Practical training in Histology and Embryology

# **Organization issues**

- <u>Beginning</u> strictly on time
- <u>Change your shoes</u> you will not be allowed to enter the hall w/o indoor shoes
- <u>Lockers</u> Jackets, coats, bags etc.
- <u>Cell phone</u> switched off or in silent mode
- Microscopic hall = <u>laboratory</u>
  - eating, drinking, smoking not allowed
  - smoking strictly forbidden anywhere in LF
  - students have to follow the instructions
  - academic misconducts or inappropriate behavior result in excluding from the lesson or course

## Follow safety rules

- You have dedicated working place
- You are responsible for microscope, slide set, EM atlas

### Practical lesson

- Introduction; the images aree available through MedAtlas
- your individual work = study of the slides, schematic but precise drawing of tissue architecture, careful description. You make your own "study atlas"
- students come prepared for practices schedules and syllables pin-boards or dpt. webpage
- your knowledge is verified during semester
- break 10 minutes
- <u>Attendance</u>
- 100% attendance
- substitution only in exceptional cases, after permissions from both the teacher of your group and the lesson where you plan to substitute
- sign in to the list
- make a protocol, let it check and signed by the lecturer

## **Registration of substitution:**

Datum Date	Jméno Name	Ročník Year	Skupina Group	Č. praktika Nr. of practice	Č. místa Nr. of place	Vyučující - podpis Teacher- signature

### <u>Protocols</u>

- you have to make paper protocols (no tablets, laptops)
- A4 size, blank, without lines, according to the template (can be downloaded from <u>www.med.muni.cz/histology</u> - Education)
- (color)pencil handdrawings (<u>no pen</u>)
- complete set of signed protocols is required for getting the credits
- the quality of the protocol is approved by your teacher's signature at the end of practical lesson
- incomplete or low-quality protocols cannot be approved and you have to substitute the respective practical lesson

	1				
Protocol No:	Name:				
Date:	Year: Group:				
торіс:					
List of slides for study:	<u>Atlas EM</u> : pictures for study				
Number Designation (staining)	Page Designation				

#### Guidelines for the establishment protocol

- 1. Student shall prepare color diagrams of histological slides (crayons) or black and white diagrams of pictures in EM atlas (pencils).
- Each diagram must be provide with the following information:

   <u>designation of slide</u> and <u>staining method</u> (see the list above), or designation of EM photograph,
   <u>magnification</u>: 10 x 4 / 10 x 10 / 10 x20 / 10 x 40 or total magnification: 40x / 100x / 200x / 400x,
   <u>description of the diagram</u>.

#### Checking of protocol

Practice:			
	regular	substitute	date

Signature of teacher

2

### <u>Testing your knowledge</u>

### – every student is examined 4× per semester

- testing the knowledge of structures of the previous practical lesson, including the theory (their English and Latin names, functions, development and biological context) AND the theory for the curent practical lesson
- short written test with images or schemes, results: "Passed" or "Failed"
- all images and schemes are made public (MedAtlas, IS)
- you have to successfully pass all 4 tests
- if you fail in partial test, you can repeat it once per semester
- failing in the partial tests result in the overal Credit test at the end of semester

## • <u>Credits</u>

- 100% attendance
- complete set of signed protocols from all lessons
- passed four tests

## • End of practical lesson:

- the practice is closed by the lecturer
- you are allowed to leave your working place only after checking the microscope and slides
- if you leave before the check you may be responsible for any damages/losses recognized later



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## **RECOMMENDED LITERATURE**

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### DEPARTMENT OF HISTOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGY

FACULTY OF MEDICINE - MASARYK UNIVERSITY

MedAtlas verze 2.1

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#### <del>e</del> 8 – Vývoj endokrinních žláz

👚 8-3 Zárodek člověka (8. týden) – vývoj štítné žlázy a příštítných žláz, příčný řez krční krajinou, HE, zvětšení 50×



🔀 Na celou obrazovku

neluminizované trámce, které se ukládají v dolní části chrupavky štítné. Z nich se později vytvářejí folikuly typické stavby. Dorzálně se ke štítné žláze připojují drobná příštítná tělíska.





