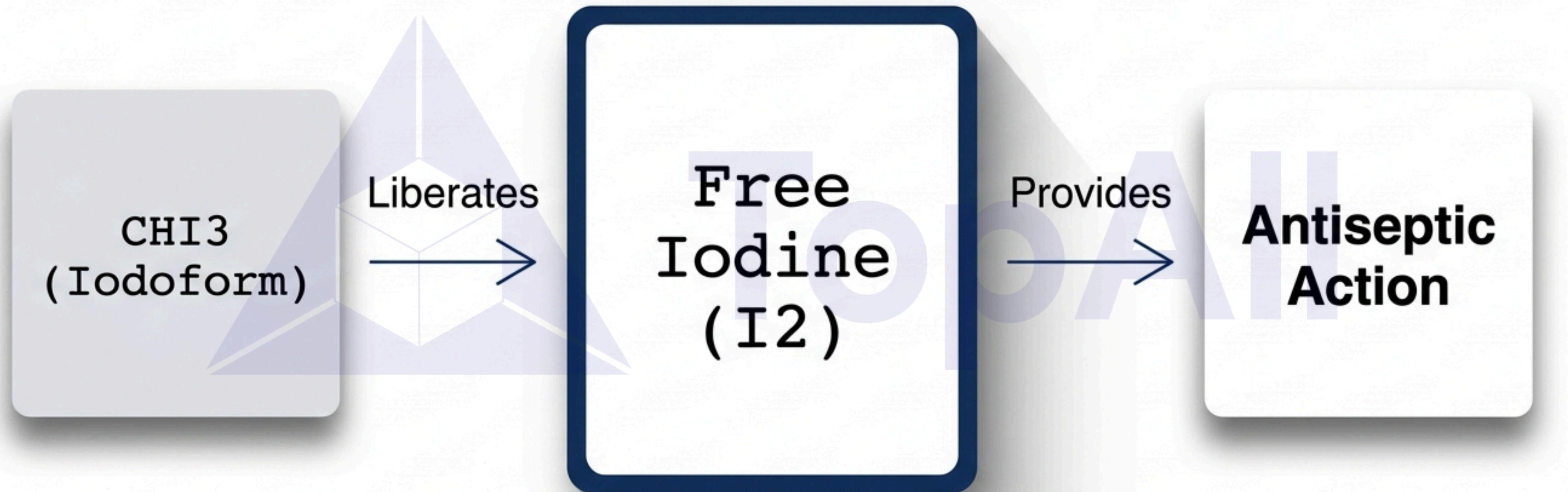


Triiodomethane (Iodoform)

Understanding its historical clinical use, mechanism of action, and modern replacements.

Formula: CHI_3

How It Works





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$$E=mc^2$$



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Why was it replaced?

The Myth

Was it ineffective?



No. The antiseptic properties of liberated iodine are highly effective.

The Fact / Hero

Replaced due to smell.

Modern medicine uses other iodine formulations to avoid the highly objectionable odor of iodoform.

Watch for this MCQ Trap

Attributing the action to the wrong molecule.

When asked why iodoform acts as an antiseptic, examiners will offer “Iodoform itself” as an option. Make sure to select the **liberation of free iodine**.

A. Action of iodoform itself

B. Liberation of free iodine



Summary

1. The antiseptic action of iodoform (CHI_3) belongs strictly to the **liberation of free iodine**, not the iodoform molecule itself.
2. It was replaced in medical formulations solely due to its **objectionable smell**, not a lack of effectiveness.



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