



VECTOR® ANTIGEN UNMASKING SOLUTIONS

Citrate-based, Cat. No. H-3300

High pH, Cat. No. H-3301

High Temperature Antigen Unmasking Technique For Paraffin Sections

Diluted Vector® Antigen Unmasking Solutions are designed for use in high temperature unmasking procedures. The following protocol is for use with a pressure cooker.

1. Cut and mount sections on slides treated with a tissue section adhesive such as VECTABOND™ Reagent.*
2. Deparaffinize sections and rehydrate to distilled water.
3. Pour 1600 ml of distilled water into a Presto** stainless steel pressure cooker.
4. Shake well before use, and then add 15 ml of the concentrated stock Antigen Unmasking Solution.
5. Cover, but do not lock lid, and bring solution to a boil.
6. Position slides into metal staining racks (do not place slides close together; uneven staining may occur) and lower into pressure cooker ensuring slides are well immersed in diluted Antigen Unmasking Solution. Lock lid. The air vent/cover lock and overpressure plug will rise.
7. As soon as the pressure regulator begins to rock gently, indicating the cooker has pressurized, start timing.
8. After one minute, remove the pressure cooker from heat source and run under cold water. **DO NOT OPEN LID UNTIL THE INTERNAL PRESSURE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY REDUCED AND THE AIR VENT/COVER LOCK DROPS.** After the air vent/cover lock drops, open lid, remove slides and place immediately into a tap water bath. **DO NOT LET SECTIONS DRY OUT.**
9. Wash sections in PBS buffer (pH 7.5) for 5 minutes.
10. Follow standard protocol for immunohistochemical labeling.

* VECTABOND™ Reagent (Cat. No. SP-1800) is a tissue section adhesive that can significantly increase adherence of both frozen and paraffin-embedded tissue sections to glass slides, even under harsh conditions such as those required for high temperature antigen unmasking techniques and *in situ* hybridization.

** For other brands of pressure cookers, follow the manufacturers' instructions and safety recommendations for use.