

FORENSIC BIOLOGY SEROLOGY PROCEDURES MANUAL

BLOODSTAIN PREPARATION FROM WHOLE BLOOD

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Bloodstain Preparation from Whole Blood

Staincards are prepared from all vouchered blood samples and from post-mortem blood samples:

1. Take custody of the blood vials awaiting bloodstain preparation.
2. Prepare the UltraSTAIN™ cards by affixing a pre-printed FB case number sticker (if available) and writing in the following:
 - Initials of person preparing the stain
 - FB number, if no sticker is available

Wear latex gloves when handling these cards.
3. Preparation of the bloodstain **must** be witnessed by another laboratory staff member. The witness must confirm that the processor is handling the correct blood vial and stain card **BEFORE** the stain is made. After each stain is made, the witness must initial the stain card and place a comment in LIMS on the LIMS worksheet.
4. Prepare stains one at a time. Staining of the cards and the opening of liquid blood samples **MUST** be performed under a biological safety cabinet with the exhaust fan operating. It is advisable that a new lint free wipe be used to open each vial stopper. Make sure a blood tube is closed before preparing the next stain.
5. Fold back the paper "flap" and make four stains on the card, placing the blood in the outlined areas. Use four drops of blood per area; apply the drops slowly, allowing them to soak in. This will prevent appreciable transfer to the paper "flap".
6. Bring down the paper "flap", turn the entire card over, and allow it to air-dry upside down. The stain cards must be allowed to dry overnight before storage.
7. Package the air-dried stains into a 4x6" KAPAK™ bag. Heat seal the KAPAK™. The person sealing the bag must date and initial the bag. Store at room temperature, and record the storage location for the chain of custody.
8. **CLEAN THE BIOLOGICAL SAFETY CABINET (refer to QC Procedure #QC125 of the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Manual).**
9. Place all case files that contain **any** sexual assault evidence in the designated area so that

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they may be processed. Place all cases files that contained any evidence from the NYPD or DA's office back from where they were retrieved (either "cases to be called on," "cases to be assigned," or the assigned analyst). Place all remaining case folders in the Forensic Biology office so that they may be filed.

10. Disposal of blood and blood vials:

For non-vouchered blood, the remainder of the liquid blood and the blood vial will be discarded immediately. Purple-topped vials **must** be discarded in a plastic BIOHAZARD "sharps" container.

For vouchered blood, the remainder of the liquid blood is discarded into bleach immediately after making the bloodstain card. The empty vial rinsed with 10% bleach. The empty vial is packaged for return to the Evidence Unit.

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