# HISTOLOGY

- structure and ultrastructure of normal cells and tissues,
- cytology and general histology
- **special histology** = microscopic anatomy of individual organs

• <u>relevance</u>: oncology, surgery, hematology, pathology, forensic,...

## EMBRYOLOGY

- prenatal (intra uterine) development
- General embryology (until 2nd month EMBRYO )

gametogenesis and early embryonic development

- Special embryology (since 3rd month to birth FETUS ) organogenesis
- Teratology defects in organ development, malformations, anomalies; prenatal screening – ultrasonography, amniocentesis, genetic and karyotype screening
- <u>Relevance</u>: gynecology and obstetrics, pediatrics, assisted reproduction



Histology cannot be put out of the biological and functional context

# Histology

- Resolution of naked eye 0,1 mm
- Resolution of light microscopy 10 nm
- Resolution of electron microscopy 0,1 nm



## Tissue processing for the light microscopy (LM)

(making of permanent preparations – slides)

- **SAMPLING** (obtaining of material cells, tissue pieces)
- **FIXATION** of samples (tissue blocks)
- **RINSING** (washing) of samples
- EMBEDDING of samples embedded blocks
- CUTTING of blocks sections
- **AFFIXING** of sections
- **STAINING** of sections
- MOUNTING of sections

# SAMPLING

- A small piece of organ (tissue) is sampled and quickly put into the fixative medium.
- Biopsy during surgical dissection of organs in living organism
  - = excision
  - = puncture (liver or kidney parenchyma, bone marrow)
  - = curettage (uterine endometrium, adenoid vegetation)
- Necropsy from dead individual (sections); in experiments laboratory animals are used and tissue have to be sampled as soon as possible after the break of blood circulation
- The specimens shouldn't be more than 5 10 mm<sup>3</sup> thick and fixation should follow immediately.

# **FIXATION**

- Definition: denaturation and stabilization of cell proteins with minimum artifacts
- <u>The reason of fixation</u>: freshly removed tissues are chemically unstable dry, shrink, undergo hypoxia, autolysis and bacteriological changes
- To stop or prevent these changes and preserve the structure tissue samples have to be fixed. During the fixation, all tissue proteins are converted into inactive denaturized (stable) form.
- <u>3 main requirements on fixatives</u>:
  - good preservation of structure
  - quick penetration into tissue block
  - no negative effects on tissue staining

• <u>Fixatives</u>: solutions of different chemicals

- **organic fixatives** – <u>ALDEHYDES</u> – formaldehyde (*most frequently used for LM*)

- glutaraldehyde (used for EM)

- ALCOHOLS - 96 - 100 % (absolute) ethylalcohol

- ORGANIC ACIDS - glacial acetic acid, picric acid,

trichloracetic acid

- inorganic fixatives – INORGANIC ACIDS – chromic acid, osmium tetraoxide (OsO4)

- SALTS OF HEAVY METALS - mercuric chloride HgC<sub>12</sub>

- compound fixatives – mixtures (two or more chemical components to offset

undesirable effects fo indiviual (simple) fixatives.

FLEMMING's fluid – with OsO<sub>4</sub>

ZENKER's and HELLY's fluid, SUSA fluid – with HgCl<sub>2</sub>

BOUIN's fluid – with picric acid

CARNOY's fluid – with alcohol

Fixation is carried out at the room temperature, the time varies between 12 - 24 hours, specimen must be overlayed by 20 - 50 times fixative volume:

Ratio of tissue block volume to fixative volume  $1 \text{ cm}^3$ : 20 – 50 cm3

# **RINSING and EMBEDDING**

- All samples should be washed to remove the excess of fixative; the choice of rinsing medium is determined by type of fixative: running tap-<u>water</u> or 70-80% <u>ethanol</u>
- <u>Relevance of embedding:</u> tissues and organs are brittle and unequal in density, they must be hardened before cutting

