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# Ichthammol Ointment

### DEFINITION

Ichthammol Ointment contains an amount of ichthammol equivalent to NLT 0.25% of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>).

Ichthammol	100 g
Lanolin	100 g
Petrolatum	800 g
To make	1000 g

Thoroughly incorporate the *Ichthammol* with the *Lanolin*, and combine this mixture with the *Petrolatum*.

### ASSAY

• AMMONIA

**Sample:** Transfer a portion of the Ointment, equivalent to 2 g of ichthammol, to a 250-mL beaker, and add 70 mL of boiling water. Mix with a glass rod, and heat on a steam bath with frequent agitation for 10 min. Cover with a watch glass without removing the stirring rod, and allow to stand at room temperature for 15–20 min. Place in a refrigerator to cause the upper layer to congeal, form a second opening through the congealed layer with the glass rod, and transfer the dark-colored aqueous extract to a funnel containing a pledget of cotton, collecting the filtrate in a 500-mL volumetric flask. Repeat the extraction of the portion of the Ointment several times in the same manner until the aqueous extract is practically colorless, passing each extract through the same cotton filter into the flask containing the main extract. Dilute with water to volume, and mix.

#### Titrimetric system

**Mode:** Residual titration

**Titrant:** 0.05 N sulfuric acid VS

**Back-titrant:** 0.05 N sodium hydroxide VS

**Endpoint detection:** Colorimetric

**Analysis:** Transfer 100.0 mL of the *Sample* to a suitable distillation flask, add 3 g of paraffin, and add 20 mL of sodium hydroxide solution (4 in 10). Connect the flask to a condenser by means of a spray trap, and immerse the lower outlet tube of the condenser in 30.0 mL of *Titrant*. Distill slowly, collect about 50 mL of distillate, and then titrate the excess sulfuric acid with *Back-titrant*, using methyl red TS as the indicator. Perform a blank determination, and make any necessary correction. Each mL of *Titrant* is equivalent to 0.8515 mg of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>).

**Acceptance criteria:** NLT 0.25% of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Package in collapsible tubes or in tight containers. Avoid prolonged exposure to temperatures exceeding 30°.

Auxiliary Information - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
ICHTHAMMOL OINTMENT	<a href="#">Brian Serumaga</a> Science Program Manager	CMP2020 Compounding 2020
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	CMP2020 Compounding 2020

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

**Most Recently Appeared In:**

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