

## Slide Preparation

Supplies for making and storing 150 poly-L-lysine coated slides

Item	Quantity	Vendor	Catalog #
Fisher Premium Plain Glass Slides	~2 1/2 boxes	Fisher Scientific	12-544-1
slide racks and glass dishes	5 sets	Shandon Lipshaw	121
poly-L-lysine	100 ml	Sigma	P-8920
NaOH		Sigma	S-0899
95% Ethanol		CWA	412602
desiccator cabinet		Fisher	

### 1. Prepare NaOH-ethanol solution

- dissolve NaOH in ddH<sub>2</sub>O      70 g / 280 mL      175 g / 700mL      200 g / 800 mL
- stir until completely dissolved
- add 95% ethanol                      420 mL                      1050 mL                      1200mL
- stir until completely mixed
- if solution remains cloudy, add water until clear

2. Place slides in metal slide racks (30 slides/rack). Do not use defective slides.

3. Soak slides in the NaOH:EtOH:ddH<sub>2</sub>O solution for 2 hours with gentle rotation.

4. Rinse **extensively** with dH<sub>2</sub>O:

- rinse each unit (slide/rack/container) vigorously with dH<sub>2</sub>O for 5 min
- place slide racks in a large clean glass container, and tilt the container slightly for constant water flow.
- wash under running water for 30 minutes.
- do not allow the slides to dry at any time.

*It is critical to remove all traces of NaOH:EtOH.*

5. Prepare poly-L-lysine solution in plastic container.

- 100 mL tissue culture PBS      800 mL Milli-Q water      100 mL poly-L-Lysine
- We bring up the volume to about 1050 mL with Milli-Q water in order to submerge 3 racks of slides.
- Mix well and split into 3 plastic containers.

6. Soak the slides in lysine solution for 45 min with shaking. Be sure to use a plastic container, because poly-L-lysine adheres to glass.

*Poly-L-Lysine solution may be reused. Keep the other slide filled racks in dH<sub>2</sub>O, while the first 3 are being coated.*

7. After the lysine coating, rinse the slides by gently plunging up and down in 2 different changes of water. Spin dry 5' at 600 rpm. Place paper towels below rack to absorb liquid.
8. Store slides in a dessicator for 3 weeks prior to use. Slides that are older than 3 months may result in faint printing and higher background.

*Be sure to clean racks and containers thoroughly after each use.  
Built-up poly-L-Lysine on the sides of the containers may cause problems.*