IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SPERM MORPHOLOGY
SMEAR STAINING PROCEDURES
FOR UNSTAINED SMEARS ONLY
Effective May 15, 2013

Unstained semen smears should be soaked for 15 minutes in 95% ethanol.

Here are additional stain specific instructions to follow that step.

For Modified Papanicolaou Stain: Proceed directly into the staining procedure.

For 3 Step Diff Quick Type Stain Kits:
1. After the ethanol soak, drain smear and air dry.
2. Apply all 3 solutions and clear according to stain manufacturer’s directions.

For Spermac™ Stain:
1. After the ethanol soak, drain smear and air dry.
2. Follow Formalin Fixative step according to stain manufacturer’s directions and air dry.
3. Wash, drain and stain according to stain manufacturer’s directions.

Note: Removing Spermac Stain B may improve the overall appearance of the smear. Stain B adds a rose-purple color to the postacrosome; however, it also stains background debris.
Omitting Stain B reduces the background staining but sperm will have green color only.