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Standard Operating Procedure: Vibratomes

Hong-Yuan Chu^{1,2}¹Van Andel Institute; ²ASAP1 *Works for me* Sharedx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.8epv595ojg1b/v1 johnson.agniswamy

ABSTRACT

This protocol details the procedure of the standard operating procedure (SOP) describes the safe use of vibratomes in the Chu lab.

ATTACHMENTS

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Vibratomes, Hazardous equipment, Blade

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GUIDELINES

Type of SOP: Hazardous equipment.

Purpose and scope: This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the safe use of vibratomes in the Chu lab.

Training: All investigators are to receive training and be approved by Dr Chu before using the vibratomes.

MATERIALS TEXT

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Eyes: Safety glasses.

Skin: Use chemical resistant, nitrile gloves.

Clothing: Wear long pants, closed toed shoes and a lab coat.

SAFETY WARNINGS

Potential hazards/toxicity: The main hazard of using a vibratome is the blade.

Engineering controls: Blades should be kept in the manufacturer's packaging until needed, and disposed of safely in a sharps container immediately after use. Where possible, blades should be handled with forceps rather than fingers.

Emergency response: If the employee needs emergency medical attention, call Security x5300 immediately. Notify PI and proceed to Med-1 for follow up medical treatment.


Blade disposal: Dispose of used blades immediately after use in approved biohazard sharps containers.

Tissue sectioning procedure

1 

Remove the blade from manufacturer package and wash it with ethanol and distilled water.

2 Install the blade carefully in the vibratome according to the procedure describes in the manual for the specific vibratome used.

- 3 Mount the tissue onto chuck and place in vibratome according to the procedure describes in the manual for the specific vibratome used.
- 4 Submerge the tissue in media appropriate to sectioning purpose (e.g. ice-cold 1x PBS).
- 5 Slice the tissue at desired thickness using the procedure describes in the manual for the specific vibratome used.
- 6 Remove the blade carefully after slicing the tissue and dispose of in a sharps-container.
- 7  Cleanse the vibratome with deionized water.