, lack energy and endurance, develop nervous tension, lack the ability of clear thinking, and accumulate unwanted fat, how shall we go about bringing up the iodine content of the body to the point needed?

There are three ways:

1. Eating foods which analysis has shown are particularly rich in iodine. Among these are: all food out of the ocean, radishes, asparagus, carrots, tomatoes, spinach, rhubarb, potatoes, peas, strawberries, mushrooms, lettuce, bananas, cabbage, egg yolk, and onions.
2. Painting a small area of the body with tincture of iodine.
3. Taking preparations known to be rich in iodine. One of these is cod-liver oil. Another is Lugol's solution of iodine. Still another is kelp.

In 1880 a French physician named Lugol originated a solution which contains 5 per cent of elemental iodine in a 10 per cent solution of potassium iodide. It has been used steadily ever since it was originated.

When used to maintain the iodine content of the body the dose is small and is taken only on certain days of the week. When the mineral content of the body is analyzed, only a trace of iodine is found. Ten drops of iodine represent more iodine than is found in the entire body. For this reason, the dose of Lugol's solution of iodine is one or two drops, depending on your body weight. If you weigh 150 pounds or less, for example, your dose to maintain the normal iodine content of the body is

one drop, taken at one meal on Tuesday and Friday of each week. If you weigh more than 150 pounds, the dose should be two drops instead of one. It is useful to remember that the human body works on the minimum of anything it needs. If there should be a rise in sickness in the area where you live, it would be well to take the Lugol's solution three times a week instead of two, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, for the purpose of storing up reserve.

How is the drop of the solution to be taken, on the directed days? In general, medical men prescribe iodine to be taken on an empty stomach, preferably 20 minutes before food is taken. During the passing years Vermont folk medicine has worked out a different plan and it is one I like to follow. It has been referred to in another connection elsewhere in this book. To repeat, adding one teaspoonful of apple cider vinegar to a glass of water to make the water acid in reaction, holding the medicine dropper horizontal in order to get a maximum drop, one drop of the Lugol's solution is added to the mixture. The contents are stirred with a spoon and sipped through the course of the meal, as one would drink a cup of coffee or tea.

In relation to supplemental use of iodine, my studies of certain dairy herds has revealed interesting evidences of the relationship between host and microorganisms, viruses, insects, and other parasites .With one herd the veterinary bill had generally run \$150.00 and sometimes more a year. At my suggestion, three drops of Lugol's solution of iodine was added to the daily four ounces of apple cider vinegar. Thereafter it was only necessary to call the veterinary once in a period of eight months, to see a sick cow. In contrast to this, another herd, to which Lugol's solution was not given, had plenty of sick-ness. In an 8-month period it was necessary to spend \$50.00 for penicillin in order to save seriously sick cows.

I have observed that lice will leave the hide of a cow that receives apple cider vinegar and iodine; also that flies will not bite the cows when they are on pasture, though flies will and do bite young cattle not receiving the apple cider vinegar and iodine.

In a herd troubled with abortions-evidence of the work of the *Bru celia abortus* microorganism which grows on an alkaline medium and causes contagious abortion in cattle called Bang's disease, or brucellosis-abortions promptly stopped when each feeding ration received a supplemental three drops of Lugol's solution of iodine to each two ounces of the apple cider vinegar.

While studying selected herds, I became interested in the problem of cattle grubs. These are the larvae, or maggots, of the heel fly. The adult fly does not bite or sting, but it produces great fear and is a serious annoyance to the cattle. Eggs are deposited in a row attached to a single hair of a cow's heel during the first sunny days of spring. The eggs incubate and hatch in three or four days and the newly hatched maggots penetrate the hide of the cow, causing itching and a flow of serum that mats the hair. The young grubs then work their way upward between the muscles and may be found in a few months in the body cavities. They continue to burrow along the surface of the paunch, intestines, and other internal organs. At certain times many of them are found in the wall of the esophagus, leading from the mouth to the stomach. During the fall and winter the grubs will finally come to the top of the back and lie just under the hide. Each grub cuts a hole through the hide to the surface to get the air which it now needs, and to permit it to escape when ripe. The

period spent beneath the hide usually runs from 30 to 90 days. These grubs emerge from the hide during February and March, dropping to the ground to hatch into heel flies. In 18 to 80 days after escaping from the back of the cow, the adult fly hatches and is ready to mate within a half hour.

