

Pathology Core Protocol



Protocol Section:	General Procedures	Policy No:	P-CMHD1-EMBED-00
Protocol Subject:	Embedding	Effective Date:	
		Date Reviewed:	6 January 2003
		Date Revised:	

Embedding

Samples are embedded first thing in the morning so that cutting can be done early on in the day.

When embedding, special attention must be taken to prevent contamination or carry over(floaters) from one specimen to another.

To prevent floaters:

1. Use only smooth tipped forceps.
2. Clean forceps after each block.
3. Keep embedding center clean.

The cold plate of the embedding center is turned on and the carrier containing the samples is placed in the wax bath beside the embedding center. Cassettes are embedded one at a time. The cassette is opened, and the stainless steel lid set aside. Make sure that no tissue is stuck to the lid. A base mold of the proper size is partially filled with molten wax, the tissue is placed in it, and oriented properly. Do not allow the surface to solidify or a proper union will not be obtained when more wax is added.

The base mold is then placed on the cold spot to set the lowest part of the wax and hold the tissue in place. The plastic cassette is placed on the base mold and filled with melted paraffin. The whole thing is placed on the large cold plate to cool and harden. When cool, the blocks can be easily removed from the base mold.

If pieces of lung tend to float due to trapped air, place in the vacuum oven for 15 to 20 minutes and then embed.

After embedding is finished, the base molds and tissue carriers are cleaned in the VIP processor using the Clean cycle 2.

Embedding Center

The embedding center does not require a great deal of care, other than cleaning.

Daily cleaning and care

1. When embedding is finished, scrape off wax from the cooling plate with the squeegee, and wipe wax off of the hot surface.
2. Place molds in carrier to be cleaned.
3. Turn off cool plate and hot plate by pressing the button with the arrow.

REFERENCE: In compliance with the Ontario Lab Licensing Regulations.

Issued by Lab Manager: _____ **Date:** _____

Approved by Facility Management: _____ **Date:** _____