

Version 4b, Last updated 22 April 2026

ab150667 Elastic (Connective Tissue Stain)

For the histological staining of Elastin in tissue sections.

This product is for research use only and is not intended for diagnostic use.

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1. Overview

The Elastic (Connective Tissue Stain) is intended for use in the histological demonstration of elastin in tissue sections.

Demonstration of elastic in tissue is useful in cases of emphysema (atrophy of elastic tissue), arteriosclerosis (thinning and loss of elastic fibers) and various other vascular diseases.

Staining Interpretation:

Elastic Fibers	Black to Blue/Black
Nuclei	Blue to Black
Collagen	Red
Muscle and other	Yellow

Control Tissue:

Lung or any vascular tissue.

2. Materials Supplied and Storage

Store kit at Room temperature immediately on receipt and check below for storage for individual components.

Keep away from open flame and refer to the safety datasheet.

Item	Quantity (30 mL pack size)	Quantity (100 test / 125 mL pack size)	Storage temperature (before prep)
Hematoxylin Solution (5%)	60 mL	250 mL	RT
Ferric Chloride Solution (10%)	30 mL	125 mL	RT
Lugol's Iodine Solution	30 mL	125 mL	RT
Ferric Chloride (2%) Differentiating Solution	60 mL	125 mL	RT
Sodium Thiosulfate Solution	30 mL	125 mL	RT
Van Gieson's Solution	30 mL	125 mL	RT
Graduated Mixing Vial	1 Each	Not supplied	RT

3. Materials Required, Not Supplied

These materials are not included in the kit, but will be required to successfully perform this assay:

- 95% ethanol
- Graded alcohols

4. General guidelines, precautions, and troubleshooting

Please observe safe laboratory practice and consult the safety datasheet.

For general guidelines, precautions, limitations on the use of our assay kits and general assay troubleshooting tips, particularly for first time users, please consult our guide:

www.abcam.com/assaykitguidelines

For typical data produced using the assay, please see the assay kit datasheet on our website.

5. Assay Procedure

- Equilibrate all materials and prepared reagents to room temperature just prior to use and gently agitate.

Prepare working Elastic Stain Solution:

Item	Volume
Hematoxylin Solution (5%)	30 ml
Ferric Chloride Solution (10%)	12 ml
Lugol's Iodine Solution	12 ml

This mixed solution may be used for 24 hours.

Δ Note: Removal of mercury deposits is not required for tissues that have been fixed in mercury containing fixatives since it will be removed by the staining solution.

- 5.1** Deparaffinize sections if necessary and hydrate in distilled water.
- 5.2** Place slides in working Elastic Stain Solution for 15 minutes.
- 5.3** Rinse in running tap water until no excess stain remains on slide.
- 5.4** Dip slides in Differentiating solution 15-20 times and rinse in tap water.
- 5.5** Check slides microscopically for proper differentiation. Repeat step 5.4 if required.
- 5.6** Rinse slide in running tap water.
- 5.7** Place slides in Sodium Thiosulfate Solution for 1 minute.
- 5.8** Rinse slide in running tap water.
- 5.9** Stain slide using Van Gieson's Solution for 2-5 minutes.
- 5.10** Rinse in two changes of 95% ethanol.
- 5.11** Dehydrate in absolute alcohol.
- 5.12** Clear and mount in synthetic resin.

6. FAQs / Troubleshooting

General troubleshooting points are found at
www.abcam.com/assaykitguidelines

7. Notes

Technical Support

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