My object was to rout these cattle grubs by means of the apple cider vinegar and iodine combination; this would demonstrate, to me at least, what the combination would do in the way of making the body as a host unsuitable soil for the development and continuing existence of microorganisms, viruses, insects, and other parasites.

During one year's time only ten grubs were discovered on the backs of a herd of 45 registered Jersey cows. Usually these grubs are a little larger round than a pencil, but these ten grubs had such hard going in the cows' bodies against the vinegar and iodine that they were no larger around than toothpicks. I observed further with reference to a ration supplement high in iodine value that when it was used, the bacterial count of the milk went down; when iodine was discontinued, the count went up but could be driven down again immediately with resumption of the iodine.

From Dr. William Weston of South Carolina and his experience with race horses wintered there, I gained interesting and valuable insight into the value of iodine in the body, and its relation to endurance. About 100 race horses are wintered where he lives. Two years previous to a visit I paid him, the man in charge of the horses came to him saying that a horse was under his care which had everything it takes to win the Kentucky Derby. If they could just learn precisely how to feed this horse to maintain its speed capability, he believed the horse would have an outstanding racing season. Would Dr. Weston help him by planning the feeding of the horse?

Dr. Weston was greatly interested and consented to do so. As a first step he asked for samples of any and all foods given the horse. The samples were analyzed at the South Carolina Food Research Laboratory. As a result of the analysis, Dr. Weston advised [increasing the iodine](#) content of the ration by incorporating into it foods specifically rich in iodine. This was done. In the ensuing season the horse won every race in which it was entered.

As a result of the experience, two wealthy race-horse owners invited Dr. Weston to come to their horse farms to discuss the feeding of their stock. Again iodine-rich foods were added to the usual rations, with the same result; every horse fed on iodine-rich diet won every race in which it was entered. This seems to be a complete demonstration of the relation of iodine to energy and endurance. Subsequently, Dr. Weston sent me a copy of a letter addressed to him as chairman of the South Carolina Food Research Commission. It well illustrates the need of observing the obligation to Nature which must be observed by a daily intake of iodine. The letter ran as follows:

Dear Dr. Weston:

Now that we have reached the halfway mark of this racing season, I should like to tell you some of our observations of the results of wintering our horses in South Carolina, and feeding them your

home grown feeds.

After six years of experiment with several hundred horses, we are more convinced than ever that your foods, abundant in iodine and balanced in mineral content, are the saving factor in many of our horses. Allow me to give you an example. This summer an epidemic of influenza and coughing broke out among two year olds at the New York tracks. It spread like wildfire through the stables, and all the old cures and preventives were useless against it. We have checked carefully and find that none of the horses that were wintered in South Carolina, were affected. Naturally we spoke of this often, and by so doing attracted the attention of many people to South Carolina, and the merits of your theories and findings.

We have found that our horses are almost immune to skin diseases, distemper, and other contagious diseases after they have been wintered in South Carolina and brought to the tracks where these ailments are taking their toll. You have observed how quickly we can cure these various ailments in young horses. We believe that the blood is so cleansed by the action of iodine from your feeds and water, that all common infections are removed, and the system so toned up that it is in shape to fight and ward off anything except direct infection through an open wound. A few years ago a good trainer was one who could bring his horses to the races well fed and bulging with muscle. But the make-up of these muscles, and the contents of the bloodstream feeding them, is the determining factor in having a really fit and ready horse. In appreciation of the good you have done our horses, and the things we have learned from your efforts, we trust that you will find time this coming season to again spend considerable time at the fair grounds, and conduct further experiments on our stock.

In order to learn whether instinct played a part in leading dairy cows to food rich in iodine, the owner of a mixed herd of 54 cows which I had previously studied built a special feeding station for me at the end of the lane leading from the barnyard. The station was divided into four compartments, roofed over to protect them from rain. In one compartment was placed a feeding supplement, nationally advertised, which contained iodine and other minerals in inorganic form. The second compartment was supplied with bone meal, the third compartment with a feeding supplement made of ocean kelp, in which all the minerals are in organic form. The fourth compartment contained salt. We stood nearby to observe what happened when the cows passed this feeding station for the first time.

Each cow sniffed at each compartment. They passed by without touching the feeding supplement made of inorganic minerals. A few took some of the bone meal, and a few some of the salt. But what they really converged on was the kelp, which as has been said contains more iodine than anything else that grows. As fast as we could fill up the compartment they would clean it out. This settled the point for us: COWS like iodine and in organic, which is to say natural, form. Subsequently I offered kelp to two registered Jersey bulls in the barn. They took it quickly and teased for more.

