



Catalog Number  
08-801

For *In vitro* Diagnostic Use.

**DEFINITION:**

**Gram** is a specially designed microscope slide intended to be part of a quality control program to monitor stains and staining techniques. Each slide contains one block of gram positive control (*Staphylococcus aureus*), and one block of gram negative control (*Escherichia coli*).

For the convenience of the technologist, each slide also contains 6 blank blocks numbered 1 - 6, which are to be utilized in staining unknown specimens.

**STORAGE:** Store the **Gram** slides at room temperature (20°-30°C). Do not freeze or expose to excess heat. Use until expiration date indicated on the label.

**WARNING:** Organisms on the **Gram** slide may be potentially viable., Handle as if capable of transmitting infection.

**PREPARATION OF SMEARS FROM CULTURES OR SPECIMENS:**

**For Microorganisms in Liquid Suspension:**

1. Spread a loopful of suspension on one of the numbered sections of the **Gram** slide, recording the section number used for each specimen.
2. Allow the smear(s) to air dry.
3. Optional:\* Heat-fix over a low flame; cool to room temperature before staining.

**For Microorganisms from Colonies on Solid Media:**

1. Place a small loopful of distilled water on a section of the **Gram** slide as above.
2. Touch a sterile inoculating loop to a colony, and mix thoroughly into the drop of water on the slide to obtain an even suspension of microorganisms.
3. Allow the smears to air-dry.
4. Optional:\* Heat-fix over low flame or on a slide warmer; cool to room temperature before staining.

**For Microorganisms in Specimens:**

1. Obtain specimen by pipette, loop, or swab.
2. Smear specimen over a section of the **Gram** slide as above to obtain a thin film.
3. Allow the smear(s) to air dry.
4. Optional:\* Heat-fix over low flame or on a slide warmer; cool to room temperature before staining.

**RECOMMENDED STAINING PROCEDURE:**

Fisherbrand **Gram** is designed to compliment all valid Gram staining procedures. When using Fisher Scientific Company's Gram Stain Kit (SG-100D) the following procedure is recommended:

1. Place air-dried or heat-fixed slide on a flat surface such as a staining rack.
2. Flood with Crystal Violet and allow to remain on the slide for one minute.
3. Wash off excess stain gently with cold tap water.
4. Remove excess tap water by gently tapping slide on its side.
5. Flood slide with gram's Iodine Solution, and allow this to remain on the slide for at least one minute.
6. Remove Gram's Iodine by gently rinsing with cold tap water.
7. Hold the slide an angle so that the Decolorizer can be applied drop-wise directly on one end off the slide. Observe the color of the solvent solution washing over the specimens. Decolorization is complete when the solvent flows colorless off the slide, and this depends upon the density of specimen(s) or organisms on each smear (approximately 3-5 seconds). NOTE: The gram stain reaction of the gram-positive control may vary in intensity according to the amount of Decolorizer and the brand of the gram stain kit used.
8. Wash slide gently with cold tap water to remove excess Decolorizer Solution.
9. Replace slide on staining rack in flat position. Flood with Safranin Solution. Allow stain to remain on the slide for one minute.
10. Wash off Safranin Solution with cold tap water.
11. Blot off excess water or allow to air-dry.
12. Examine microscopically under oil immersion lens.

**RESULTS:** Positive Control - Purple-Blue cocci in clusters • Negative Control - Red rods  
Gram Positive organisms will stain purple-blue • Gram Negative will stain pink to red

**REFERENCES:** Bailey and Scott, *Diagnostic Microbiology*, Baron, E.J. Peterson, L. & Finegold, S.M., 9th Edition, 1994  
Mosby Co., St. Louis, Missouri.

\* Heat-fixing is not required to achieve results  
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**DISTRIBUTED BY:**  
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**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET**

**IDENTITY:** **Gram** Product No. 8-801 **AFB** Product No. 8-802

Manufactured by: Bio-Test Medical, Inc. Telephone: 724-444-0933  
3503 Gibsonia Road Emergency No.: 724-444-0933  
Gibsonia, PA 15044  
Manufactured for: Fisher Scientific

Issued: 7/1/2022

**HAZARDOUS COMPONENTS:** None

**PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS:** None

**FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA:** N/A

**REACTIVITY DATA:**

Stability:	Stable	Conditions to avoid:	None
Incompatibility/Materials to avoid:	None		
Hazardous Decomposition:	None		
Hazardous Polymerization:	Will not occur		

**HEALTH HAZARD DATA:**

Health Hazard:	Exposure to possible infection
Signs/Symptoms of Exposure:	Possible infection

**PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING AND USE:**

Precautions to be taken in handling and storing: gloves, wash hands, store at room temperature. Glass slides should be treated as if a patient specimen.

Spill or release procedures:	N/A
Waste Disposal Methods:	Dispose of in Bio-Hazard Waste Containers

**CONTROL MEASURES:** N/A

Sara Title III: In Compliance with Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 and 40 CFR Part 372 the following toxic chemicals are present: None

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS BELIEVED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER NO GUARANTEE IS EXPRESS OR IMPLIED