

Routine Special Stains

Stain	Abbreviation	Use
Phosphotungstic Acid Hematoxylin	PTAH	Muscle, fibrin, glial cell processes
Periodic Acid Shiffs	PAS	Fungus, neutral mucosubstances, glycoproteins
Toluidine Blue low pH best for canine	TolBlue	Mast cells
Giemsa	Giemsa	Rickettsia, bacteria, mast cells
Methyl Green Pyronin	MGP	DNA, RNA
Melanin Bleach	Mel Bleach	Remove melanin to see cells better
Gomori's Iron	Iron	Ferric iron, hemosiderin
Gram	Gram	Bacteria
Luxol Fast Blue	LFB	Mylein
Ziehl Neelsen Acid Fast	AFB	Baccilli, Johne's
Cresyl Violet	CV	Nissl bodies, glia
Hall's Bile	Bile	Bilirubin, bile
Best's Carmine	Bests	Glycogen
Alcian Blue pH 2.5	Alc Blue	Acid mucosubstances
Gomori's Trichrome	Tri	Muscle, collagen
Verhoff-Van Giesen	VVG	Elastic fibers
Von Kossa	VK	Calcium salts
Macchiavello	Macciv	Rickettsia
Mayer's Mucicarmine	Muci	Mucins, cryptococcus
Rhodanine for copper	Copper	Copper deposits
Schmorls	Schmorls	Melanin, lipofuchsin
Luna's for Eosinophils	Lunas E	Hemoglobin, eosinophils
Lunas for Mast cells	Lunas M	Mast cells
Long Acid Fast	Long AFB	Ceroid, early lipofuchsin
Fite's	Fites	Atypical mycobacteria
Grocott's Methenamine Silver	GMS	Fungus
Fontana Masson	FM	Argentaffin Cells, melanin
Gordon Sweet Reticulum	Retic	Reticulum Fibers
Steiner and Steiner	S&S	Spirochetes, helicobacter
Alcian Blue with Hyaluronidase	Abw/ hyal	Chondroitin
Beilschowsky;s	Biels	axons
Periodic Acid Methenamine	PAM	Basement membranes
Congo Red	Congo red	Amyloid
PAS with amylase	PASw/AMY	Glycogen
Oil Red O	ORO	Fat(requires unprocessed tissue, place additional tissue in formalin in a separate container and give to person on special stains duty)

Please call for availability of other stains