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A polarized cell system amenable to subcellular resolution imaging of influenza virus infection

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We use this protocol and it's working

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Grant ID: ANR-10-LABX-62-IBEID



Abstract

This protocol details a polarized cell system amenable to subcellular resolution imaging of influenza virus infection.

Attachments



A polarized cell sys...

40KB

Materials

Plastic consumables

	A	B	C
	1 mL micropipettes	Eppendorf	861172
	1.5 mL Eppendorf tube	Eppendorf	0030125150
	100mm diameter culture dish	Corning	353003
	15 mL tube	Falcon	352097
	6-well plate	Falcon	353047
	12-well plate	Falcon	353043
	24-well plate	Falcon	353046
	Rubber pad	Applied Biosystems	N8010550

Cell culture reagents:

	A	B	C
	PBS (CaCl ₂ -)	Gibco	14190
	DMEM 1X (+) 4.5g/L D-Glucose L-Glutamine (-) pyruvate	Gibco	41965
	Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS) qualified	Gibco	10437
	Penicillin streptomycin	Gibco	15140
	Trypsin-EDTA 1X 0.05%	Gibco	25300
	Gelrite	Sigma	G1910
	Cytodex 3 microcarrier beads	Sigma	C3275

Cell culture medium

D10 medium: DMEM medium supplemented with 10% FBS, 100 U/mL penicillin, 100 µg/ml streptomycin

Reagents for electron microscopy

	A	B	C
	Paraformaldehyde solution	Euromedex	15714
	Glutaraldehyde solution Grade I	Sigma	G5882-10
	Osmium tetroxide	Euromedex	3000154760
	Uranyl acetate	Electron Microscopy Science	22400
	Ethanol absolute	Fisher scientific	10680993
	Epoxy resin	LFG	14901
	Lead citrate	Delta microscopies	11300
	HEPES	ThermoFisher Scientific	15630080
	DMP30	LFG	13600
	Tannic acid	Sigma	1401-55-4
	Potassium ferricyanide	Sigma	14459-95-1
	EGTA	Fisher Scientific	11514736
	PIPES	Sigma	P6757
	PBS	Fisher scientific	12559069
	Toluidine blue	Fluka AG	89640
	PHEM Buffer	Delta microscopies	GT-140174

Epoxy resin solution for electron microscopy:

- Mix Epon (166 mL), DDSA (100 mL) and NMA (84 mL) slowly for 20 min, avoid bubbles.
- Add 170 µl of DMP30 to 10 mL of the Epoxy resin solution extemporaneously before embedding.

Equipment for electron microscopy:

	A	B	C
	Fine forceps Dumont, Style 7	EMS	72801-D
	Electronic balance	Mettler toledo	ME2002
	Razor blade (single Edge Carbon Steel)	EMS	71960
	Incubator	Memmert	N/A
	ultramicrotome	Leica	UC7

A	B	C
Formvar carboned grids 200 Mesh	EMS	FCF200-Cu-50
Diamon knife Histo 45° 8mm	LFG - Diatome	N/A
Diamon knife Ultra 45° 3mm	LFG - Diatome	N/A
Glass slide	Fisher scientific	10090431
Transmission electron microscope	ThermoFisher	Technai Biotwin T12
Stereomicroscope	Leica	N/A
Hotplate	Sartorius	N/A
Ashless quantitative filter paper (55mm)	Whatman	140055

Reagents for confocal microscopy:

A	B	C
Paraformaldehyde 32% w/v	Thermo scientific	47377
NH ₄ Cl	Sigma	213330
Tween 20	Sigma	P1379
Triton X100	Sigma	T9284
Antifade mounting medium	Vectashield	H-1000
DAPI	ThermoScientific	62248
Normal donkey serum	Merck	S30
Normal goat serum	Merck	S26
Gelatin from cold water fish skin	Sigma	G7765

Buffers for confocal microscopy:

- Blocking buffer: 5% donkey serum, 3% goat serum, 0.25% fish skin gelatin, 0.2% Triton X100
- Immuno-staining buffer: 5% donkey serum, 3% goat serum, 0.125% fish skin gelatin, 0.2% Triton X100

