Albert's Stain A

Albert's Stain A is used as staining solution for metachromatic staining.

Composition**

**Ingredients**
- Toluidine blue: 0.150 gm
- Malachite green: 0.200 gm
- Glacial acetic acid: 1.000 ml
- Ethyl alcohol, 95%: 2.000 ml
- Distilled water: 100.000 ml

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions
1. Prepare a thin smear on a clean dry glass slide.
2. Allow it to dry and fix with gentle heat.
3. Stain with Albert's Stain A (S001) for 3-5 minutes.
4. Drain the solution, do not wash.
5. Apply Albert's Stain B (S002) for 1 minute.
6. Rinse with water, blot dry and examine under oil immersion objective.

Principle And Interpretation
Albert's Metachromatic Stain demonstrates the presence of metachromatic granules found in *Corynebacterium diphtheria*. The granules stain purple-black against the light green counterstained cytoplasm. This helps to distinguish diphtheria from most of the short nonpathogenic diphtheroides which lack granules.

Quality Control

**Appearance**
Peacock blue coloured liquid.

**Clarity**
Clear without any particles.

**Microscopic Examination**
Metachromatic staining is carried out where Albert's Stain A is used as one of the stains and staining characteristic of organism is observed under microscope by using oil immersion lens.

**Results**
The metachromatic granules of Diphtheria bacilli stain black and the cytoplasm stains light green.

Storage and Shelf Life
Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and away from bright light. Use before expiry date on label.

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