HOW TO PREPARE SLIDES FOR MICROSCOPIC VIEWING OF LIVE BLOOD OVER TIME

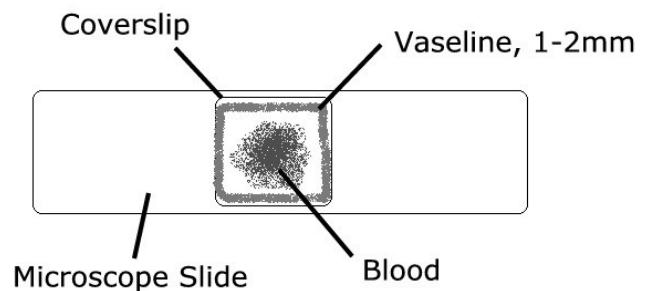*by James Sanders, Graphics by J. van Can*

EQUIPMENT:

- MICROSCOPE EQUIPPED WITH OIL DARKFIELD CONDENSER
- 90-100x OIL OBJECTIVE WITH ADJUSTABLE IRIS
- MICROSCOPE IMMERSION OIL
- MICROSCOPE SLIDES
- MICROSCOPE COVERSLIPS
- ALCOHOL 70% or HIGHER
- VASELINE
- COTTON SWAB
- DIABETIC LANCET

PREPARATION:

-Wash Hands

-Clean slide and coverslip with alcohol

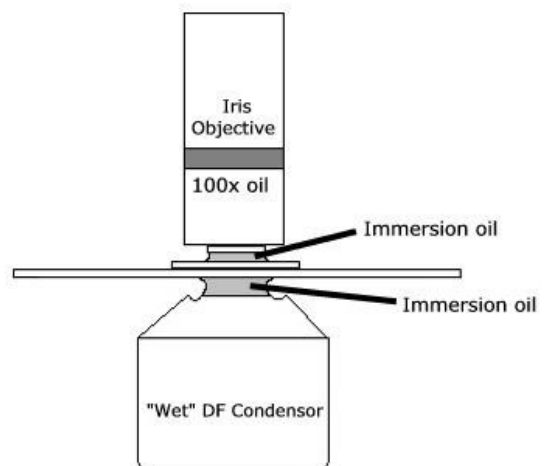-Clean any area slide will touch before prepped with alcohol

PROCEDURE:

-Take cotton swab and dip it into Vaseline

-Take cleaned coverslip and apply Vaseline with cotton swab on all four edges about 1 to 2 mm wide

-Open diabetic lancet and apply alcohol to the needle

-Apply alcohol to the area you intend to puncture with lancet (finger is ok but ear lobe is better)

-Puncture the skin and collect a very tiny drop of blood (**.**) <--- about that size and quickly touch the center of the slide to the drop of blood

-Quickly place Vaseline prepped coverslip on the drop of blood and press very slightly to ensure seal and spread the drop of blood out a bit and or slide the coverslip back and fourth just a bit to get the blood thinned and spread out. The thinned blood should look slightly tan to pink in color.

GETTING THE SLIDE SETUP ON THE MICROSCOPE:

-Turn microscope illuminator on

-Place a drop of microscope immersion oil on the dark field condenser

-Place slide on microscope

-Rack the microscope substage up until the drop of oil on the dark field condenser touches the bottom of the prepped slide you will see the light get more intense

-Move the axis controls a bit to get rid of any air bubbles

-Put a drop of immersion oil on the top of the prepared slide

-Rack the stage up until the slide touches the objective

VIEWING THE PREPPED SLIDE:

-Wait about 12 hours before viewing

-Best viewing is between 12 to 36 hours

NOTE TO PEOPLE ON THE MARSHALL PROTOCOL:

-Do not look directly into the eyepieces without NOIR's on

-Do not get immersion oil on your NOIR's it will delaminate them