One of my friends raises hunting dogs as a hobby. The dogs are Brittany spaniels. When they have been trained to hunt, he sells them.

Being impressed by the favorable effects of apple cider vinegar on his own health and body

endurance, he asked me if it would be all right to try giving the vinegar to his dogs. He thought they tired too easily when hunting. We decided on the following method. When the dogs were not hunting, one tablespoonful of apple cider vinegar would be added to the ration of each dog once a day. When they were hunting, there would be a tablespoonful added twice a day. After following this method for three years at these kennels, the following conclusions were reached:

If a hunting dog has (1) one tablespoonful of apple cider vinegar added to his ration once a day during the off-hunting season; (2), one tablespoonful added to his ration twice a day when used for hunting; (3) one tablespoonful added to his drinking water while hunting, whenever he is given a drink; (4) one tablespoonful of undiluted vinegar when the dog is thirsty and no drinking water is available, the following results were noted:

1. A dog receiving the apple cider vinegar will not tire easily. The average dog that has not received it is good for three to four hours of hunting a day. A dog receiving it will hunt eight to ten hours steady during the day. Apple cider vinegar clearly increases the hunting dog's endurance.
2. A dog receiving the apple cider vinegar will be able to point and retrieve every bird for as many as four hunters hunting at the same time.
3. A dog receiving the vinegar will not show shortness of breath at any time while hunting.
4. A dog receiving the vinegar will maintain a good appetite and eat every meal while being used for hunting.
5. A dog receiving the vinegar will not lose weight while hunting.

Having now traced the use of iodine to increase the speed and endurance of race horses and the endurance of hunting dogs, let us adapt what we have learned to the health side of the daily life of a business executive. On rising in the morning he will drink a glass of water while dressing into which one or two teaspoonfuls of apple cider vinegar has been mixed. What may he expect to accomplish by doing this?

The knowledge that acids thin body fluids has been brought over from the days when blood-letting was a common form of treatment. We have found in the barn that the milk of a normal cow is weakly acid. When the reaction of the milk changes to alkaline, the milk becomes soup-thick. This thickness will disappear and the milk will return to its normal watery character, however, if and when the cow is given four ounces of apple cider vinegar and four ounces of water by mouth from a bottle, night and morning.

There are other ways of observing this principle in action but this is sufficient here. The point is, no busy executive wants his blood to be on the thick side, like soup; he understands that it should be thin, in order to circulate easily throughout the body, making easy work for his heart as it pumps blood with each beat.

At breakfast this man omits wheat foods, wheat cereals, white sugar, and citrus fruits and fruit juices because in the majority of people these foods change the normal acid reaction of the urine to alkaline. The alkalinity is a signal that the blood is thicker than it should be, that it is not easily

circulated and requires more heart effort to pump it. Therefore this man replaces these unwise foods with rye and corn foods and cereals. Instead of white sugar he uses honey. In place of citrus foods and citrus juices he takes the contents of a bottle of fruit sold at the grocery store under the name Junior Foods. Or, if he chooses, he may take apple, grape, or cranberry juice.

At lunchtime he takes two teaspoonfuls of apple cider vinegar and two teaspoonfuls of honey in a glass of water. In this way he obtains acid taken up from the soil by fruit, berries, edible leaves, and roots, and the energy from the sun which exists in honey. This is a prime pick-up drink. He may take it before, during, or after lunch. A vinegar made from the whole crushed apple is best for the purpose.

When a person is organizing his body for a day of dynamic action, the organization shifts the urine reaction from the normal, or acid, to the alkaline. It is not advisable, therefore, to eat foods at the morning meal which will, so to speak, duplicate the shift. For this reason the wheat foods, white sugar, and citrus fruits and their juices are omitted, so that at the end of the day he will return home with less mental and physical fatigue.

At the evening meal he will also take the two teaspoonfuls of honey and two teaspoonfuls of apple cider vinegar in a glass of water. He may like to take it before the meal, as a cocktail, or during the meal.