## **Embedding media**

- water soluble gelatine, celodal, water soluble waxes
- anhydrous paraffin, celoidin

## EMBEDDING into PARAFFIN

- dehydration to remove water from fixed samples by ascending series of ethanol is used (50%, 70%, 90%, 96%. each step - 2 – 6 hours
- clearing the ethanol must be replaced with organic solvatant that dissolves paraffin – benzene or xylene
- infiltration melted paraffin wax (56°C) is used; 3 x 6 hours.
- casting (blocking out) moulds (plastic, paper or metal chambers) are used for embedding.
- The moulds are filled with melted paraffin, tissue samples are then placed inside and immediately immersed in cold water to cool paraffin quickly down.
- These paraffin blocks are ready for trimming



## Automated device for tissue dehydration



### Paper chambers

### - metal









# CUTTING

 Microtome – a machine with automatic regulation of section thickness: 5 – 10 μm is optimum.



sliding microtome – block is fixed in holder, knife or razor moves horizontally



rotary microtome – knife is fixed, block holder moves vertically

## **Sliding microtome**





## **Rotary microtome**





Freezing microtome (**cryostat**) = rotary microtome housed in freezing box (- 60<sup>o</sup> C)

Cutting of frozen tissue without the embedding























perpendicular section



#### simple columnar epithelium





oblique section

# AFFIXING

- Mixture of glycerin and egg albumin or gelatin
- Section are transferred from microtome razor or knife on the level of warm water (45° C), where they are stretched; then they are put on slides coated with adhesive mixture; excess of water is drained and slides are put in incubator (thermostat, 37° C) over night to affixing of sections.



### Stretching of sections on warm water



### Stretching on a warm plate



# STAINING

- Different cell or tissue structures are not apparent without staining.
- Cellular structures exhibit different affinity to staining dyes
- **alkaline dyes** (basic or nuclear) react with anionic groups of cell and tissue components
- basophilia basophilic structures in the cell

acid dyes (cytoplasmic) – react with cationic groups
 acidophilia – acidophilic structures in the cell
 neutrophilia – no reaction

## **Staining methods:**

<u>routine</u> – HE, AZAN (demonstrate all components of tissue)



### HE – the most frequent used method



### <u>special</u> visualizes only special structures



Lipid droplets detected by oil red

### impregnation

by silver salt for detection of nerve or reticular fibers



## ROUTINE STAINING with HEMATOXYLINE – EOSIN (HE)

Hematoxyline – basic (nuclear) dye

Eosin – acid (cytoplasmic dye

- Staining procedure:
- paraffin must be removed (dissolved) by xylene
- sections are rehydrated in descending series of ethanol (100%  $\rightarrow$  96%  $\rightarrow$  80%)
- staining with hematoxyline
- differentiation in acid ethanol and water (excess of dye is removed)
- staining with eosin
- rinsing in water (excess of dye is removed)
- dehydration in graded ethanol series (80%  $\rightarrow$  96%  $\rightarrow$  100%)
- clearing in xylene



## **HEMATOXYLINE – EOSIN (HE)**


### Staining results:

• <u>HE</u> = Hematoxyline – Eosin

nuclei – bright clear blue or dark <u>violet</u> cytoplasm and collagen fibers – <u>pink</u> muscle tissue – red

 <u>HES</u> = *Hematoxyline* – *Eosin* – *Safron* connective tissue – <u>yellow</u>

- <u>AZAN</u> = AZocarmin ANiline blue orange G nuclei – red erythrocytes – orange muscle – red
  - collagen fibers <u>blue</u>

#### Staining tools:



cuvette





flask









### Automatic slide stainer



staining set of boxes with media



### MOUNTING

 Finally, preparates are closed with coverslip (coverglass) to form a permanent preparate. Small amount of mounting medium must be placed between stained section and the coverslip.



