



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for MSL973020 Perform histological procedures

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	<p>This version was released in <i>MSL Laboratory Operations Training Package Release 2.0</i>.</p> <p>Supersedes and equivalent to MSL973008 Perform histological procedures. Range of conditions removed. Assessment requirements amended.</p>

Performance Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has completed the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit, and:

- safely performed straightforward embedding, sectioning and staining of at least 3 different tissue specimens (including animal and/or plant) in paraffin wax, including:
 - embedding tissue types in correct orientation and characteristics that minimise tissue loss and artefacts during microtomy
 - cutting sections at the specified thickness that are free of wrinkles, scores and folds
 - using appropriate stains including haematoxylin and eosin for animal tissue
 - cover slipping slides, ensuring that no air bubbles are formed to preserve the material for the life of the slide
 - labelling slides clearly with minimum legal traceability requirements.

Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- nature of tissues, processing and sectioning methods used in job role
- functions of the components of a rotary microtome
- purpose of procedures implemented and steps involved
- requirements for cleaning up spills and reporting faulty or unsafe equipment, hazards and incidents.
- microscopic anatomy of vascular tissue relevant to samples stained
- macroscopic appearance of epithelial/epidermal tissue relevant to samples embedded
- correlation between poorly maintained processing reagents and resultant tissue blocks being difficult to cut or unsuitable for cutting

- relationship between correct orientation of the tissue during embedding and ability to cut quality sections
- workplace safety procedures and precautions relevant to:
 - handling irritating, volatile, flammable and potentially carcinogenic chemicals and stains, such as formaldehyde, xylene, limonene, ethanol
 - embedding and microtomy
 - sharps and broken glassware
- awareness of environmental sustainability issues as they relate to the work task
- legal, ethical and work health and safety (WHS) requirements specific to the work task including traceability, confidentiality and security requirements of all client information, and laboratory data and records.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions and contingencies. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
- a standard histology laboratory with relevant equipment, samples and reagents; and computer information systems, databases, record and filing systems, including specimen accessioning
- workplace procedures, test methods and equipment manuals.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

Links

MSL Laboratory Operations Companion Volume Implementation Guide is available from VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c63a03b-4a6b-4ae5-9560-1e3c5f462baa>