

## ALCIAN BLUE STAIN pH 2.5 PROCEDURE

Item# STABL2.5

(Revised 04/28/11)

**PRINCIPLE:** This stain demonstrates carboxylated and sulfated mucosubstances (except strongly sulfated mucosubstances) and acidic mucins.

**SPECIMEN:** Any well fixed paraffin embedded tissue cut at 4 to 5 microns.

**QUALITY CONTROL:** American MasterTech Recommended Control Slides:  
Colon, CSC1025P; Small Intestine, CSS0325P

**SOLUTION:**

**3% ACETIC ACID:**

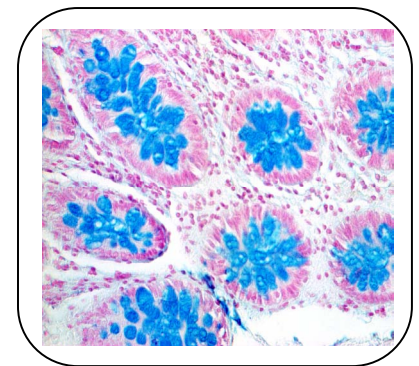
Glacial Acetic Acid ..... 3 ml.  
Distilled Water ..... 97 ml.  
(Mix components thoroughly before use.)

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Deparaffinize slide using Xylene or a Xylene Substitute and hydrate through alcohols.
2. Rinse slide in running Tap water.
3. Rinse slide in Distilled water.
4. Place slide in **3% Acetic Acid** for 3 minutes.
5. Without rinsing, place slide in **Alcian Blue Stain pH 2.5** for 30 minutes.
6. Rinse slide quickly in running Tap water.
7. Place slide in **Nuclear Fast Red Stain** for 5 minutes.
8. Rinse slide in running Tap water for 1 minute.
9. Dehydrate slide through 3 changes of Absolute Alcohol.
10. Clear slide through 3 changes of Xylene or Xylene Substitute.
11. Coverslip using a permanent mounting media.

**RESULTS:**

Acid mucins; carboxylated and sulfated mucosubstances: **BLUE**  
Nuclei: **PINK TO RED**  
Cytoplasm and Background: **PALE PINK**



Normal Human Colon

**REFERENCE:** Sheehan DC Hrapchak BB: Theory and Practice of Histotechnology; 1980; 172 - 173.

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