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Preparation of fresh paraformaldehyde for mouse perfusion and tissue fixation

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ABSTRACT

Hnasko lab - preparation of fresh PFA for ms perfusion and tissue fixation

MATERIALS

paraformaldehyde (PFA, EMS, cat# 19210) 10X PBS (Fisher bioreagents, cat# BP399-1) vacuum filtration flask (ThermoScientific, cat# 567-0020).

SAFETY WARNINGS

Caution: Paraformaldehyde is toxic. Please read the MSDS before working with this chemical. Gloves, mask and safety glasses should be worn and

solutions made inside a fume hood.

OPEN ACCESS



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Protocol status: Working We use this protocol and it's working

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- 1 1. For A 1 L of 4% paraformaldehyde, warm up A 700 mL of ddH20 in a glass beaker using microwave until 40-60 °C.
- 2. Place on heated stir plate in a chemical fume hood, add a magnetic stir bar and start stirring and insert thermometer into solution.
- 3. Weigh 🗸 40 g of granular paraformaldehyde (PFA, EMS, cat# 19210).
- 4. Add PFA to the heated ddH2O solution and place on a stir plate in a chemical fume hood. Insert thermometer. Stir and heat to approximately 60 °C (paraformaldehyde flash point = 71°C). Avoid overheating.
- 5. The powder will not immediately dissolve into solution. Slowly raise the pH by adding about NaOH 10N until the solution clears.
- 6. Once the paraformaldehyde is dissolved, add 100 mL 10X PBS (Fisher bioreagents, cat# BP399-1).
- 7. Cool solution to Room temperature before adjusting pH, can place on ice to speed cooling.
- 8. Adjust pH to ~ OH 7.4 with small amounts of 12N HCl.

- 9. Adjust the volume of the solution to 🔼 1 L with ddH20.
- 10. Filter the solution using a vacuum filtration flask (ThermoScientific, cat# 567-0020). Label and store in sealed container at 4 °C.