

BASIC IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY GUIDELINES:

- Antibodies routinely used by the Anatomic Pathology Immunohistochemistry (AP IHC) Department are raised against human tissue in either mouse or rabbit host species. AKA—mouse anti-human or rabbit anti-human.
- The preferred detection system used to visualize the antibodies is a universal polymer-HRP. AKA--Envision+ Dual Link and DAB+ chromogen.
- Endogenous peroxidase (HRP) is blocked using 3% hydrogen peroxide.
- Endogenous proteins are blocked using a 5% Normal Goat Serum for routine testing; Universal Block for non-human tissue.
- Antigen Unmasking or epitope retrieval is performed via heat or enzymatic processes.
- An alternative to HRP staining available for selected antibodies is LSAB2-AP and Permanent Red chromogen.

COMPATIBILITY:

- Any human tissue that has/will be formalin-fixed and paraffin embedded will be compatible with AP IHC stock antibodies.
- Other tissue types, such as mouse, rat, etc. will require antibodies not stocked by AP IHC.
- If researcher wishes to provide an antibody, please ensure that it is compatible with test tissue and that it is suitable for use on paraffin embedded tissue. Example: for mouse tissue, rat anti-mouse or rabbit anti-mouse.
- For researcher provided antibodies, control tissue must be submitted to ensure true positive results.
- If slides are submitted, they **MUST** be either frozen-fresh acetone-fixed or paraffin embedded with a maximum thickness of 8 microns for frozen and 5 microns for paraffin.

****If unsure about compatibility please contact the AP IHC Department before purchasing antibodies. You may contact either Travis Mullan, Histotechnologist, Sr. at tmullan@mcvh-vcu.edu or Gwen Langston, Histotechnologist Supervisor at llangston@mcvh-vcu.edu.**