

# Pathology Core Protocol



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**Protocol Section:** Staining Procedures-Manual

**Policy No:** P-CMHD2-AB-00

**Protocol Subject:** Lison's Alcian Blue

**Effective Date:**

**Date Reviewed:** 6 January 2003

**Date Revised:**

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**Fixation:** Buffered formalin or Zenker

**Sections:** 5 micron paraffin

**Solutions:**

Alcian Blue:

1% Alcian Blue 8GX (C.I. 74240) in 3% acetic acid  
Filter and add a crystal of thymol.

Neutral Red counterstain.

1% aqueous neutral red 9 parts  
carbol fuchsin (see P-CMHD2-ZN) 1 part  
Filter before use.

**Procedure:**

1. Take sections to water.
2. Stain in Alcian blue solution for 30 minutes.
3. Rinse in distilled water and wash in running water for 5 minutes.
4. Counterstain in neutral red for 1 minute.
5. Wash in running tap water.
6. Dehydrate, clear and mount.

**Results:**

Acid mucopolysaccharides - blue  
Nuclei - red

**Reference:**

Lison, L.: Stain Technol. 29: 131, 1954

**Issued by Lab Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved by Facility Management:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_