NEO GENOMICS

November 2026

Unstained Slide Submission Requirements for IHC and ISH

Due to specifications required of Roche's Ventana® Benchmark Ultra IHC/ISH staining platform, certain positively charged glass can cause inconsistent staining.

To reduce repeat testing attempts and ensure accurate results, we are:

- Requesting clients use certain slides with more uniform performance
- Requesting blocks instead of unstained slides when possible
- Reviewing tips for slide preparation and storage

We support the following slide brands:

Fisherbrand | **Mercedes Starfrost Adhesive** | **TOMO** | **VWR Superfrost**

This issue of inconsistent staining is recognized by other laboratories and was described in Ventana's 2013 white paper "Impact of environmental stress on various histology slide types" (available upon request). Heat, humidity, and time are suspected to alter the positive charge and affect the distribution of fluid across the slide surface. These issues can lead to uneven staining and can occur randomly within a case.[1]

Brands we do not support include:*

- Avantik
- ASI Frosted Top
- ASSURE
- Dako Flex
- Erie Polysine
- EverGreen
- Knittle Starfrost Adv Adhesive
- Leica Apex
- Leica SurgiPath X-Tra
- Matsunami MAS-GP
- Matsunami Platinum
- PermaflexPlus
- Premiere
- "Specimen" Printed Slides
- Tanner
- Thorlabs Unimark
- VistaVision Histobond



NeoGenomics is contacting clients to request blocks when we receive specimens on these slides. If a client instructs us to continue with staining on the slides received, we will proceed but not repeat the case if inconsistent staining occurs.

* Non-recommended brands are not limited to this list and are subject to change

Sending blocks instead of slides

Whenever specimen allocation allows, please send the FFPE block to NeoGenomics rather than cut slides. This ensures the H&Es are recent and enables us to prepare fresh slides in the minimum quantity and best configuration for the combination of tests ordered.

Good practices for slide storage and preparation:

- Keep unused slides in their package
- Limit exposure to humidity
- Monitor slide drying time to minimize heat exposure
- Recall that our IHC requirements for slides are:
  - *Two to three (2-3) positively charged unstained slides cut at 4-5 microns for each test/antibody ordered.*
  - *Add one (1) unbaked, unstained slide for H&E staining for image analysis cases.*
- Block and slide identifiers should be clearly written and match exactly with the specimen ID and specimen labeling as noted on the requisition.

We appreciate your efforts to help us maintain efficiency and high quality.

For more information or questions, please contact our Client Services team at 866.776.5907, opt 3, and ask for any **Pathologist or AP Laboratory Manager**.

1. Pozarowski K., Blinco C., Tast D., Impact of environmental stress on various histology slide types. 2013 Ventana Medical Systems, Inc.

NeoGenomics, Inc. is a premier cancer diagnostics company specializing in cancer genetics testing and information services. We offer one of the most comprehensive oncology-focused testing menus across the cancer continuum, serving oncologists, pathologists, hospital systems, academic centers, and pharmaceutical firms with innovative diagnostic and predictive testing to deliver timely, actionable insights that guide personalized care decisions. Headquartered in Fort Myers, FL, NeoGenomics operates a network of CAP-accredited and CLIA-certified laboratories for full-service sample processing and analysis services throughout the US and a CAP-accredited full-service sample-processing laboratory in Cambridge, England.

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