It is beneficial also to start the meal with a leafy green salad, to get the benefit of the acid from the soil and the energy from the sun stored up in the leaves. If the day has been one of overwork and anxiety, turn to fish or other seafood, for that will supply the iodine and potassium that will calm down the nervous system. Try to have such muscle meats as beef, lamb, or pork only twice a week, and then on days when you have a light schedule, because muscle meat organizes your body on a combat basis, which you do not want from food. Try to bear in mind that the internal organs of an animal, such as the liver, represent the animal storehouse against the time of need. It will be well for you to have liver or liverwurst once a week. Gradually, by following the foregoing plan, you can make changes in your daily food selection so that the intake will counterbalance your heavy expenditure of strength and energy.

Supposing you do follow the suggestions outlined above and yet find that some weeks the pressures of your private and your business life are causing you to lose the ability to bounce back. Then you should add a drop of Lugol's solution of iodine to your glass of apple or grape juice at breakfast, or you may take it in the mixture of apple cider vinegar and water. The point is that the potassium in the solution blocks off the body mechanism that organizes for aggressive action, releasing its hold on the body when opportunity for rest and relaxation arises. The iodine swings into action the body mechanism which organizes the body for peace and quiet and the building up and storing of body reserves. When working under pressure, include the Lugol's solution dose each day until the period of pressure passes. If it should happen that your body becomes saturated with iodine, you will find that there is an increase of moisture in the nose. If this occurs, omit the iodine until the

nose is normal.

As you study yourself you will soon learn to tell when you need iodine. When a night's sleep does not bring you to the beginning of the new day with the energy you are accustomed to have, you will begin to think of iodine. If you learn how to use it, it will restore the capacity to bounce back and sustain your well-being.

More on the usefulness of iodine from Dr. Jarvis' out of print book Arthritis and Folk Medicine

A young Vermonter not only learns about the virtues of apple cider vinegar, but he is also taught the value of Lugol's Solution of Iodine, which was devised in the nineteenth century by a French physician.

At one time I enlisted the aid of twelve small children, none of them more than five years old, who were to serve as human guinea pigs for two years, so that the second year might be compared to the first year. The object of this study was to learn whether little children got sick on an alkaline urine or on an acid urine background. In time I learned that they did indeed become ill on the alkaline reaction and recovered when the urine was restored to its normal acid reaction.

There were twins in this group of children, and their mother said to me, " Dr. Jarvis, what am I going to do? One of these girls is a race horse and the other is a farm horse. I mean that one is nervous, high strung, and irritable and won't accept discipline. She is always ready to fight. But the other one has a calm even disposition; she's always so peaceful and quiet. My problem is that the race horse twin keeps both her calm sister and me stirred up all the time. It doesn't do any good to spank her because she just blows up and I have a worse problem on my hands. Tell me, how are we going to live with this girl?"

"Lets' turn to Vermont folk medicine," I said, " and use Lugol's solution of iodine to release the continued activity of the energy expending mechanism in her body. Any time her motor shifts into high and she shows the increased speed by becoming a discipline problem, add a teaspoonful of apple cider vinegar to a glass of water in order to make the water in the glass acid in reaction. Then add two drops of Lugol's solution of iodine tot he glass of water, and after the mixture is stirred have her drink it. Give it to her whenever, she seems to need it to get into lower gear. It can be done anytime during the day, at meals or between meals."

Two weeks later the mother reported that her race horse daughter quieted down within two hours

after the dosage I had recommended was given, and with the continued help of the solution she was able to control the child easily. Sometimes she gave it everyday if it seemed to be needed, or at longer intervals if there were no outbursts.

Today the twin who was treated is married and in her own home. With the aid of iodine and vinegar during her growing years her human motor was brought under control and she developed into a normal girl. By the time she graduated from high school the tantrums of her childhood were only a memory. But if she ever becomes high-strung and irritable again, she will know the remedy.

I recall another child whose mother was a professor in a college for women before her marriage to a man who was a university graduate. Their first child, a girl, had an even disposition and was easy to live with, but their second, another girl, was the kind of race horse type I have just discussed. The mother came to me with the same complaint as the harassed mother of the twins, and again I suggested the same folk medicine remedy of iodine and vinegar. Once more the treatment worked perfectly. The mother gave me an almost identical report: within two hours her daughter was a different child.

As time passed, this girl too developed into a normal high school student and was later extremely successful in college, where she developed her really fine mind and her artistic abilities, as well as the ability she had acquired to get along with others and make friends.

Two drops of Lugol's solution of iodine works equally well in an adult. When the stress and strain of daily living create a load that is difficult to carry, producing a state of anxiety, and when the day's problems make it difficult to relax and sleep well at night, then one appreciates the aid that iodine gives.

