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G-473 TOLUIDINE BLUE FOR MAST CELLS

FIXATION: 10% Buffered Neutral Formalin (F-113)

SECTION: Paraffin, @ 4 to 5um

STAINING PROCEDURE:

1. Deparaffinize and hydrate to distilled water.
2. Stain sections in Toluidine Blue, 1% Aqueous (G-473-1) for 10 minutes.
3. Rinse in distilled water.
4. Quickly dehydrate through 95% and absolute alcohols.
5. Clear in Xylene and mount with synthetic resin.

NOTES:

1. Alcohol cannot be used for dehydration in most methachromatic staining procedures, but metachromasia of mast cell granules are stable and will not be lost after alcoholic dehydration.
2. A rapid screening method for mast cells is to simply apply a light Methylene Blue stain as if you were counterstaining an acid-fast stain. The mast cells are very well demonstrated.

REFERENCES:

Carson F.L., Histotechnology, A Self-instructional Text. ASCP Chicago.1990, p.163-164.