Subbing of slides for mouse embryo sections for mRNA detection

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Equipment and reagents

- Slide racks for 25 slides
- Oven
- TESPA (aminopropyltriethoxysilane) (Sigma, A3648)
- Crome-alum gelatin: 0.5% crome-alum, 0.5% gelatin. Dissolve gelatin at a concentration of 5 g per litre in DEPC treated water at 60 °C on a stirrer, and then add 5 g chrome-alum per litre. Filter through Whatman 3MM paper.

Method A

1. Put slides in slide rack(s).
2. Dip for 30 sec in 10% HCl, 70% ethanol.
3. Wash in distilled water.
4. Dip for 30–60 sec in 95% ethanol.
5. Dry in an oven at 70–80 °C for 20–40 min and allow to cool.
6. Dip slides in 2% TESPA in acetone for 30 sec.
7. Wash twice in acetone and then in distilled water.
8. Dry at 37–42 °C for several hours. Can store airtight for months at room temperature.

Method B

1. Wash slides with an abundant volume of 0.5% SDS.
2. Wash slides in tap-water for 1 h.
3. Put slides in 25 slide rack(s) and wash twice in bidistilled water.
4. Dip slides in chrome-alum gelatin for 2 min.
5. Air dry and bake at 150 °C for 2–3 h or at 37 °C overnight. Can store airtight for months at room temperature.