oncomap™
by EXACT SCIENCES

# Bone Decalcification Procedure for the Oncomap™ Test

The Oncomap test relies on a formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue block or slides for performance of next-generation sequencing (NGS) as well as immunohistochemical (IHC) staining.

Stronger bone fixation acids, like hydrochloric or even formic acid, can destroy the DNA and negatively impact NGS. Studies performed to assess the impact of decalcification have shown that EDTA-based decalcification has the least impact on DNA integrity; thus, use of EDTA is highly encouraged.[1,2]

EDTA allows for a gentle decalcification process in reaching an optimal pH of between 7.0 and 7.4.

## Shipping Instructions

1. Establish your preferred EDTA solution of ≤ 14%. OSTEOSOFT® (10-< 20% pH range) and Versenate (≤ 10% pH range) are both acceptable options. **Optimal decalcification pH is 7.0 – 7.4.**
2. Completely fix specimen prior to decalcification.
3. Follow manufacturer's instructions for specimen preparation and use of EDTA solution. **Decalcification time and quantity of solution used is dependent upon the size, type and density of the respective tissue.**
4. Monitor for decalcification end point. Decalcified tissue should be rubberlike in consistency and exhibit weak resistance to probing.
5. Process and embed specimen using standard practice guidelines.
6. Refer to the Oncomap Specimen Submission Guidelines for complete information on FFPE sample submission, specimen rejection criteria, testing priority and shipping.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICE AT**
**1-866-662-6897 or oncomap@exactsciences.com**

References:
1. Schrijver, WA, et al. Influence of decalcification procedures on immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology in breast cancer. Mod Pathol, 2016. 29(12):1460-1470
2. Sourced from: https://www.captodayonline.com/qa-column-417/



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