

INKING SURGICAL SAMPLES

IVP provides surgical ink free of charge.

Drawing ink (pure or diluted with isopropyl alcohol 1:1) can be used as a cheap alternative.



We recommend to transfer the ink onto a flat washing-up sponge (from the supermarket) and a plastic container and soak the sponge with the ink. This can be re-hydrated with water (or alcohol if using drawing ink) if need be.



Imagine this is your surgical sample. The green bit on top is haired skin and the yellow is dermis & subcutaneous tissue.

Washing-up sponge soaked in ink.

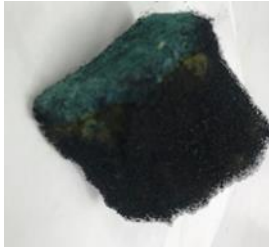


Using a cotton swab or just gloved fingers apply the ink to the surgical margins.

In this case the surgical margin is everything yellow.

Haired skin (dark green in this fictitious sample) does not need to be inked, it's always obvious under the microscope.

Please note though that THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS TOO MUCH INK!!!!



Once you are satisfied that the entire sample has been inked leave it to dry for around 5 minutes and THEN place in formalin as per usual.



Leave to dry for approx.5 minutes...then place in formalin.



Place sample in formalin as per usual.

Please note that the formalin may take on the colour of the ink – that's fine.