

 Stanton Territorial Hospital P.O. Box 10, 550 Byrne Road YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2N1	Document Name: Gram Stain Job Aid	Document Number: MIC20120
	Distribution: Microbiology Microscopy Manual	Date Issued: September 19, 2022

Performing the gram stain:

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a slide of the sample and allow to dry
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place slide on the slide warmer in the BSC until dry
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix smear with methanol for 1 minute • Leave for 1 minute and decant • Allow the slide to air dry again
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood smear with crystal violet • Leave for 1 minute and decant • Rinse slide gently with running tap water
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood the smear with Gram's iodine • Leave for 1 minute and decant • Rinse slide gently with running tap water
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decolourize by letting the decolourizing reagent flow over the smear • Rinse slide gently with running tap water
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood smear with safranin • Leave for 1 minute and decant • Rinse slide gently with running tap water
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place slides in a slide holder and allow to drip dry • Stained slides may be placed in the O₂ incubator

NOTE: This is a controlled document for internal use only. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should be checked against electronic version prior to use.