In an adult two teaspoonfuls of apple cider vinegar and two of honey are added to a glass of water. The honey is there because it is a sedative. Then add two drops of Lugol's solution of iodine to the glass containing the vinegar and- honey mixture, stir it, and sip it during the meal as you would coffee or tea. Taken apart from the meal it can be sipped like a cocktail. Soon your motor will have slipped into low gear. Your problems and their solution will seem less difficult, and the day's load of responsibility easier to carry. In this age of anxiety the combination of iodine with vinegar and water will give the harassed individual increased energy and the endurance necessary to carry the daily load. You will find that the wear and tear of daily living is considerably reduced.

The same remedy can be applied to cattle, in a somewhat different way than I have already described in the treatment of mastitis, although in the example I have in mind the reason for administering it was the same. My farmer friend called me one day to inform me that four of his best cows were sick with acute mastitis of their udders. The veterinarian had been using the bacteriological approach, employing the sulfa drugs, but without success. He had just left the barn, said the farmer, telling him that the cows were going to die. Could I save them?

I told him that attacking bacteria as a solution to medical problems had not always proved successful, as far as I was concerned, and I recommended that we try Vermont folk medicine, seeking to release the energy expending mechanism from its continued activity.

My plan was to change the physiology and chemistry of each cow's body by giving her morning , noon, and night a "blood wash" as folk medicine expresses it. We would give each cow by mouth from a bottle four ounces of apple cider vinegar, four ounces of water, and a teaspoonful of Lugol's solution, all mixed together.

Before the treatment was applied these cows were running temperatures as high as 107 degrees. After it was given, the fever began to drop at once, and by the end of the week all four had recovered from their sickness. Three of the cows returned to milk production. The fourth did not produce milk until her next calf was born and a new lactation period was started.

The folk medicine approach that is, releasing the energy expanding mechanism from continued activity by giving a "blood wash"- works if sickness with an accompanying elevation of temperature is present in a human. Often a single teaspoon of vinegar in a glass of water with two drops of Lugol's solution of iodine added will cause the body temperature to drop when the solution is taken morning, noon and evening. Continued use often brings rapid recovery from sickness.

When you take Lugol's solution you are taking an excellent catalyst which has the ability to start, and continue at a rapid pace, physiological and chemical processes within the body that would not otherwise begin, or if begun, would proceed at a slow pace. Iodine increases the rapidity of the start, and rate of speed as well. By means of a catalyst the individual is able to control the internal environment and bring peace to the body.

If a harmful virus or microorganism is among the factors which cause arthritis Lugol's solution of iodine will be helpful. In the herd of dairy cows I studied, I decreased the bacteria count of the milk markedly, as I have shown previously, by adding three drops of iodine to two ounces of apple cider vinegar, the whole poured over the ration of each cow at every feeding twice a day.

For pasteurized milk, I might add, a count of five thousand bacteria in each cubic centimeter of milk is acceptable to the creamery laboratory. With the addition of vinegar and iodine to the ration the bacteria count dropped to less than a thousand and did not rise. Often it was five hundred or less.

**[Link Found Between Breast Cancer and a Common Virus](#)
[Stress Found to Weaken Resistance to Illness](#)**

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Stress Found to Weaken Resistance to Illness

By Shankar Vedantam

Washington Post Staff Writer

Monday, December 22, 2003; Page A12

Scientists are gaining new insights into the role of temperament in making some people vulnerable to physical disease through studies exploring how stress influences the immune system, weakening disease-fighting cells and creating fertile environments for pathogens.

This month, a carefully done study showed that shy men have much less resistance to the AIDS virus than extroverted men and benefit far less from treatment with antiretroviral drugs. It is the first study to demonstrate through laboratory tests a connection between being introverted and the course of AIDS in individuals, researchers said.

Such studies are sketching in the details behind the growing awareness that the workings of the body and mind cannot be neatly compartmentalized into the departments and disciplines taught in medical school. As a result, paying attention to the emotional state of patients with infectious and chronic diseases is increasingly more than a matter of good bedside manner; it is becoming an essential part of treatment.

Although the connection between emotion and disease has long been suspected -- physicians as early as the 2nd century A.D. observed a link between "melancholy" and physical illness -- researchers are finally pinpointing networks of biological systems that connect temperament with the progression of illness. Cascades of complex chemical signals flow through pathways from the brain to the body and back,

often triggering "fight or flight" responses in the short term but decreasing resistance to illness in the long run. Some signals speed up heart rate; others burn muscle and bone. Some changes make cells more vulnerable to viruses.

