Subject: **10% NEUTRAL BUFFERED FORMALIN**

**PURPOSE:** The fixative is a good routine fixative. This solution is hypotonic in buffer ions and has a pH of 6.8

**REAGENTS:**

**10% NEUTRAL BUFFERED FORMALIN** (Purchase through CMS)

- Sodium phosphate, monobasic 4.0 gm
- Sodium phosphate, dibasic 6.5 gm
- Formaldehyde, 37% 100.0 ml
- Distilled water 900.0 ml

Mix well, pH. Label and date.

**CAUTION: CARCINOGENIC**

**SAFETY:** Work in well ventilated area, wear goggles, gloves, and lab coat. Call Safety Services for large spills, use formaldehyde spill kit for small spills of 1000 ml.

Formaldehyde: severe eye and skin irritant. Sensitizer by skin and respiratory contact. Toxic by ingestion and inhalation. Target organ effects on respiratory system. Corrosive. Carcinogen.

Label with FORMALDEHYDE WARNING label.

**FIXATION TIME:** Biopsies should fix for 1-4 hours minimum, longer for larger specimens.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Most specimens in Surgical Pathology are received in formalin.
2. The first two stations on all tissue processors are 10% formalin.
3. Specimens may be retained in 10% formalin indefinitely or transferred to 70% alcohol.

**REFERENCE:**


Prepared: ___________________ By: ____________________________

Approved: __________________ By: ____________________________
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