P.O. Box 3286 - Logan, Utah 84323, U.S.A. - Tel. (800) 729-8350 – Tel. (435) 755-9848 - Fax (435) 755-0015 - www.scytek.com

Fontana-Masson Stain Kit

(For Argentaffin Cells and Melanin)

Description: The Fontana-Masson Stain Kit is intended for use in the histological visualization of Argentaffin cells and Melanin in paraffin or frozen sections. In addition, the Fontana-Masson stain has been reported to be useful in identifying Capsule-Deficient Cryptococcus Neoformans and typical Cryptococcus Neoformans.

Argentaffin Cells:	Black
Melanin:	Black
Cryptococci Cell Wall:	Black
Nuclei:	Red
Cytoplasm:	Light Pink

Uses/Limitations:
Not to be taken internally.
For In-Vitro Diagnostic use only.
Histological applications.
Do not use past expiration date.
Use caution when handling reagents.
Non-Sterile.

Control Tissue: Any paraffin embedded tissue that contains Hair Follicles or Skin for Melanin.
Small Intestine for Argentaffin.

Availability/Contents:

Item #	Kit Contents	Volume	Storage
GCB030	Gold Chloride Solution (0.2%)	30 ml	2-8° Centigrade
SNX009	Silver Nitrate Solution (10%)	2 x 9ml	2-8° Centigrade
STB030	Sodium Thiosulfate Solution (5%)	30 ml	Room Temperature
NFS030	Nuclear Fast Red Solution	30 ml	Room Temperature

Precautions:
Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
Harmful if swallowed.
Follow all Federal, State, and local regulations regarding disposal.
Use in chemical fume hood whenever possible.

Storage: 2° C 25° C
Mixed Storage Conditions.
Separate Contents.
Doc: IFU-TemplateMixedStoragerev2

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Preparation of Reagent Prior to Beginning:

Prepare **Ammoniacal Silver Solution** immediately prior to use.

In new or chemically cleaned glassware, mix 27ml Distilled/Deionized water with one vial of Silver Nitrate Solution (10%) and blend completely. Carefully add Concentrated Ammonium hydroxide (25-30%) (Not included) one drop at a time, swirling gently after each drop. Initially the mixture will turn dark brown and then gradually become transparent with a fine layer of sediment. The solution is ready for immediate use when all sediment dissolves.

Procedure (Standard):

1. Deparaffinize sections if necessary and hydrate to distilled water.
2. Place freshly mixed Ammoniacal Silver Solution in a 58-60°C waterbath and allow adequate time for temperature to equalize.
3. Incubate slide in warmed Ammoniacal Silver Solution for 30-60 minutes or until tissue section becomes yellowish/brown in color. (**NOTE**: Melanin typically stains in 30 minutes while Argentaffin stains in 50-60 minutes)
4. Rinse in several changes of distilled water.
5. Incubate slide in Gold Chloride Solution (0.2%) for 30 seconds.
6. Rinse in several changes of distilled water.
7. Incubate slide in Sodium Thiosulfate Solution (5%) for 1-2 minutes.
8. Rinse for 2 minutes in running tap water followed by 2 changes of distilled water.
9. Incubate slide in Nuclear Fast Red Solution for 5 minutes.
10. Rinse for 2 minutes in running tap water followed by 2 changes of distilled water.
11. Dehydrate very quickly in 3 changes of fresh Absolute Alcohol.
12. Clear, and mount in synthetic resin.

References:

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3. Kimura, M., et al. Fontana-Masson – stained tissue from culture-proven mycoses. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine. 1998, December; 122(12): page 11.
4. Lazcano, O., et al. Combined Fontana-Masson-Mucin staining of Cryptococcus neoformans. Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine. 1991, November; 115(11): pages 1145-1149.
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