

Ready prepared, prefiltered India Ink. This reagent has been prepared to create a dark brown background that can be used to demonstrate capsules such as *Cryptococcus neoformans*. Please contact us if method information is required.

**Specification:**

Available in 25ml / 50ml bottles.

Shelf life is 5 years.

**Method: Capsule Stain**

- 1 Mix the specimen (pus, exudates, tissue, sputum or sediment of centrifuged spinal fluid) with a small drop of India Ink on a clean slide. Cover with a coverslip. The mount should be thin. Gentle pressure may have to be applied on the coverslip for pus, exudates, tissue or sputum to obtain a thin mount. If India Ink is too dark, dilute it to 50% with distilled water.
- 2 Scan under low power with reduced lighting. Switch to high power to examine for the presence of encapsulated cells.

**Results:** The mucoid capsules appear as a clear halo that surrounds the yeast cell or lies between the cell wall and the surrounding black mass of India Ink particles. Capsules maybe broad or narrow. The yeast cells maybe round, oval or elongate; buds maybe absent, single or rarely multiple. The buds maybe detached from the mother cell but enclosed in a common capsule attached.

**Storage:** Reagent is stable at cool room temperature in darkened cupboard for the shelf life.

**Health & Safety:**

Reagent will stain the skin and eyes and other tissue. In normal usage there is no real risk to physical Health & Safety. If in contact with eyes rinse with eye batch for 5 minutes. If soreness persists seek medical attention. In case of contact with skin wash with soap and water. If ingested, wash out mouth with water, do not swallow rinse water, seek medical attention on what treatment to administer. R: 36 S: 24-25-36

**Waste disposal :**

In the volumes involved in this procedure, the product can be disposed of to the public sewer system diluting it with water during disposal. However, local regulations may change and the user should follow local regulatory requirements. The bottle is polyethylene and should be re-cycled.

**Unsatisfactory performance**

As part of our duty to monitor product performance and our policy of continual improvement. Please report to us any unsatisfactory performance you may experience with this product. If any reagent degrades before expiry of shelf life we will replace that reagent free of charge. GCC Diagnostics guarantees the quality of this product, the user should however determine the suitability of this product for their intended use.

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