Primary Antibodies for confocal microscopy:

	A	B	C
	Mouse monoclonal anti Influenza A NP clone AA5H	BIO-RAD	MCA400 (1:500)
	Rabbit polyclonal anti MPP5/PALS-1	Proteintech	17710-1-AP (1:500)
	Mouse monoclonal anti ZO-1, clone 1A12	Invitrogen	33-9100 (1:100)
	Rabbit polyclonal anti RAB11A	Invitrogen	71-5300 (1:100)

Secondary Antibodies for confocal microscopy:

	A	B	C
	Goat anti mouse IgG Alexa Fluor555	Invitrogen	A-21424
	Donkey anti rabbit IgG Alexa Fluor488	Invitrogen	A-21206
	Donkey anti-rabbit IgG Alexa Fluor594	Invitrogen	A-21207
	Goat anti-mouse IgG Atto 647N	Merck	50185

Equipment for confocal microscopy:

	A	B	C
	Cell strainer 70µm Nylon	Corning	431751
	Secure-seal spacer one well	Invitrogen	S24735
	Slides Superfrost Plus Adhesion	Epredia	J1800AMNZ
	Coverslips	Epredia	CB00130RAC20MNZO
	Wheel	Fisherbrand	88861050
	TCS SP8 scanning confocal microscope	Leica	N/A

Softwares and algorithms:

	A	B	C
	TIA	ThermoFisher	N/A

	A	B	C
	Image J	NIH	N/A
	LasX	Leica	N/A
	Imaris	Oxford Instruments	N/A

✕ Eppendorf Tubes® 3810X **Eppendorf Catalog #0030125150**

✕ Falcon® 100 mm TC-treated Cell Culture Dish, 20/Pack, 200/Case, Sterile **Corning Catalog #353003**

✕ Falcon 15mL Conical Centrifuge Tubes **Corning Catalog #352097**

✕ Falcon® 24-well Clear Flat Bottom TC-treated Multiwell Cell Culture Plate, with Lid, Sterile, 50/Cas **Corning Catalog #353047**

✕ Falcon® 12-well Clear Flat Bottom TC-treated Multiwell Cell Culture Plate, with Lid, Individually Wr **Corning Catalog #353043**

✕ Falcon® 6-well Clear Flat Bottom TC-treated Multiwell Cell Culture Plate, with Lid, Individually Wra **Corning Catalog #353046**

✕ 1x DPBS **Gibco - Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #14190144**

✕ Fetal Bovine Serum **Gibco - Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #10437028**

✕ Penicillin-Streptomycin **Gibco - Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #15140122**

✕ 0.05% Trypsin-EDTA (1X) **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #25300-054**

✕ Gelzan™ CM **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #G1910**

✕ Cytodex® 3 microcarrier beads **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #C3275**

✕ Paraformaldehyde 32% (methanol free) **Electron Microscopy Sciences Catalog #15714**

✕ Glutaraldehyde solution **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #G5882**

✕ Ethanol 99%+, Absolute, Extra Pure, SLR, Fisher Chemical™ **Fisher Scientific Catalog #10680993**

✕ Lead Citrate (Reynolds) **Delta Microscopies Catalog #11300**

✕ HEPES 1M **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #15630080**

✕ Tannic acid **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #1401-55-4**

✕ Potassium hexacyanoferrate(II) trihydrate **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog # 14459-95-1**

✕ Invitrogen™ EGTA, Tetra(acetoxymethyl Ester) (EGTA, AM) **Fisher Scientific Catalog #11514736**

✕ PIPES **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #P6757**

✕ Gibco™ DPBS, no calcium, no magnesium **Fisher Scientific Catalog #12559069**

✕ Paraformaldehyde, 32% w/v aq. soln., methanol free, Thermo Scientific Chemicals **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #047377.9L**

















