

Negative stain

Please read these instructions before you start working. It is pivotal to abide by the rules as working with uranyl acetate (UA) is dangerous and messing about will lead to prep-lab exclusion!

1. Get a safety introduction before working with UA the first time.
2. Wear gloves, a lab coat and goggles!
3. Switch on the counter and measure bench before work and when you are done
4. Use an absorbent paper to protect the table against spills.
5. Try not to spill any UA!
6. In case it happens, clean up any spills and use the spray bottle of „Decontan“. For large spills, immediately contact EM team.
UA is extremely dangerous when inhaled! Do not let any UA dry out on the work space. If you see any yellow spills, contact EM team!
7. There are two waste containers: One for UA. Just put UA contaminated tips and filter paper in here (waste disposal is very expensive) Please always close the lid.
The normal waste container is for tips, tissues, eppis, which haven't been in contact with UA.

How to stain:

1. Glow discharge our grids in plasma cleaner
2. Tightly clamp the edge of the grid side up with the tweezers
3. **Drop 3.5µl of sample** onto the grid
4. **Incubate 45"**
5. **Wash the grid with 5 drops of water** over the water waste falcon. Hold the tweezers at an 45° angle to avoid getting water on the bottom of the grid
6. **Stain with 3.5µl UA and immediately blot of liquid**
7. **Then, again 3.5µl of UA onto the grid.**
8. **Incubate 15"**
9. **Blot dry** with the pre-cut paper triangles by carefully sliding along the tweezers while holding the paper perpendicular to the grid.
10. Place the grid onto the blotting paper by sliding some blotting paper in-between the tweezers and pushing the grid out front.
11. Let the grid **dry for 5 min.**
12. Please clean up afterwards!
13. Measure bench with the counter and don't forget the sign in yourself in the user-book.