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| **Benchmark Special Stainer** | | | |
| **Purpose** | To provide working guidelines for the operation of the Benchmark Special Stainer. | | |
| **Policy Statements** | This procedure applies to Histology Technical staff performing special stains. | | |
| **Principle** | The Benchmark special stains instrument performs special staining on up to 20 slides at a time using only 200 μl of reagent. Bar code technology is used and times vary depending on protocols chosen. | | |
| **Materials** | **Reagents** | | **Supplies** |
|  | * Special Stain kits * Special Stain wash * Liquid CoverSlip LCS * Depar Solution | | * Coverslips * Mounting media   + Ebar slide label printer   + Drying oven   + Ventana NexES stainer |
| **Sample** | FFPE tissue sections  B+ fixed paraffin embedded tissue sections  Cytospin slides | | |
| **Quality Control** | Positive controls are run with each stain or batch of stains. All control slides are reviewed for reactivity and documented on the Histology Request form.  All reagents and solutions must be properly labeled with the following elements:   1. content and quantity, concentration or titer 2. storage requirements 3. date prepared 4. expiration date | | |
| **Procedure** |  | | |
|  | **Step** | **Action** | |
|  | 1 | Dry slides at 65-70º C for 25 minutes | |
|  | 2 | Create label with stain and patient information | |
|  | 3 | Click on “protocols” button on top-right, choose instrument | |
|  | 4 | Highlight and click desired stain protocols to add to print list | |
|  | 5 | After adding all necessary protocols, click “close/print” button at bottom right | |
|  | 6 | Enter accession number and patient name for each barcode and click “print” | |
|  | 7 | After all barcode labels are printed, press “feed” button on Ebar printer  Tear off labels—pull up | |
|  | 8 | Remove paper from protective cover, fold over label and  place barcode label squarely on slide | |
|  | 9 | Squirt special stain wash on to slide plate and place slides on the instrument, ensuring the slide hits all four posts | |
|  | 10 | Remove caps from the reagents and place on instrument carousel | |
|  | 11 | Click on “run” button at bottom right | |
|  | 12 | Enter the number of slides | |
|  | 13 | For delay runs, click in the box for “delayed start”. Enter the day and time you want the run to stop | |
|  | 14 | Click “start run” | |
| **Completion of Run Process** | * Lift lid * Remove slides and place into stain rack * Rinse slides in water, then 95% alcohol, then 2 changes of 100% alcohol * Dip in Xylene and coverslip | | |
| **Result Reporting** | By Pathologist | | |
| **References** | Benchmark User Guide | | |

**Historical Record**

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| Version | Revised by | Effective Date | Summary of Revisions |
| 1 |  |  | Initial version. |
| 2 | A. Dubbelde | 6/27/19 | Update format, add version, and update from NexES to Benchmark Stainer. |
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