- ✕ Ammonium chloride **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #213330**
- ✕ Tween 20 **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #P1379**
- ✕ Triton X-100 **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #T9284**
- ✕ VECTASHIELD Mounting Medium **Vector Laboratories Catalog #H-1000**
- ✕ DAPI **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #62248**
- ✕ Donkey Serum, 100 ml **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #S30-M**
- ✕ Goat Serum, 100 ml **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #S26-100ML**
- ✕ Gelatin from cold water fish skin **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #G7765**
- ✕ Influenza A Nucleoprotein antibody | AA5H **Bio-Rad Laboratories Catalog #MCA400**
- ✕ MPP5 Polyclonal antibody **Proteintech Catalog #17710-1-AP**
- ✕ ZO-1 Monoclonal Antibody (ZO1-1A12) **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #33-9100**
- ✕ RAB11A Polyclonal Antibody **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #71-5300**
- ✕ Goat anti-Mouse IgG (H L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor™ 555 **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #A-21424**
- ✕ Donkey anti-Rabbit IgG (H L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor™ 488 **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #A-21206**
- ✕ Donkey anti-Rabbit IgG (H L) Highly Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, Alexa Fluor™ 594 **Thermo Fisher Scientific Catalog #A-21207**
- ✕ Anti-Mouse-IgG - Atto 647N antibody produced in goat **Merck MilliporeSigma (Sigma-Aldrich) Catalog #50185**
- ✕ Corning® cell strainer **Corning Catalog #CLS431751-50EA**
- ✕ Secure-Seal®; Spacer, one well, 13 mm diameter, 0.12 mm deep **Thermo Fisher Catalog #S24735**


Troubleshooting



SEEDING AND POLARIZATION OF CACO-2/TC7 CELLS ON CYTODEX 3 BEADS 15m













- 1 Prepare the repellent layer and seed the Caco-2/TC7 cells
 - 1.1 Dissolve the Gelrite solution (0.8% Gelrite + 0.1% $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ w/v in PBS) in the microwave oven.
 - 1.2 Distribute the Gelrite solution ( 2.5 mL /well) in a 35 mm dish or a well of a 6-well plate. Let it solidify and cool down at  Room temperature for about  00:10:00 . 10m
 - 1.3 Wash a 100 mm diameter culture dish of subconfluent Caco-2/TC7 cells with  5 mL of PBS. 
 - 1.4 Add  1 mL of trypsin and incubate  00:05:00 at  37 °C . 5m


 - 1.5 Add  9 mL of DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum, 100 U/mL penicillin and 100 µg/mL streptomycin (D10 medium). Pipet up and down to homogenize the cell suspension.
 - 1.6 Count the cells. Prepare  2 mL of a cell suspension at $2,25 \times 10^5$ cells/mL.
 - 1.7 Add  50 µL of the Cytodex 3 suspension (~1500 beads/50 µL) to the cell suspension, mix gently and add to the Gelrite layer. Place into the cell incubator onto a rubber pad to attenuate the incubator's vibrations. 
- 2 The next day, homogenize the beads suspension by gently pipetting up and down 5x with a 1000 µL pipetman tip, place them back in the cell incubator.
- 3 After three days, filter out the non-attached cells
 - 3.1 Place a 70 µm cell strainer over a 50 mL tube.



- 3.2 Collect the beads suspension and pass it through the cell strainer. Discard the flow-through.
- 3.3 Flip the filter with sterile tweezers over the Gelrite layer, add  2 mL of fresh D10 medium on the top of the flipped filter to recover the beads. 
- 3.4 Change the medium twice a week by removing the medium carefully while leaving the beads at the surface of the Gelrite layer, and replacing it with fresh D10 medium. Keep going for 10-15 days.

INFLUENZA A VIRUS INFECTION (in a BSL2+ laboratory)

