

**SCHMORL'S METHOD FOR MELANIN**

<b>PURPOSE:</b>	For In Vitro Diagnostic Use: Intended for the qualitative demonstration of melanin.
<b>PRINCIPLE:</b>	Melanin has the ability to reduce the Ferric Ferricyanide Solution to the dark green color. The counterstain differentially stains tissue components by dye size and competition.
<b>CONTROL:</b>	Skin <i>Control Slides can be purchased from Histology Control Systems. See inside back cover, Item# cs008.</i>
<b>SPECIMEN PREPARATION:</b>	Formalin fixed, paraffin embedded sections cut at 6 micrometers
<b>SOLUTIONS:</b>	<p>1. Ferric Chloride 1% Aqueous Item# s2039</p> <p>2. Potassium Ferricyanide 1% Aqueous Item# s2038</p> <p><i>Working Solution: Mix just before use.*</i></p> <p>Ferric Chloride 1% Aqueous..... 150 mL</p> <p>Potassium Ferricyanide 1% .....50 mL</p> <p><i>*Adjust the pH to 2.4 with a few drops of dilute Hydrochloric Acid if necessary.</i></p> <p>3. Van Gieson's Solution Item# s289</p> <p><i>Solutions can be purchased separately from Poly Scientific.</i></p>
<b>NOTES:</b>	
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	Bancroft, J. D. & Stevens, A. <u>Theory and Practice of Histological Techniques</u> . 4th Ed. Churchill Livingstone. New York. 1996. p. 253.

**STAINING PROCEDURE:**

1. Deparaffinize and hydrate to distilled water.
2. Working Iron Potassium Ferricyanide Solution for 3 changes, 7 minutes each.
3. Rinse in distilled water.
4. Counterstain in Van Gieson's Solution for 5 minutes.
5. Dehydrate in 95% Alcohol, Absolute Alcohol and clear in Xylene, 2 changes each.
6. Mount with Poly Mount (Item# s2153) or any other acceptable mounting medium.

**RESULTS:**

Melanin..... Dark Green

Collagen..... Red

Muscle ..... Yellow

*Poly Scientific R&D Corp.*

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