

## Center for Musculoskeletal Research

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## Histology and Histomorphometry Core

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### Immunohistochemistry: Active b-catenin (by Marc Wein, adapted by Frank Ko)

updated: 10/22/2014

#### Tissue Preparation:

1. Fix the bone samples in 4% PFA for 24 hrs at 4°C
2. Decalcify the samples with 20% EDTA at 4°C for 7 days (change the EDTA daily)
3. Paraffin processing (histocore)

#### Before starting:

- Make 1L 1X TBS
  - 100 mL 10X TBS
    - 10X TBS (1L): 60.5 g Tris (Fisher BP152)  
87.6g NaCl (Fisher BP358)  
pH to 7.5  
Bring to 1L w/ ~800 mL H<sub>2</sub>O
  - 900 mL H<sub>2</sub>O
- Prepare humid chambers (w/ Whatman paper)
- Make 4L 1X TNT
  - 400 mL 10x TBS
  - 3600 mL dH<sub>2</sub>O
  - 2 mL Tween-20 (Sigma P2287): add while stirring
- Make Trypsin
  - Add 1 trypsin tablet (Sigma T7168-50) per 1 ml dH<sub>2</sub>O

#### Staining process: (use TSA kit, Perkin Elmer #NEL700A)

1. Incubate slides at 60°C on slide warmer for at least 1 hr
2. Deparaffinize and dehydrate (use clean solutions!)
  - a. Xylene, 3x 3 min
  - b. 100% EtOH, 2x 2min
  - c. 95% EtOH 2 min
3. Rehydrate in 1X TBS, 5 min RT
4. Circle sections with Pap-pen
5. Trypsin, 15 min 37°C in moist chamber
  - a. Add 1 trypsin tablet (Sigma T7168-50) per 1 ml dH<sub>2</sub>O

6. 3% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10 min RT
  - a. 25 ml 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + 225 mL MeOH
7. dH<sub>2</sub>O, 5 min, RT
8. Equilibrate sections by rinsing with 1X TBS
9. Incubate with TNB at RT in moist chamber for 30 min
10. 1° antibody diluted in TNB, RT in moist chamber for 1 hr at 4°C
  - a. b-catenin (Cell Signaling 8814S) 1:500 dilution in TNB
11. Wash: 1X TNT, 3x 5 mins at RT
12. Biotinylated 2° Ab diluted in TNB, in moist chamber for 30 min
  - a. antiRabbit IgG, 1/200 (Vector BA1000)
13. Wash: 1X TNT, 3x 5 min at RT
14. SA-HRP (from kit) 1:100 dilution in TNB, 30 mins at RT
15. Wash: 1X TNT, 3x 5 min at RT
16. Biotynil Tyramid (kit) 1:50 dilution in amplification diluent, 5 min RT
17. Wash: 1X TNT, 3x 5 min at RT
18. SA-HRP (from kit) 1:100 dilution in TNB, 30 min RT
19. Wash: 1X TNT, 3x 5 min at RT
20. For HRP detection, use DAB (VECTOR SK-4100)  
In 5ml dH<sub>2</sub>O:
  - Add 2 drops buffer; mix well
  - Add 4 drops DAB; mix well
  - Add 2 drops H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>; mix well
  - Add 2 drops NiCl (optional)
21. Incubate until color develops (2-10 mins)
22. Wash 5 mins in dH<sub>2</sub>O
23. Counterstain (optional)
24. 95% EtOH 2 min
25. 100% EtOH 2x 3 min
26. Xylene 2x 5 min