1h

- 4 Transfer the Cytodex beads from the Gelrite layer to a 15mL tube. Let them sediment at the bottom of the tube.
- 5 Remove gently the medium, add  1 mL of prewarmed ( 37 °C) DMEM for washing, and let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. 
- 6 Repeat the washing step once, then transfer the beads to a 1.5mL tube.
- 7 Let the beads sediment and remove gently the medium, resuspend the beads in  250 µL of a suspension of Influenza A virus (A/WSN/1933(H1N1)) at a high titer. Given the estimated numbers of ~ 1500 beads/sample and ~400 cells/bead, a ~2,5 x10⁷ PFU/mL titre will lead to an MOI of ~10 PFU/cell.
- 8 Incubate the beads at  37 °C for  01:00:00 , and gently tap the tube with fingertip every 15 mn to resuspend the beads. 
- 9 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube, remove the viral inoculum, add  1 mL of PBS for washing and let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. 
- 10 Remove the PBS, add  1 mL of DMEM supplemented with 2% FBS, resuspend the beads and place them in a well of a 12-well culture plate. Place the plate in a cell incubator at  37 °C for the selected period of time (typically, 2-6 hours to investigate early stages of the viral life cycle, 8-24 hours to investigate late stages). 



CONFOCAL IMAGING

6h

11 Fix the cells

- 11.1 Remove the medium carefully while leaving the beads at the bottom of the well. Resuspend the beads in 250µL of PBS-4% PFA. Incubate at room temperature for

00:20:00 .

20m

- 11.2 Transfer the beads suspension in a 1.5mL tube. Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the PBS-4% PFA, add 1mL of PBS for washing, and let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube.

- 11.3 Repeat the washing step twice, then transfer the beads to a 1.5mL tube.

Note

At this stage, the sample can be considered no-longer infectious and can therefore be manipulated outside the BSL2+ facility.

- 11.4 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove the PBS and add 1mL of PBS-50mM NH₄Cl for 10 minutes at room temperature, to quench the residual PFA.

- 11.5 Wash the beads 2x with 1mL PBS as described above.

12 Immunostain the cells

- 12.1 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove the PBS and add 500 µL of the blocking buffer. Place the tube on a spinning wheel at 4 °C for 01:00:00 , with a rotation speed of 15 rpm .

1h
























- 12.2 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove the blocking buffer and add 250 µL of the primary antibody diluted in the immuno-staining buffer. Place the tube on a spinning wheel at 4 °C Overnight , with a rotation speed of 15 rpm .

1h





- 12.3 The next day, wash the beads 3x with  1 mL of PBS-0.05% Tween 20 as described above. 
- 12.4 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove the PBS-0.05% Tween 20 and add  250 μ L of the secondary antibody diluted in the immunostaining buffer. Place the tube on a spinning wheel at  4 °C for  02:00:00 , with a rotation speed of  15 rpm . 
 
- 12.5 Wash the beads 2x with  1 mL of PBS- 0.05% Tween 20 as described above. 
- 12.6 Wash the beads 2x with  1 mL of PBS as described above. 
- 12.7 Wash the beads 2x with  1 mL of distilled water as described above. 
- 12.8 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube and remove the water. Use a very thin 10 μ L pipetman tip to remove residual water and to dry out the beads pellet. Immediately add  50 μ L of Vectashield mounting medium over the beads pellet, avoiding the formation of bubbles. 
- 12.9 Gently tap the tube with fingertip to resuspend the beads.
- 12.10 Place an adhesive secure-seal spacer on a clean glass microscope slide.
- 12.11 Cut the extremity of 200 μ L pipetman tip to widen it, gently pipet out the beads resuspended in Vectashield mounting medium, avoiding the formation of bubbles. Drop them at the center of the spacer on the glass microscope slide.
- 12.12 Cover the drop with a sterile #1.5 round glass microscope coverslip. Protect from light and let at  Room temperature  Overnight and seal with nail polish. 

- 13 Acquire confocal images.









- 13.1 Select the 40x NA 1,3 oil immersion objective and apply appropriate oil.
- 13.2 Install sample on the slide holder of the microscope.
- 13.3 Create the lightpath configuration corresponding to the staining used. Create three imaging sequence:
 1. DAPI : Excitation 405 nm, Emission : 416-501 nm
 2. PALS-1 : Excitation 598 nm, Emission : 608-643 nm
 3. NP : Excitation 646 nm, Emission : 656-705 nm
- 13.4 Find your sample, adjust focus.
- 13.5 Laser power and gain settings will be set according to the intensity of the labelling in order not to saturate the signal.
- 13.6 Define your Z-stack by selecting the top and the bottom of your sample. Define Z step size to 0,35 μm .
- 13.7 Set acquisition parameters: Set frame size to 1024×1024 pixels (0,3 μm /pixel), scan speed to 400 Hz in a bi-directional mode.
- 13.8 Start image acquisition.
- 14 Acquire confocal images at high magnification.
 - 14.1 Select the HC PL APO 93x NA 1,3 glycerol immersion objective and apply appropriate glycerol.
 - 14.2 Install sample on the slide holder of the microscope.
 - 14.3 Adapt the motorized objective collar to match the sample index, using reflection mode in XZY mode.



