

Staining a blood smear or cytospin with Wright's-Giemsa Stain

(Greg A. Perry, Ph.D. - updated 11/02)

Equipment

Glass Slide with cells
Pasteur pipette

Reagents

Methanol
Wright's-Giemsa Stain
Phosphate buffered saline
Distilled water

Method

- 1) Smear cells on slide and allow to air dry.
- 2) Flood slide with methanol and fix sample for 1 minute.
- 3) Add approximately 0.5 ml of Wright's-Giemsa stain and allow to stain for 2 minutes.
- 4) Add approximately 1 ml of PBS (pH \cong 6.8) and mix with stain by blowing on the slide.
- 5) Allow to stain for an additional 4 minutes.
- 6) Wash slide thoroughly with distilled water.
- 7) Allow to air dry before examination.