

Q-Stain® X Autostainer

Daily Workflow Sample

Beginning of the Day

- Remove all reagents from the refrigerator and let them equalize to room temperature
- Load needed reagents on reagent wheel
 - Top circular vent cap and main cap must be removed prior to loading
 - Keep vent caps and main caps together to avoid contamination
- Turn on the Q-Stain® X and let it run through its prime sequence
- Once on and primed, have stainer scan in reagents
- This is accomplished by pressing Scan in the “pHRP-Ab” menu
- Top off any bulk reagents as needed and adjust levels appropriately to reflect the actual reagent levels by moving up the slider next to each reagent in the “Bulk Reagent” menu

Preparing Slides

- Use charged hydrophilic slide
- Cut between 3-6 microns
- Place tissue section within staining area, guide slides provided
- Place slides in cold acetone for 1-2 minutes. If using a Nuclear stain, 10% NBF must be used
- Then hold in wash buffer until ready to load

Loading Machine

- Remove slide from wash buffer and dab off excess
- Attach slide cassette/tile to slide and ensure there is a tight seal
- Place slide in desired slide well, again ensuring a tight fit
- Once slides are loaded, tests must be assigned
- On the home screen, select the slide well number to highlight and select the desired test from list on right side of screen
- Continue until all slides are assigned
- Make sure lid is closed and press “Start”
- Machine will alert you if there are any solutions that are low and may need to be replaced or refilled

Unloading Machine

- Once the run is complete, slides can be removed from the stainer
 - Slides will still need to be dehydrated once run is complete
- Open lid and remove slides from their wells
- Unclip cassette/tile and place slides in 100% alcohol
- Once all slides are waiting in alcohol, continue dehydration and clearing of slides
- Coverslip slides, label and present to surgeon

End of the Day

- Proceed to bulk reagent screen and press “Return Bulk Reagents” to empty the lines
- Once complete, machine may be turned off
- Removed reagents from wheel
- Recap and plug them for storage
- Return reagents to refrigerator
- Log cases for the day
- Complete any needed maintenance indicated on maintenance schedule