- 14.4 Create the lightpath configuration corresponding to the staining used. Create three imaging sequence:
 1. Atto 647N : Excitation 670 nm, Emission : 654-719 nm
 2. AlexaFluor 594 : Excitation 594 nm, Emission : 604-641 nm
 3. Stargreen : Excitation 470 nm, Emission : 505-561 nm
- 14.5 Find your sample, adjust focus.
- 14.6 Laser power and gain settings will be set according to the intensity of the labelling in order not to saturate the signal. HyD detectors are used to favor sensitivity.
- 14.7 Define your Z-stack by selecting the top and the bottom of your sample. Define Z step size to 0,18 μm .
- 14.8 Set acquisition parameters: scan speed to 400 Hz in a bi-directional mode, Frame Average2. Adapt zoom, matrix size and Z step to be in ideal sampling (here pixel size 85 nm).

ELECTRON MICROSCOPY IMAGING





































1d 12h 5m 20s

- 15 Fix the cells.
- 15.1 Remove the medium carefully while leaving the beads at the bottom of the well. Resuspend the beads in  250 μL of PBS-3% PFA-0.1% glutaraldehyde. Leave at  4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$  Overnight .  2h
- 15.2 Transfer the beads suspension in a 1.5mL tube. Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the PBS-3% PFA-0.1% glutaraldehyde, add  250 μL of PHEM-2.5% glutaraldehyde. Leave at  4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for  24:00:00 .  1d

Note

At this stage, the sample can be considered no-longer infectious and can therefore be manipulated outside the BSL2+ facility.



- 15.3 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the PHEM-2.5% glutaraldehyde, add  1 mL of PHEM, incubate for  00:05:00 at  Room temperature .   
- 15.4 Repeat the PHEM washing 2x.
- 16 Perform uranyl acetate staining.
- 16.1 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the PHEM, add  250 μ L of the PHEM-1% Osmium tetroxide-1.5% potassium ferrocyanide post-fixation buffer. Incubate for  01:00:00 at  Room temperature .   
- 16.2 Wash 3x in PHEM as described above. 
- 16.3 Wash 3x in filtered distilled water, with 5 mn incubation times as described above. 
- 16.4 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the water, add  250 μ L of water supplemented with 0.2% tannic acid. Incubate  00:30:00 at  Room temperature .   
- 16.5 Wash 3x in filtered distilled water, with  00:05:00 incubation times as described above.   
- 16.6 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the water, add  250 μ L of water supplemented with 2% osmium. Incubate  00:30:00 at  Room temperature .   
- 16.7 Wash 3x in filtered distilled water, with  00:05:00 incubation times as described above.  
- 16.8 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the water, add  250 μ L of 25% ethanol in water (v/v)- 1% Uranyl Acetate. Incubate  01:00:00 at 



Room temperature (protect from light).



17 Embed the samples.

17.1 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove gently the uranyl acetate solution. Add 1 mL of 50% Ethanol in water (v/v). Incubate 00:05:00 at Room temperature .

5m



17.2 Repeat step 16.8 with 75% ethanol in water (v/v).

17.3 Repeat step 16.8 with 100 % ethanol.

17.4 Prepare the Epoxy resin at Room temperature .
(<https://www.emsdiasum.com/docs/technical/datasheet/14120>).

17.5 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube and remove gently the ethanol with a micropipette.

