Iodine-123 Thyroid Uptake and Scintigraphy

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We evaluated the clinical usefulness of I-123, which has been purely prepared by Japan Medi-Physics Lab..

Uptake and scintigraphies with I-123 were carried out on 45 patients with thyroid disease. Scintiphotos with I-123 were compared with those obtained by I-131 and Tc-99m pertechnetate. Comparison of thyroid uptakes was made between I-123 and I-131. Studies consisted of 3-day procedure; dose of I-123 administered on the first day; uptake and two scintigraphies with I-123, followed by a dose of I-131 on the second day; and uptake and scintigraphy with I-131 on the third day. Iodine uptake values were measured 3, 6, and 24 hours after administration. The standard dose of I-123 and I-131 used in this study were 100 microcuries. In 27 cases, scintiphotos were taken 30 minutes after intravenous injection of Tc-99m

pertechnetate. Thyroid images were obtained using a gamma camera with a pinhole collimator.

The uptake values for both I-123 and I-131 in 45 patients agreed within the limites of diagnostic values. The two values showed a fair correlation (r = 0.970) and a linear regression was y = 1.0x + 1.1 (p < 0.001). The clearest thyroid images with I-123 who obtained at 6 hours after the administration.

In some cases the quality of cold nodule images with I-123 were superior to those with I-131. In two cases of adenocarcinoma clear cold nodule was showed by I-123, whereas thyroid was not deliminated by Tc-99m pertechnetate.

These results suggested that I-123 is useful in both measurement of thyroid uptakes and scintigraphies. In addition, I-123 is a desirable agent since it has no beta emission and a short half life.