

Subject:

B-5 FIXATIVE

PURPOSE: B-5 fixative is routinely used for bone marrow biopsies, and on some lymph nodes when lymphomas are suspected.

REAGENTS:

Stock B-5 Solution:

Mercuric chloride	12.0 gm
Sodium acetate	2.5 gm
Distilled water	200.0 ml

Mix well, do not use any metal utensils or foil lined lids, solution is stable for 1 year. Initial and date.

Working Solution:

Stock solution	20.0 ml
Formaldehyde	2.0 ml

Mix immediately before use.

Discard solution according to the hazardous waste regulations.

CAUTION: CARCINOGENIC, IRRITANT, CORROSIVE

SAFETY: Work in well ventilated area, wear gloves, lab coat, and goggles. Mercuric chloride; severe skin and eye irritant. Target organ effects on reproductive, urogenital, respiratory, gastrointestinal and fetal systems via ingestion and inhalation routes. Corrosive to metals.

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.

DISPOSAL: Pour used B-5 fixative in a glass bottle labeled as "B-5 Waste", do not pour down the drain. Follow instructions for WASTE REDUCTION in the Histology SOP Manual. To be disposed of by Safety Services.

FIXATION TIME: 2 to 4 hours, note time on container, do not leave overnight.

PROCEDURE:

1. Retain fixed specimen in 10% formalin or 70% alcohol.
2. Tissue sections that are B-5 fixed contain mercury deposits and must be treated to remove the pigments prior to staining, after deparaffinizing:
 - a) Lugol's iodine: 5 minutes, wash.
 - b) 5% hypo: 5 minutes, wash and stain as desired.

REFERENCE: Sheehan,D and Hrapchak,B: Theory and practice of Histotechnology, 2nd Ed., 1980, pp. 42-43, 46-47, Battelle Press, Ohio
Crookham,J, Dapson,R, Hazardous Chemicals in the Histopathology Laboratory, 2nd ED, 1991, Anatech

Prepared:

By:

Approved:

By:

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SAFETY: Avoid contact and inhalation. Do not pour down the drain, pour used B-5 fixative in a glass bottle labeled as "B-5 Waste".

DATE: _____

TECH: _____

EXPIRATION: _____