



# Stat Fix™

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## Intended Use

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Stat Fix™ is a rapid fixative that functions as a formalin-based fixative and an initial dehydrant. It is formulated to perform as a primary or secondary fixative. It can be used as a primary fixative for tissues that are grossed late in the day, for tissues that are difficult to fix, or for tissues that contain large amounts of fat. Stat Fix™ can be used to prefix fresh surgical specimens to facilitate the gross cutting of tissue blocks for processing. It is also advantageous to use Stat Fix™ as a secondary fixative in the third station on the tissue processor after 10% NBF. Stat Fix™ can also be used as a secondary fixative in the third station on the tissue processor after Processor Fix 1™ and Processor Fix 2™, respectively in stations 1 and 2. Alternatively, it can be used as a secondary fixative on the processor following 10% NBF.

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## General Information

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Stat Fix™ is designed as a primary fixative for tissues “hard to fix” and as a secondary fixative on the tissue processor. The use of Stat Fix™ helps prevent poor dehydration, and to promote clearing and paraffin infiltration. The problems of inadequate fixation can be eliminated by the use of Stat Fix™. This will help the gross cutting of tissues for thin cassette-sized blocks, cutting of thin tissues sections, and the consistent staining of sections to produce excellent histologic results. Tissue blocks can be grossed by the processor, put into tissue cassettes, and immersed in Stat Fix™ before placing them on the tissue processor. Stat Fix™ is buffered at approximately pH 7.2 with buffers soluble in water and alcohol. This solubility prevents precipitation in alcoholic dehydrating solutions regardless of the concentration of alcohols following Stat Fix™ on the processor. The buffers used also prevent the formation of “formalin pigment” in tissue sections.

### Gross Room Use by the Prosector:

- Stat Fix™ is excellent as a primary fixative for:
- Tissues received late in the afternoon or evening
  - Tissues with abundant fat
  - Very hemorrhagic tissues
  - Tissues difficult to fix, such as colon or breast
- Tissue blocks can be grossed by the prosector, put into tissue cassettes, placed in Stat Fix™, and left until time to place them on the tissue processor. Stat Fix™ used as a primary fixative at the grossing station should be changed daily. Tissues can remain in Stat Fix™ up to 5 days without deleterious results.
- Fresh gross specimens can also be prefixed with Stat Fix™ prior to grossing. Tissues placed in Stat Fix™ for 30 minutes to one hour show increased firmness, which improves the ability of the prosector to cut thin 2-3 mm thick cassette-size sections for processing. Prefixing with Stat Fix™ is particularly advantageous for fresh bowel and breast. Stat Fix™ prefixes fresh tissues slightly faster than prefixation with Rapid Fix™.

### Tissue Processor Use:

- Stat Fix™ is excellent as a secondary fixative for:
- Use in the third station on the tissue processor; usually the first two stations are filled with fixatives, such as 10% NBF or Processor Fix 1™ and Processor Fix 2™, respectively.
  - Alternatively, Stat Fix™ can be used in the first station on the processor; this assumes that the subsequent stations are filled with dehydrant alcohols.
  - Stat Fix used as a secondary fixative on the tissue processor should be replaced every second day. If less than one-half the total capacity of the processor is occupied by tissue cassettes, Stat Fix™ can be changed every fourth day of use.

The use of Stat Fix™ on the tissue processor can create the following benefits:

- Improved fixation of fatty or difficult-to-fix specimens, such as breast and colon
- Improved fixation of specimens grossed late in the day
- Enhanced dehydration
- Enhanced removal of lipids by the clearant
- Enhanced general fixation to improve staining results
- Consistent and reliable fixation

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## Packaging

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Catalog #	Volume
273	1 qt
275	4x1 gal

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## Fixation Procedure

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Stat Fix™ is a coagulative and non-coagulative additive formaldehyde fixative. It fixes rapidly and can be used as a primary or secondary fixative. Stat Fix™ is designed specifically to fix hard to fix tissues, such as breast and colon, and tissues that contain large amounts of fat.

1. Large specimens received from surgery can be placed in Stat Fix™ for rapid initial fixation prior to grossing by the prosector; this will improve the ability of the prosector to cut thin cassette-sized tissue blocks.
2. Tissues cut into cassette-sized blocks and enclosed in cassettes can be placed in Stat Fix™ at the cutting station; they may remain in Stat Fix™ until placement on the processor.
3. Tissues primarily fixed in Stat Fix™ should be processed by the same routine schedule used for formalin-fixed tissues.
4. Stat Fix™ can also be used on the tissue processor, either in the third station after other fixatives, or in the first station to begin combined fixation and dehydration.
5. When used as a primary fixative, overfixation is generally not a problem; however, tissues should not be left in Stat Fix™ more than one week.
6. Stat Fix™ is compatible with all other fixatives, and the buffers will not precipitate in subsequent alcohols on the processor.

7. The schedule for staining sections from tissues fixed with Stat Fix™ is similar to that of formalin-fixed tissues. See the following staining schedule for H&E.
8. Disposal of Stat Fix should be the same as that used for formaldehyde in your laboratory. Stat Fix™ contains no mercury.

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## Staining Procedure

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BBC RECOMMENDED AUTOMATED AND MANUAL  
HISTOLOGY STAINING PROCEDURE FOR HARRIS  
HEMATOXYLIN AND EOSIN

\*Initially deparaffinize tissue sections with BBC S1™ or Xylene

<u>Step</u> * <u>Solution</u>	<u>Time</u>
1. 100% Alcohol.....	20 seconds
2. 100% Alcohol.....	20 seconds
3. 95% Alcohol .....	20 seconds
4. 95% Alcohol.....	20 seconds
5. 70% Alcohol .....	20 seconds
6. Running H <sub>2</sub> O Wash.....	30 seconds
7. BBC Harris Hematoxylin .....	3-5 minutes
8. Running H <sub>2</sub> O Wash .....	1 minute
9. BBC Acid Wash•Histo™ <b>or</b> BBC Acid Alcohol•Histo™ .....	1 minute
10. Running H <sub>2</sub> O Wash.....	1 minute
11. BBC Blueing Solution•Histo™.....	15 seconds
12. Running H <sub>2</sub> O Wash.....	1 minute
13. 70% Alcohol.....	30 seconds
14. BBC Special Eosin I™ or II™, <b>or</b> Eosin Y, <b>or</b> Eosin Y with Phloxine B.....	45 seconds
15. BBC S2•Histo™ .....	20 seconds
16. BBC S2•Histo™ .....	20 seconds
17. BBC S2•Histo™ .....	20 seconds
18. BBC S2•Histo™ .....	20 seconds
19. BBC S2•Histo™ .....	20 seconds
20. BBC S3•Histo™ or Xylene .....	20 seconds
21. BBC S3•Histo™ or Xylene .....	30 seconds
22. BBC S3•Histo™ or Xylene .....	30 seconds
23. Mount and coverslip with Optic Mount I™ or an appropriate mounting medium.	

**Note:** Each of these reagents can be intermixed and used with other staining sequences and other manufacturer's reagents.