The consequences can be dramatic. In the new study, HIV-infected men who were introverted, reserved and kept to themselves had nearly eight times as many viral particles in their blood compared with outgoing men. After treatment with antiretroviral drugs for as many as 18 months, the viral load among extroverted men fell 162 fold. Among shy men, the drop was only 20 fold, said lead author Steve Cole at the AIDS Institute of the University of California at Los Angeles.

"There is a link between psychological profile and poorer response to HIV, and maybe even a number of other viral diseases," agreed Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the federal government's lead research center in the fight against AIDS.

Other research has shown similar connections between mental disorders such as depression and AIDS, osteoporosis, even cancer. A study of 5,000 people with depression showed they had twice the risk of developing cancer compared with people without the mental disorder, said David Spiegel, a professor of psychiatry at Stanford University School of Medicine. And Philip Gold, chief of the clinical neuroendocrinology branch at the National Institute of Mental Health, found that pre-menopausal women who were depressed had a higher rate of bone loss and a two- to three-fold higher risk of osteoporosis compared with other women.

The UCLA study, published in the journal *Biological Psychiatry*, has offered

important clues into the physiological pathways through which stress influences the body, which could soon suggest targets for treatment to combat its effects.

"People who have the shy, sensitive temperament seem to be more prone to having sympathetic nervous system responses," Cole said in an interview, referring to the part of the nervous system that causes accelerated heart rate and other unconscious changes. "They are more stressed by lots of things, including contact with unfamiliar people."

In shy people, the nervous systems may be more likely to produce a stress reaction during social interactions -- so they maintain their internal stress balance by limiting contact with other people.

Previous work had shown that AIDS progresses more rapidly in gay men who were in the closet, compared with those who were "out." Initially, Cole said, scientists speculated that the hiding and secrecy raised the stress level and made them vulnerable. But increasingly, he said, scientists think of being in the closet as a marker -- rather than a cause -- of poor outcomes. Because shy people are more sensitive to humiliation, rejection and the opinions of others, shyness could be the reason some gay men with HIV stay in the closet as well as have worse outcomes with AIDS.

Fauci agreed the research was promising but cautioned that the connections between the neurological and immune system are extremely complex, and no single

mechanism

is likely to provide the entire answer.

Cole said a neurotransmitter called norepinephrine that is involved in stress reactions

could be the link between social inhibition and worse prognosis in AIDS.

"It's squirted out of one neuron and is received by another neuron," Cole said.

"This

happens with such intensity that norepinephrine spills into the blood. That changes

how your heart works. If we infect a cell with this, the virus grows 10-fold faster."

The next step would be to examine whether blocking norepinephrine affects the AIDS

outcome, Cole said. Common heart medications called beta-blockers can keep the body from responding to the neurotransmitter.

"The nervous system communicates with the immune system," agreed Steven Douglas,

chief immunologist at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, who has studied another

neurotransmitter, Substance P, that appears to play a similar role linking depression

with HIV infection. "That's what is so exciting."

Scientists are far from understanding all the links in the bewildering number of chemicals that establish feedback loops between the body and the brain, but teams of

researchers at the intersection of neurology, immunology and endocrinology are working to chart all the pathways and signals.

Gold noted that stress is a normal response to threatening situations that has been

learned through evolution -- stress forces the body to choose short-term performance over long-term health.

"It is not good to be lackadaisical if you are a rat being chased by a cat," he said. "There is a lot of circuitry in the brain that is organized to promote anxiety."

After the emergency is over, most people's internal chemical balance downshifts into a more sedate state. But in some people, Gold said, things don't scale down: "You are ready for stress, you are ready to bleed, you increase your glucose. That is not a good state to stay in for months or years. The bone breaks down; you get heart disease."

Gold said an important conclusion is that people with emotional disorders should be regularly monitored for osteoporosis and heart disease. And treating mental disorders, he said, could be a definite step toward slowing -- even preventing -- physical disease.



Buddha Statues

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Cancer find raises hope for vaccine

01.06.2004

By MARTIN JOHNSTON health reporter

A New Zealand-led study has uncovered a link between breast cancer and a common virus, raising hopes of a vaccine for the leading cause of cancer deaths among New Zealand women.

