

Ready prepared, prefiltered reagent counterstain in the ZN-TB Technique for acid fast bacteria. May also be used as a Capsule Stain.

This reagent has been prefiltered before packaging to eliminate the possibility of dye particles on the slide being mistaken for microbial organisms.

#### Specification:

Aqueous Malachite green at approx 0.5% w/v.  
Available in 250ml, 500ml & 1ltr pack sizes.

Shelf life is 3 years.

#### Method: ( For ZN-TB Staining )

Prepare a 3-4sq cm thin smear with as little mechanical manipulation as possible. Excessive movement may cause damage to bacterial cells and loss of acid fastness. Heat fix by passing the slide, smear side up, through a bunsen flame 5-6 times.

1. Working in a fume hood (**Phenol fumes are released - TOXIC**) . Cover smear with a piece of filter paper slightly smaller than the slide, flood with ZN-Carbol fuchsin solution, gently heat over bunsen flame or hot plate until steaming, do not allow to boil or dry out. Keep filter paper flooded with stain. Keep hot for 3-5 minutes, or stain in a suitable vessel for 5 minutes at 90DC or 30 minutes at 55DC for thick smears or sections.
2. After cooling rinse briefly in tap water for 5-10 seconds.
3. Decolourise by running the TB-Differentiator solution over the smear. The decolouration time will vary with the thickness of the smear, generally 5-30 seconds for thin smears, up to 2 minutes for thick smears and 5-10 minutes for sections until tissue is pink. After decolourisation rinse briefly in tap water.
4. Flood slides with Malachite green counterstain Counterstain for 1-2 minutes.
5. Rinse briefly in tap water and examine.

The method given in this leaflet is designed as a general guide only and should be modified by the laboratory to suit the samples being processed to obtain optimal staining and decolorisation times.

#### Results

Acid fast organisms	-	Bright red-pink
Non-acid fast organisms & background material	-	Shades of Green

GCC Diagnostics guarantees that the highest quality reagents are supplied with this product to give reliable results within the lifetime of this kit stored as directed. The user should however, determine the suitability of this product for their intended use.

**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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