• Mounting media: soluble in xylene – canada balsam soluble in water – glycerin-gelatine, arabic gum



Permanent histological slides for study in the light microscope

# Hematoxyline and eosin (HE)



## Hematoxyline and eosin (HE)



# Hematoxyline and eosin (HE)



# Hematoxyline, eosin and saffron (HES)



Collagenous fibers of connective tissue are yellow after staining with saffron

# Azocarmine and aniline blue (AZAN)





Kidney – collagen connective tissue

### Impregnation of tissue with silver



Lien - reticular fibers

**Cerebellum – nerve fibers** 

# Iron hematoxyline



Skeletal muscle cells (fibers)

# Iron hematoxyline



Mitochondria in hepatocytes



## Histochemistry and Immunohistochemistry

• <u>Relevance</u>:

various chemical compounds detected "in situ" (proteins, AA, NA, saccharides, lipids, enzymes, pigments, inorganic substances – Fe, Ca, Zn)

Various epitopes detected by immunotechniques

Enzyme conjugated with secondary Ab visualization

Secondary Ab specific against primary Ab

Primary Ab specific against epitope of the particular antigen

Antigen



Actin (cytoskeleton)

#### DAPI (nucleus)

#### Microtubules (cytoskeleton)







## **Tissue processing for the EM**

pH of all solutions (media) must be buffered on 7.2 – 7.4
Cacodylate or phosphate buffer is frequently used.

Absolutely dustfree environment

• Solutions (media) have to be precise (artifacts)



# **Tissue processing for the EM**

- SAMPLING immediatelly after arresting of blood circulation, tissue block sized no more than 1mm<sup>3</sup>
- FIXATION glutaraldehyde (binds amine groups) + OsO<sub>4</sub> (binds lipids) are used as double fixation
- **RINSING** distilled water
- **DEHYDRATION** ethanol
- EMBEDDING gelatin capsule or plastic forms are filled with some medium (which can be polymerized from liquid to solid form) and pieces of fixed tissue are placed into this medium. Epoxyd resins (Epon, Durcupan, Araldite) are usually used as in water insoluble media.
- CUTTING ultrathin sections (in ultramictomes)
- **CONTRASTING** ≈ staining



#### Embedding tools:

gelatin (1) or plastic (2) capsules

capsule holder (3)

embedding plates (4, 5)





Embedded blocks prepared for cutting







#### **Trimming the Specimen Block**

By trimming, using ultramicrotome, an excess of hard medium is removed and pyramide with minimal cut surface (0.1 mm2) is prepared.

Minimum of tissue (black) is in the top of pyramid



#### Cutting











Grid Types and Mesh Sizes



# Cutting

Ultrathin sections (70 – 100 nm) - ultramicrotomes.

Glass or diamond (b) knives with water reservoir are used

Sections slide flow on water in small container attached to the knive

Supporting grids





# **CONTRASTING** (=STAINING)

 principle of differentiation of structures – different dispersion of beam of electrons depending on atomic weight of elements.

"electron dyes" are thus mixtures of heavy metals: uranylacetate or lead citrate



stain droplet with floating grid placed section-side down on the droplet





Differences between LM and EM		
	LM	EM
Sampling	< 1 cm <sup>3</sup> minutes	< 1 mm <sup>3</sup> seconds
Fixation	formaldehyde 12 – 24 hours	glutaraldehyde 1 – 3 hours
Embedding	paraffin	epoxid resins (Durcupan)
Cutting Thickness of sections	microtome 5 – 10 μm	Ultramicrotomes 50 – 100 nm
Staining (LM) contrasting (EM)	dyes (hematoxyline – eosin)	heavy metals (uranylacetate,lead citrate)
Mounting (only LM)		
Result	histological slide (preparate)	photograph of ultrathin section

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### Thank you for attention