

PREPARATION OF 2% FORMALDEHYDE STOCK SOLUTION (2 METHODS)

METHOD 1:

Formaldehyde preservative – 2% formaldehyde solution in protein-free phosphate-buffered saline (PBS).

Prepare as follows:

Add 2 g paraformaldehyde powder (e.g., Sigma, St. Louis, MO) to 100 ml of 1 X PBS. Heat to 70°C (do not exceed this temperature) in a fume hood until the paraformaldehyde goes into solution (note that this happens quickly as soon as the suspension reaches 70°C). Allow the solution to cool to room temperature. Adjust to pH 7.4 using 0.1 M NaOH or 0.1 M HCl, if needed. Filter and store at 4°C protected from light.

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METHOD 2:

Formaldehyde preservative – 2% formaldehyde solution in protein-free PBS.

Prepare as follows:

10% formaldehyde*	20 ml
10 x PBS	10 ml
Distilled water	70 ml

* 10% formaldehyde solution (e.g., Polysciences, Warrington, PA, ultrapure, Cat.#04018), depolymerized paraformaldehyde, EM grade, methanol-free solution.