**STABILIZED GRAM LUGOL SOLUTION**

*IVD* in vitro diagnostic medical device

Solution for use in BioGram 4 Gram bacteria staining kit

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

**Introduction:**
Gram staining is a method of differentiating bacterial species and it is commonly known and used in microbiology. It is also one of the most frequently used diagnostic methods in hospital and clinical laboratories. Gram staining differentiates bacteria into two groups: Gram-positive and Gram-negative. That division is based on the two groups' bacterial membrane structural differences, i.e. their capability of retaining the dye. BioGnost's Stabilized Gram Lugol solution enhances that capability. It consists of aqueous solution of stabilized (polyvinylpyrrolidone) iodine (PVP-I) and potassium iodide. During the Gram staining process the solution enables the dye to enter the bacterial cell and create insoluble iodine and primary dye complex. That enables dye retaining and subsequent Gram-positive bacteria identification.

**Product description:**
- **STABILIZED GRAM LUGOL SOLUTION** - Solution used in microbiology for Gram staining.
- **Other preparations and reagents that may be used:**
  - Primary dye solution for differential Gram staining, such as BioGnost's Crystal Violet 1% solution
  - Destaining solution for use in differential staining procedures acc. to Gram, such as stabilized BioGnost's Decolorizer solution 2
  - Counterstain solution for differentiating Gram staining, such as BioGnost's Gram Safranin solution
  - Glass slides used in microbiology, such as VitroGnost ECONOMY GRADE or glass slides used in cytology, such as VitroGnost STANDARD GRADE or high quality glass slides used in histopathology, such as VitroGnost SUPER GRADE or one of more than 30 models of VitroGnost glass slides
  - BioGnost's immersion media, such as Immersion oil, Immersion oil, types A, C, FF, 37, or Immersion oil Tropical Grade

**Preparing the sample for staining**
- Transfer the sample on a clean glass slide using a sterilized smear loop
- Fix the sample using the Bunsen burner after drying by wriggling the glass slide through the cone of flame for 2-3 times
- Cool the glass slide and begin the process of staining
- Spread the sample evenly across the glass slide using 1-2 drops of saline solution
- Fix the sample using the Bunsen burner after drying by wriggling the glass slide through the cone of flame for 2-3 times

**Sample staining procedure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Stain with Gram Crystal Violet 1% solution</td>
<td>1 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Pour excessive dye off the section.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Fix the dye by treating the section using stabilized Gram Lugol solution.</td>
<td>1 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Rinse the section carefully with distilled/demineralized water.</td>
<td>5 seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Treat the preparation using Gram Decolorizer 2 solution.</td>
<td>10-15 sec</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>End the process when the section turns grey-blue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Rinse the section carefully with distilled/demineralized water.</td>
<td>5 seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Treat the preparation using Gram Safranin solution.</td>
<td>1 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Rinse the section carefully with distilled/demineralized water.</td>
<td>5 seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Dry the section using filter paper or let it dry by air.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Add a drop of immersion oil on the section (Cedar or Immersion oil).</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Examine the section under immersion lens.</td>
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</table>

**Result**
Gram-positive bacteria - blue-purple
Gram-negative bacteria - red

**Note:**
Microbiology staining procedures are not standardized and they depend on standard operating procedures of individual laboratories and the experience of the personnel conducting the staining procedure. Intensity of staining depends on the period of immersion in the dye. Depending on personal requests and standard laboratory operating procedures, sample processing and staining can be carried out according to other protocols.

**Preparing the sample and diagnostics**
Use only appropriate instruments for collecting and preparing the samples. Process the samples with modern technology and mark them clearly. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use. In order to avoid mistakes, the staining procedure and diagnostics should only be conducted by authorized and qualified personnel. Use only microscope according to standards of the medical diagnostic laboratory. In order to avoid an erroneous result, a positive and negative check is advised before application.
Safety at work and environmental protection
Handle the product in accordance with safety at work and environmental protection guidelines. Used solutions and out of date solutions should be disposed of as special waste in accordance with national guidelines. Chemicals used in this procedure could pose danger to human health. Tested tissue specimens are potentially infectious. Necessary safety measures for protecting human health should be taken in accordance with good laboratory practice. Act in accordance with signs and warnings notices printed on the product’s label, as well as in BioGnost’s material safety data sheet which is available on demand.

Storing, stability and expiry date
Keep the Stabilized Gram Lugol solution in a tightly sealed original packaging at temperature of 15 to 25 °C. Keep in dry places, do not freeze and avoid exposing to direct sunlight. Date of manufacture and expiry date are printed on the product’s label.

References

GLS-OT-X, V12-EN6, 28 February 2017, AK/VR