Scientists in Europe and the United States are already working on experimental vaccines to protect against the virus, called cytomegalovirus (CMV).

CMV is spread by bodily fluids, including breast milk, saliva and semen. Related to the herpes and chickenpox viruses, it is usually without symptoms in young children, but in adults can cause glandular fever, an illness characterised by fever, tiredness and swollen lymph glands.

A study by Otago and Melbourne Universities is the first to link the virus to breast cancer.

Each year more than 2000 New Zealand women are diagnosed with breast cancer and around 650 die from it.

The Otago and Melbourne study suggests women infected by the virus in adulthood are at higher risk of developing breast cancer than those exposed as children.

Other viruses have been tentatively linked to breast cancer and viral causes of liver and cervical cancers are well established.

International trials are under way of vaccines targeting the viruses that cause most cervical cancer and a vaccine is in use against one of the liver cancer viruses.

"The most exciting possibility would be, if that were the case, maybe further down the track somebody could develop a vaccine," said the lead researcher, Dr Ann Richardson, of Otago University's Christchurch School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

"It could be given to young children and it would protect people against being exposed late in life because they already would have developed

antibodies when they were young."

Cancer Society medical director Dr Peter Dady, a cancer physician, said the findings were exciting because they showed the significance of delayed exposure.

While not proving that CMV caused breast cancer, the study strengthened the theory. If proven, this could lead to the development of a vaccine to knock out one pathway to breast cancer, he said.

The study tested blood samples from 377 women aged under 40.

Antibodies to CMV - indicating previous exposure - were 22 per cent higher on average in women with breast cancer than in those without it.

Dr Richardson said this suggested the women with breast cancer were infected with the virus more recently than the others.

Breast cancer rates are higher in the West than in developing countries. But the West has lower rates of infection with CMV, at 60 to 70 per cent of adults.

The Cancer Society, which helped finance the study, and the Breast Cancer Foundation welcomed the findings. "It's a very interesting association, but I think it would need further study to ratify it," said the foundation's medical committee chairwoman, Dr Belinda Scott, a breast surgeon.

CANCER LINK

New Zealand-led research links breast cancer to a virus called cytomegalovirus.

Women with breast cancer have higher levels of antibodies to the virus.

This suggests viral infection as an adult, but not as a child, may be a risk factor for breast cancer.

Development work under way on a vaccine against the virus.

Herald Feature: Health

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LUGOL'S SOLUTION OF IODINE

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

The following information is believed to be correct but is not warranted as such, nor does it purport to be all inclusive.

Posted August 2002

Product Identification

Distributor's Name & Address:

J.Crow Company
PO Box 172
New Ipswich NH 03071
603 878 1965 (FAX or Phone)

Product Name: Lugol's Iodine

Product Code: EX103

Product Description: A aqueous solution of iodine and potassium iodide in water.

Health	2
Flammability	0
Reactivity	1
Physical Hazard	None

Section 1 - Shipping Data

DOT Shipping Name:* Not applicable

DOT Hazard Class: Not applicable

DOT Identification: Unregulated

Tel. # for information: (603) 878 1965

Prepared by: J.C.

Section 2 - Hazardous Ingredients / Identity Information

Emergency and First Aid Procedures:

Seek medical assistance for further treatment, observation and support if necessary.

Eye Contact: Flush with water at least 15 minutes and get medical attention if irritation persists.

Skin contact: If exposed to more than five drops, remove contaminated clothing and flush with water. Get medical attention if irritation persists.

Ingestion: If four drops or more are ingested at one time, immediate steps should be taken. Do not induce vomiting if patient is unconscious or extremely drowsy. Otherwise administer 2 glasses of water and induce vomiting. Get immediate medical attention even if symptoms improve.

Section 7 - Precautions For Safe Handling and Use

Steps to be Taken In Case of Spill Or Release: Absorb with a suitable absorbent (such as a paper towel) and dispose.

Waste Disposal Methods: Usually not restricted, but local ordinances vary. Iodine may often be neutralized with thiosulfate and flushed down drain with excess water. Insure compliance with all government regulations.

Section 8- Control Measures

Respiratory Protection (Specify Type): Not required.

Ventilation: General ventilation is usually sufficient.

Protective Gloves: Not required.

Eye Protection: Not required but laboratory safety goggles or similar products are recommended as part of good laboratory practice.

Other Protective Clothing And Equipment: Not required.

Hygienic Work Practices: Wash well after handling, especially before eating and smoking.

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