Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous for Fontana Masson Stain - Technical Memo

SOLUTIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOLUTION</th>
<th>ALTERNATIVE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous</td>
<td>Part 13806A or Part 13806B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additionally Needed:

- Melanin Control Slides: Part 4430 or Argentafin Control Slides: Part 4035
- Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS: Part 1006
- Gold Chloride 0.2%, Aqueous: Part 11286
- Sodium Thiosulfate 5%, Aqueous: Part 1389
- Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot: Part 1255
- Xylene, ACS: Part 1445
- Alcohol, Ethyl Denatured, 100%: Part 10841
- Alcohol, Ethyl Denatured, 95%: Part 10842
- Hydrochloric Acid 5%, Aqueous: Part 12086 (for acid cleaning glassware)

For storage requirements and expiration date refer to individual product labels.

APPLICATION:

Newcomer Supply Fontana Masson Stain procedure is used to demonstrate argentafin substances such as melanin, argentafin granules of carcinoid tumors, and some neurosecretory granules. This technique is not specific for melanin and argentafin, and other reducing substances, such as formalin pigment, will also give a positive reaction.

METHOD:

Fixation: Formalin 10%, Phosphate Buffered (Part 1090)

Technique: Paraffin sections cut at 4 microns

Solutions: All solutions are manufactured by Newcomer Supply, Inc.

All Newcomer Supply stain procedures are designed to be used with Coplin jars filled to 40 ml following the provided staining procedure.

PRESTAINING PREPARATION:

1. If necessary, heat dry sections/slides in oven.
2. All glassware/plasticware must be acid cleaned prior to use.
   a. See Procedure Notes #1 and #2.
3. Prepare Fontana Masson Ammoniacal Silver Working Solution in an acid cleaned Erlenmeyer flask:
   a. Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous: 25 ml
   b. Add Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS (1006) drop by drop, mix with swirling motion until solution clears, then clears. Do not add excess Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS.
   c. Add more Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous by drop until clear solution becomes slightly turbid or cloudy. The change is subtle.
   d. Let solution stand 2-4 hours before use.
   e. For use in Step #5; after standing, filter silver solution. Combine 20 ml of filtered silver solution with 40 ml of distilled water; 60 ml total

STAINING PROCEDURE:

4. Deparaffinize sections thoroughly in three changes of xylene, 3 minutes each. Hydrate through two changes each of 100% and 95% ethyl alcohols, 10 dips each. Wash well with distilled water.
   a. See Procedure Notes #3 and #4.
5. Immerse in Fontana Masson Ammoniacal Silver Working Solution (Step #3) in a 45°C to 60°C water bath for 1 hour.
6. Check slides microscopically; remove control, rinse in warm distilled water. Confirm reaction is complete when granules are dark brown and background is colorless.
   a. Return to heated Fontana Silver Working Solution for longer incubation if indicated.
   b. Immerse in Gold Chloride 0.2%, Aqueous (11286); 10 minutes.
   c. Immerse in Sodium Thiosulfate 5%, Aqueous (1389); 5 minutes.
   d. Immerse in Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot (1255) for 5 minutes.
   e. Counterstain in Xylene (1445) or Paraffin coating (Part 4035).

7. Rinse well in three changes of distilled water.
8. Immerse in Gold Chloride 0.2%, Aqueous (11286); 10 minutes.
9. Rinse well in distilled water.
10. Place in Sodium Thiosulfate 5%, Aqueous (1389); 5 minutes.
11. Rinse well in distilled water.
12. Counterstain in Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot (1255) for 5 minutes.
   a. Shake solution well before use; do not filter.
13. Rinse well in distilled water.

   a. See Procedure Note #5.
14. Dehydrate quickly in two changes each of 95% and 100% ethyl alcohol. Clear in three changes of xylene, 10 dips each; coverslip with compatible mounting medium.

RESULTS:

Melanin and argentafin granules
Nuclei
Black
Pink-red

PROCEDURE NOTES:

1. Acid clean all glassware/plasticware (12086) and rinse thoroughly in several changes of distilled water.
2. Plastic (5500), plastic-tipped, or paraffin coated metal forceps must be used with silver solutions to prevent precipitation of silver salts. No metals of any kind should be in contact with silver solutions. Only glass thermometers should be used.
3. Drain slides after each step to prevent solution carry over.
4. Do not allow sections to dry out at any point during procedure.
5. Wash well after Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot to avoid cloudiness in dehydration steps.
6. If using a xylene substitute, closely follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for deparaffinization and clearing steps.

