



**Document Number:** SASoM/METHOD/024.v5

**Title:** Dewaxing and Rehydrating Paraffin Sections

**Version:** v5

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Effective from:	01/01/2021
Valid to:	01/01/2023

SOP History		
Number	Date	Reason for Change
v1	01/01/2013	Original
v2	01/01/2015	Update
V3	01/01/2017	Update
V4	01/01/2019	Update
V5	01/01/2021	Update

### 1.0 Purpose –

This SOP describes the current procedure for dewaxing and rehydrating paraffin sections in Laboratory 248 at the St Andrews School of Medicine (SASoM).

### 2.0 Scope –

This SOP applies to the staff in the SASoM involved with the dewaxing and rehydrating of paraffin sections for IHC.

### 3.0 Responsibilities –

All staff involved in dewaxing and rehydrating paraffin sections are responsible for ensuring that the methods are followed in accordance with this SOP.

All staff must have read and signed the relevant risk assessment documents before performing this procedure.

### 4.0 Procedure –

If paraffin sections have been stored in a freezer then allow them to warm up to room temperature before use.



Method Procedure

Place section in slide rack and place in the following solutions for the times indicated:

Dewax xylene 1	5 minutes
Dewax xylene 2	5 minutes
Dewax xylene 3	5 minutes
100% rehydration alcohol 1	2 minutes
100% rehydration alcohol 2	2 minutes
80% rehydration alcohol	2 minutes
50% rehydration alcohol	2 minutes
Wash in running tap water	2 minutes

Xylene solutions must be used in fume cabinet which is located in lab 1, graded alcohol solutions are also located in lab 1 at side of fume hood. Solutions are to be changed after every 200 slides.

Proceed with IHC staining protocol.

After IHC staining, the slides then must be dehydrated, which is the reverse of the above, the dehydrate solutions are located in same area.

Rehydration alcohol

Ethanol or Industrial Methylated Spirits (IMS) can be used

**5.0 Personal protection –**

A Howie coat must be worn at all times. Gloves as specified in the appropriate COSHH RA

**6.0 Spillages –**

Always clean up any spills immediately after use, only you know what you have spilt and are aware of its hazard.

Spillages should be mopped up with paper towel.

**7.0 Training –**

All staff should undergo training in this technique before performing procedure.

**8.0 Related documents –**

8.1 Risk assessments COSHH/019



## 9.0 Approval and sign off –

### Author:

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Position: Research Fellow

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Management Approval:

Name: Peter Mullen

Position: Research Fellow

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### QA release by:

Name: Alex MacLellan

Position: QA Manager

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