

DIFF-QUIK STAINING AND DESTAINING PROCEDURES

I. PRINCIPLE

- A. The Diff-Quik stain is a modified Wright-Geimsa stain which had been used as a hematology stain for blood films, but has become a valuable stain for the evaluation of air-dried cytologic material.
- B. The Diff-Quik stain enables the cytopathologist to detect eosinophils, basophils, inclusion bodies, mast cells and cytoplasmic differentiation that might go unnoticed in the standard Papanicolaou stained material.

II. SPECIMEN

Specimens for the Diff-Quik stain are air-dried smears or cytopins.

III. REAGENTS

- A. Diff-Quik Fixative (or methanol)
- B. Diff-Quik Solution I
- C. Diff-Quik Solution II

IV. PREPARATION OF REAGENTS

All reagents are commercially prepared and obtained from Government Scientific Source (GSS).

All reagents are dated and initialed by the technologist when received and first opened.

V. PROCEDURES

Wear a lab coat, gloves and goggles

A. Diff-Quik Staining*:

1. Completely air-dry smears and cytopins.
2. Place in fixative for a minimum of 15 dips.
3. Solution I for 15-20 dips.
4. Solution II for 10-20 dips.
5. Rinse gently in tap water until excess stain is removed.
6. Allow slides to dry completely.
7. Dip in xylene and mount or mount slide dry without xylene.
- 8*. **For EasyIII Diff Quik Stain only**, dip in fixative, Solution I and Solution II, **5 dips each**.

B. Diff-Quik Destaining and Restaining:

1. Gently remove coverslip in xylene and soak slide in xylene to remove all mounting medium.
2. Completely air dry slide.
3. Place slide in Diff-Quik Fixative until stain is gone (this varies from 10 dips to 45 minutes).
4. Restain slide with Solutions I and II as usual.

VI. REFERENCE

Gill, G., and Plowden, K., Laboratory Cytopathology: Techniques for Specimen Preparation. Baltimore MD: Johns Hopkins Univ.; p. 8-25.

Azer Scientific EasyIII Insert Sheet; Item ES902. Morgantown, PA: Azer Scientific; p.1 of 1.

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Revised: _____ Date: _____