

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: Sheehan,D,Hrapchak,B: Theory and practice of Histotechnology, 2nd Ed, 1980, pp.46, Battelle Press, Ohio.

Carson, R, Histotechnology: A Self-Instructional Text, 1st Ed, 1992, pp12-13, ASCP Press

Prepared: _____ By: _____

Approved: _____ By: _____

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