



Core Imaging Facility

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TOLUIDINE BLUE
(Staining for Mast Cells)

1. Deparaffinize tissue sections

2. Toluidine blue – 1 to 2 minutes

Prepare a stock and working solution of toluidine blue as follows:

Toluidine Stock: 1.0g toluidine blue O in 100mL 70% EtOH

NaCl Stock: 0.5g NaCl in 50mL distilled water

Working Solution: 5mL toluidine blue stock in 45mL of 1% NaCl

Submerge slides in working solution for 1-2 minutes, depending on desired color.

3. Rinse in dH₂O – 3 changes

Dunk slide in water, change water, and repeat two more times.

4. Dehydrate slides

Run slides through 2-3 quick dips of 95% and 100% EtOH, then 100%EtOH: Xylene. Allow slides to sit 1-3 minutes in 3 successive treatments of Xylene.

5. Coverslip

Use Permout, or any Xylene-based mounting medium of your choice.

Working solution should be discarded after use, but stock solution is stable for 6 months at room temperature.