

# **F-381, CARSTAIRS' METHOD FOR FIBRIN AND PLATLETS**

**Fixation:** Formalin-saline for 48 hours or more.

**Sections:** Cut paraffin sections at 5 µm.

**Solutions:**

**Staining:**

1. Hydrate sections.
2. Mordant in **Ferric Ammonium Sulfate, 5%** (F-381-1) for 5 minutes. Rinse in running tap water.
3. Stain with **Mayer's Hematoxylin** (F-381-2) for 5 minutes. Rinse in running tap water.
4. Stain in the **Picric Acid-Orange G Solution** (F-381-3) for 30 minutes to 1 hour. Rinse once in distilled water.
5. Stain in **Ponceau Fuchsin solution** ( F-381-4) for 1 to 5 minutes. Rinse in distilled water.
6. Differentiate with **Phosphotungstic Acid, 1%** (F-381-5) until the muscle is red and background pale pink. Rinse in distilled water.
7. Stain with the **Aniline Blue Solution** (F-381-6) for 30 minutes to 2 hours. Rinse in several changes of distilled water.
8. Dehydrate, clear in Xylene, and coverslip, using a synthetic mounting medium.

**Results:**

## **Fixation time**

**Tissue**

**48 hours or more**

**Less than 48 hours**

<b>Tissue</b>	<b>48 hours or more</b>	<b>Less than 48 hours</b>
Fibrin	Bright Red	Orange to Orange Red
Platelets	Gray blue to navy	Light gray
Collagen	Bright blue	Bright Blue
Muscle	Red	Red
Red blood cells	Clear yellow	Red, green or yellow