

Preparation of MF slide (Three line method)¹

Recommended time for preparation of MF slide in Fiji (diurnally sub periodic) is between 15:00 and 17:00².

Notes

- 60ul of whole blood is required for the preparation of the slide.
- Blood specimen should be collected by standard finger prick method.
 - The sample can be collected in a 100ul capillary tube supplied with the ICT kit. The sample should be used immediately.

Materials

- ☐ Single use gloves
- ☐ Clean glass microscope slides
- ☐ Sterile blood lancets
- ☐ Cotton wool
- ☐ Alcohol wipe
- ☐ Capillary tube
- ☐ Pencil
- ☐ Sharps container
- ☐ Tissue/paper and box to store slides for transport



Procedure

1. Prepare all necessary materials.
2. Wear gloves.
3. Write the name and residence of test subject, the date of test on the slide (frosted end) using a pencil.
4. Collect blood sample by finger prick. The sample should be collected (or transferred) in a heparin coated capillary tube up to 60ul line or the two thirds of the 100ul tube.
5. With the filled capillary tube using all the blood in the tube, draw three lines of equal width (3mm) and length onto the microscope slide.
6. Allow the blood slide to dry in a flat position protected from insects, dust and heat. Minimum drying time is 30minutes, but drying may take several hours.
7. Discard the used materials in appropriate containers (i.e. lancet and capillary tube in sharps container; other items in the yellow biohazard material plastic bag).
8. Pack prepared slides in a slide box appropriately and label the box. Put the slide box in a plastic bag and seal it tightly to protect slides from water.

¹ Adapted from protocols used at Mataika House and PacELF office, Suva, Fiji

² Monitoring and epidemiological assessment of the programme to eliminate lymphatic filariasis at implementation unit level. World Health Organization 2005.