

Sep 13, 2022

Immunofluorescence on paraffin sections

 [Nature Communications](#)

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<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.rm7vzbn62vx1/v1>

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DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.rm7vzbn62vx1/v1>

External link: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-53168-7>

Protocol Citation: Joan Compte, Marta Gonzalez-Sepulveda, Miquel Vila 2022. Immunofluorescence on paraffin sections. protocols.io <https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.rm7vzbn62vx1/v1>

**Manuscript citation:**

Laguna, A., Peñuelas, N., Gonzalez-Sepulveda, M. *et al.* Modelling human neuronal catecholaminergic pigmentation in rodents recapitulates age-related neurodegenerative deficits. *Nat Commun* **15**, 8819 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-53168-7>

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: September 13, 2022

Last Modified: November 10, 2023

Protocol Integer ID: 69926

Keywords: paraffin sections immunofluorescence protocol, embedded rat brain section, rat brain section, paraffin, brain

Abstract

Immunofluorescence protocol on paraffin-embedded rat brain sections

Materials

Reagents :

- TBS 10X : Tris base 121.1g + NaCl 90g in 1L H₂O.pH 7.4.
- TBS 1X-Triton 0,5%
- Xilen
- Ethanol : 100%, 95%, 70%
- Unmasking buffer epitopes : Citrate solution 10mM pH6.0
- Blocking Buffer : TBS 1X + 5% NGS
- 1st Ab : Diluted in1X PBS +2%NGS
- 2nd Ab : Diluted in1X PBS +2%NGS
- Endogenous peroxidase blocking solution : TBS 1x + 3% H₂O₂(30%) + 10% methanol



1. Deparaffinization and hydration :

- 1 Put the slides 30 min in the incubator at 60°C
- 2 Wash 3×3 min in xylene
- 3 Wash 1×10 min in ethanol 100%
- 4 Wash 1×10 min in ethanol 95%
- 5 Wash 1×5 min in ethanol 70%
- 6 Wash 2×5 min in PBS 1X

Note

IMPORTANT: The buffer used for immunofluorescence is PBS, not TBS as for immunohistochemistry and the endogenous peroxidase blocking step is not required.

Antigen retrieval

- 7 Add 200 mL/section of citrate buffer 10mM, pH 6
- 7.1 Put sections in a boiling water bath for 20 min
- 8 Let sections cool down for 20 min at room temperature (RT)

Washing

- 9 Wash 3×5 min in PBS 1X-Triton (0.5%)



Blocking

- 10 Put wet paper in a black box for immunohistochemistry
- 11 Gently dry and circle sections with the hydrophobic pen ImmEdge Vector H 4000 without touching the tissue
- 12 Add 200 uL/section of blocking solution (5% NGS (in PBS 1X) (200uL/section) + 0.1% Triton (in PBS 1X)) 1h at RT

1ary antibody

- 13 Gently wipe off the water of the slides
- 14 Put 200ul/section of 1ary antibody in 2% NGS + 0.1% Triton overnight at 4°C (cold room)

Washing

- 15 Wash 3×5min in PBS 1X-Triton (0.5%)

2ary antibody

- 16 Gently wipe off the water of the slides
- 17 Put 200ul/section of 2ary antibody in 2% NGS + 0.1% Triton + DAPI for 1 h at RT

Note

Alexa goat anti-mouse 488 (green color) 1:500 or 1: 1000, Alexa goat anti-rabbit 594 (red color) and 1:5000 DAPI (nuclei staining in blue color)



Washing

18 Wash 3×5min in PBS 1X

Mounting

19 Mount sections with fluorescent mounting medium. Put the coverslip (washed with ethanol previously) on the slide. Remove bubbles

Storage

20 Let dry the slides on the tray in the hood for 5 minutes and store at 4°C **asap**