

UNNA'S METHOD FOR MAST CELLS

PURPOSE:	For In Vitro Diagnostic Use: Intended for the qualitative demonstration of mast cells.
PRINCIPLE:	Mast cells stain metachromatically with Methylene Blue allowing their differentiation from other tissue components.
CONTROL:	Trachea, schwannoma tumor <i>Control Slides can be purchased from Histology Control Systems. See inside back cover, Item# cs030.</i>
SPECIMEN PREPARATION:	Formalin fixed, paraffin embedded sections cut at 6 micrometers
SOLUTIONS:	1. Polychrome Methylene Blue Solution Item# s258D 2. Glycerine Ether Solution Item# s199B <u>Working Solution:</u> Glycerine Ether 10 mL Distilled Water 40 mL <i>Solutions can be purchased separately from Poly Scientific.</i>
NOTES:	This stain is especially useful for highly cellular specimens such as lymph node and spleen.
REFERENCE:	Luna, Lee G. <u>Manual of Histologic Staining Methods of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology</u> . 3rd Ed. McGraw-Hill Book Co. New York. 1968. pp. 115-116.

STAINING PROCEDURE:

1. Deparaffinize and hydrate to water.
2. Polychrome Methylene Blue Solution for 10 minutes.
3. Rinse in distilled water.
4. Differentiate in Glycerine Ether Solution, diluted 5-10 times with distilled water for 30 seconds to 1 minute, or until section is medium blue. If over differentiated, return to step 2 and repeat.
5. Wash thoroughly in water for 2-5 minutes then blot with filter paper.
6. Dehydrate rapidly in Absolute Alcohol.
7. Clear in Xylene, 2-3 changes.
8. Mount with Poly Mount (Item# s2153) or any other acceptable mounting medium.

RESULTS:

Mast Cell GranulesPink to Red
 Other Cells.....Greenish Blue

Poly Scientific R&D Corp.

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