17.6 Add 200 μL of Epoxy resin onto the beads and homogenize slowly with back-and-forth movements with the micropipette.



17.7 Let the beads sediment at the bottom of the tube. Remove 150 μL of Epoxy resin and add 150 μL of fresh Epoxy resin.



17.8 Wait 03:00:00 of impregnation time with the tubes open under the chemical hood.




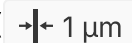
3h

17.9 Incubate Overnight at Room temperature to allow polymerization of the resin.



3h



18 Section the samples with an ultramicrotome.

- 18.1 Use a fresh blade to trim away excess resin from the block underneath the embedded compound eye under the stereomicroscope. Shape the upper part into an equilateral trapezoid, and shape the lower part into a square base.
 - 18.2 Place the shaped block into the chuck on the ultramicrotome and tighten it firmly.
 - 18.3 Place the HISTO diamond sectioning knife on the sectioning knife holder stage on the ultramicrotome.
 - 18.4 Add a little excess water to the groove of the diamond sectioning knife to make it convex and stop when the full length of the diamond blade is soaked. 
 - 18.5 Gently draw a portion of the water under the microscope with a syringe or Pasteur pipette. Adjust the lighting system so that when the liquid surface becomes concave, a curved surface reflecting light can be seen, which is the correct liquid surface and appears white under the microscope.  
- Note**
- As the liquid evaporates during sectioning, distilled water should be added to ensure the correct liquid level.
- 18.6 Adjust the knife angle so that the two parallel sides of the trapezoid sample are parallel to the blade.
 - 18.7 Move the knife to align the available part with the block surface.
 - 18.8 Raise the block until it stops slightly above the knife blade.
 - 18.9 Set parameters in the control panel: feed of 1000 nm, speed of 1 mm/s, thickness 1 μm . Start the automated movement of the ultramicrotome specimen arm.
 - 18.10 Cut semi-thin sections ( 1 μm thick). The sections float on the water in the bowl of the HISTO diamond knife.
 - 18.11 Collect the sections in a drop of water with a handle and place them on a glass slide.



18.12 Stain the semi-thin sections by adding a drop of  50 μL of toluidine blue (5% p/v) on the sections and incubating the samples 2 mn on a hot plate ( 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$).



18.13 Look at the stained semi-thin sections on the glass slide with a photonic microscope. Repeat the steps 18.4 to 18.9 until an area of interest with beads is observed.

18.14 Halt sectioning and replace the HISTO diamond knife with an Ultra 45° diamond knife. Fill the knife reservoir with fresh distilled water. Adjust the liquid level and sectioning parameters: feed of 70 nm, speed of 1 mm/s.

18.15 Cut ultrathin sections (70 nm thick). The sections float on the water in the bowl of the Ultra 45° diamond knife.

18.16 Carefully collect 2 sections on a carboned grids.


18.17 Place the grids with thin sections into the transmission electron microscope sample box.

19 Staining of ultrathin sections.



19.1 Prepare a parafilm of 15 cm in width and place it on a delimited radioactive area, with the clean surface of the parafilm on the upper side.

19.2 For each grid, add one drop (about  100 μL) of water supplemented with 4% Uranyl Acetate, filtered (0.22 μm), on the parafilm.



19.3 Place gently the grid (section side) on the droplet surface and let it stand for  00:40:00 . Protect it from light.

40m


19.4 For each grid, add three drops (about  200 μL) of distilled water on a clean area of the parafilm. Place the grid on the first of the three droplets before moving it on the second and then on the third droplet. Wait  00:00:10 before transferring a grid to the next droplet.

10s




19.5 For each grid, add one drop of water supplemented with 1% lead citrate, filtered (0.22 μm), on a clean area of the parafilm.



19.6 Place the grid on the top of the droplet and let it stand for  00:05:00 .

5m

19.7 For each grid, add five drops of fresh distilled water on a clean area of the parafilm. Wash the grids by placing them successively on the five droplets, as in step 19.4. Wait  00:00:20 before transferring a grid to the next droplet.

20s



19.8 After drying the grids on a filter paper, place them in the transmission electron microscope sample box.

20 Electron microscopy imaging.

20.1 Acquire images with a transmission electron microscope at 120 kV.

20.2 Collect images of cells on beads.