

Clarke Fixative

Introduction

Fixatives are primarily classified into aldehyde-based, mercury-based, alcohol-based, oxidizing agent-based, and picrate salt-based fixatives. Among these, the most commonly used are formaldehyde (an aldehyde) and ethanol (an alcohol).

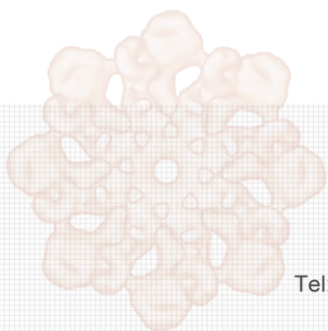
Clarke's fixative, also known as Clarke's solution, is a precipitating fixative. After fixation, it preserves good histological morphology for H&E staining. Its advantage is that it protects nucleic acids, but it is not suitable for fixation prior to fat staining. It is intended for short-term fixation; after fixation, tissues should be transferred to 95% ethanol.

Protocol

1. Operate according to the specific requirements of the experiment.
2. Fixation typically requires only 30–60 minutes.
3. If tissue blocks are large, the fixation time can be appropriately extended, but should not exceed 24 hours. After fixation, transfer the tissue to 95% ethanol.

Note

1. Primary use: Preserves good histological morphology for H&E staining after fixation.
2. Fixation time varies depending on the thickness of the tissue section. Selecting appropriately sized tissue facilitates fixative penetration.
3. A sufficient volume of fixative should be used. Generally, the volume ratio of fixative to tissue block should exceed 10:1. If the volume is insufficient, the fixative can be replaced 1–3 times during the fixation period.
4. Fresh tissue should be fixed promptly after removal. If immediate fixation is not possible, the tissue should be stored in physiological saline and sent for examination as soon as possible.
5. Storage and transport conditions: Store protected from light; effective for 6 months. Transport at room temperature.
6. This product is for research use only.



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