

METAPROBE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

Materials needed:

- Medical gloves
- Metaprobe
- Scissors
- Bleach
- Distilled water
- Lipsol or a similar cleaning detergent
- Zip-ties
- Sterile medical gauze

Cleaning the Metaprobe:

1. Wear medical gloves for the entire procedure
2. Rinse the dirty metaprobes with water, removing any residue.
3. In a clean basin prepare a 10% bleach solution to clean metaprobes and scissors.
4. Soak the dirty metaprobes and scissors in the bleach solution for at least half an hour.
5. In another clean basin prepare a 5% lipsoil (or another cleaning detergent) solution to rinse the metaprobes and scissors
6. Transfer the bleached metaprobes and scissors to the lipsoil bath for 5 min. Since bleach degrades DNA, it is critical to remove excess bleach before preparing clean metaprobes.
7. Allow the scissors and metaprobe to air dry on paper towels or a clean surface.



Building the Metaprobe:

1. Prepare three rolls of medical dressings, per each metaprobe.

Clean a surface with 10% bleach. Open a sterile medical dressing and unroll it. With clean scissors cut the cotton and gauze as needed so that the gauze wraps around the cotton inside, forming a roll similar in size to a sterivex filter (i.e. 5-6 cm length, 1-2 cm diameter). Loosely, secure the roll with a zip-tie. Trim the tail of the zip-tie. This step is more of an art than a science. Each roll will look slightly different: this is not going to affect the results!

2. Secure medical dressing rolls in the metaprobes.

Three rolls of gauze (step 1) will be placed in each metaprobe. Slide another zip-tie through the loose zip-tie loop, so that it is parallel to the medical dressing roll. Place the roll into the metaprobe and feed either end of the parallel zip-tie into opposite halves of the metaprobe. Clasp this zip-tie together (connecting both halves of the metaprobe) keeping the loop large. Repeat twice more, so that three rolls are in the metaprobe. Tighten down all three zip-ties, as you close the metaprobe.

3. Keep the metaprobes in a clean storage place until you use it. (e.g. a clean zip-lock bag).