REFERENCES:

3. Modifications developed by Newcomer Supply Laboratory.
Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous for Reticulum, Gordon & Sweets Stain - Technical Memo

**SOLUTIONS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOLUTIONS</th>
<th>250 ml</th>
<th>500 ml</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous</td>
<td>Part 13806A</td>
<td>Part 13806B</td>
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**Additionally Needed:**

- Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS Part 1006
- Potassium Permanganate 1%, Aqueous Part 13393
- Oxalic Acid 5%, Aqueous Part 1293
- Ferric Ammonium Sulfate 2.5%, Aqueous
- Sodium Hydroxide 3%, Aqueous
- Formalin 10%, Phosphate Buffered Part 1090
- Gold Chloride 0.2%, Aqueous Part 11286
- Sodium Thiosulfate 5%, Aqueous Part 1389
- Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot Part 1255
- Xylen, ACS Part 1445
- Alcohol, Ethyl Denatured, 100% Part 10841
- Alcohol, Ethyl Denatured, 95% Part 10842
- Hydrochloric Acid 5%, Aqueous Part 12086 (for acid cleaning glassware)

For storage requirements and expiration date refer to individual product labels.

**APPLICATION:**

Newcomer Supply Reticulum, Gordon & Sweets Stain procedure is a silver staining method for demonstration of reticular fibers; regarded as specialized connective tissue fibers.

**METHOD:**

**Fixation:** Formalin 10%, Phosphate Buffered (Part 1090)

**Technique:** Paraffin sections cut at 4 microns

**Solutions:** All solutions manufactured by Newcomer Supply, Inc.

**PRESTAINING PREPARATION:**

1. If necessary, heat dry tissue sections/slides in oven.
2. All glassware/plasticware must be acid cleaned prior to use.
   a. See Procedure Notes #1 and #2.
   a. Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous; 5 ml
   b. Add Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS (1006) drop by drop, mix with swirling motion until precipitate completely dissolves. Do not add any excess Ammonium Hydroxide.
   c. Add 5 ml of Sodium Hydroxide 3%, Aqueous.
   d. Re-dissolve precipitate with Ammonium Hydroxide 28-30%, ACS drop by drop, mix with swirling motion until a faint silver/gray tinge remains. It is normal for trace precipitate to remain.
   e. If proceeded too far and solution is completely clear, add Silver Nitrate 10%, Aqueous drop by drop, until one drop causes solution to reach silver/gray tinge.
   f. Bring solution volume to 50 ml with distilled water; filter.

**STAINING PROCEDURE:**

4. Deparaffinize sections thoroughly in three changes of xylene, 3 minutes each. Hydrate through two changes each of 100% and 95% ethyl alcohols, 10 dips each. Wash well with distilled water.
   a. See Procedure Notes #3 and #4.
5. Oxidize in Potassium Permanganate 1%, Aqueous (13393) for 3 minutes.
6. Wash in running tap water for 1 minute; rinse in distilled water.
7. Bleach in Oxalic Acid 1%, Aqueous for 2 minutes or until sections are colorless.
   a. Oxalic Acid 5% Aqueous (1293) 10 ml
   b. Distilled water 40 ml
8. Wash in running tap water for 1 minute; rinse in distilled water.
9. Sensitize in Ferric Ammonium Sulfate 2.5%, Aqueous; 10 to 15 minutes.
10. Rinse in several changes of distilled water.
11. Impregnate sections in filtered Silver Ammoniacal Working Solution (Step #3) for 2 minutes.
12. Rinse well in running distilled water for 1 minute.
13. Reduce in Formalin 10%, Phosphate Buffered (1090) for 1 minute.
14. Rinse in running tap water for 3 minutes.
15. Check control microscopically for black reticular fiber development.
   a. See Procedure Note #5.
16. Tone in Gold Chloride 0.2%, Aqueous (11286) for 1-2 minutes.
17. Rinse well in distilled water.
18. Place in Sodium Thiosulfate 5%, Aqueous (1389) for 1 minute.
19. Wash well in tap water for 1 minute; rinse in distilled water.
20. Counterstain with Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot (1255) for 5 minutes.
   a. Shake solution well before use; do not filter.

21. Rinse well in distilled water.
   a. See Procedure Note #6.
22. Quickly dehydrate in two changes each of 95% and 100% ethyl alcohol. Clear in three changes of xylene, 10 dips each; coverslip with compatible mounting medium.

**RESULTS:**

Reticular fibers Black Background Red

**PROCEDURE NOTES:**

1. Acid clean all glassware/plasticware (12086) and rinse thoroughly in several changes of distilled water.
2. Plastic (5500), plastic-tipped or paraffin coated metal forceps must be used with silver solutions to prevent precipitation of silver salts. No metals of any kind should come in contact with silver solutions.
3. Drain slides after each step to prevent solution carry over.
4. Do not allow sections to dry out at any point during procedure.
5. If black reticular fibers are not evident or are lightly/poorly stained, return all slides to Silver Working Solution (Step #11) and repeat Steps 11-14 with the same timings.
6. Wash well after Nuclear Fast Red Stain, Kernechtrot to avoid cloudiness in dehydration steps.
7. If using a xylene substitute, closely follow the manufacturer’s recommendations for deparaffinization and clearing steps.

**REFERENCES:**

3. Modifications developed by Newcomer Supply Laboratory.