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Department of Pathological Anatomy Named After Professor P.G.Podzolkov

## **Lecture 1.**

### **Pathological Anatomy (Pathology) as a Science.**

### **Tasks and Subject of Study. Introduction to Pathology.**

Contents:

- Tasks of pathology as science, subject, specialty;
- Introduction to pathology;
- General and private pathological anatomy;
- Objects, levels and methods of pathologoanatomical investigations.

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# “**Pathological anatomy**” (Pathology)

- is a scientific-applied discipline that studies the structural basis of the diseases.

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- This is the science of changes in the architecture of the cells, tissues, and organs in pathological conditions (disorders).
- Pathological anatomy is strongly associated with other medical and biological disciplines.
- **Pathology** is the science of the patterns of occurrence and development of diseases.
- Pathological anatomy has both scientific and practical significance and it is one of the clinical disciplines in healthcare.

# The content of pathological anatomy:

- **General pathological processes** – such as injury of local and general blood circulation, inflammation, tumors and so on;
- **Etiology** (causes of the diseases);
- **Pathogenesis** (mechanism of pathological processes development);
- **Morphogenesis** (development of structural changes in diseases step by step);
- **Pathomorphosis** (changes in the diseases, morbidity, mortality, and disease course);
- **Iatrogenies** (pathology as a result of medical intervention).

**General pathological anatomy** includes **General** pathological processes underlying all diseases:

- Alteration;
- Dystrophies (Injury);
- Blood and lymph circulation disturbances;
- Necrosis;
- Inflammation;
- Immunopathological processes;
- Regeneration;
- Adaptive and compensative processes.

## The objects of study are:

- Organs and tissues biopsies;
- Operational material;
- Cytological material;
- Postmortem material;
- Experimental material.

# Biopsy

**is an intravital tissue resection from a patient for diagnostic purposes.**

It serves as the main method of establishing a diagnosis.

Modern instrumental and diagnostic capabilities make it possible to obtain biological material for research from almost any part of the patient's body.

Diagnostic work of a clinicians is **impossible without the participation of a pathologist.**

Any biological material obtained during a biopsy or surgical intervention is subject to mandatory histological examination, regardless of the disease for which the operation was performed.

# The main stages of pathological examination

## Macroscopic (Gross) examination

Description of external characteristics

Description of the material in the section



## Material cutting

Marking (Labeling) the margins of the resection

Cutting small tissue fragments



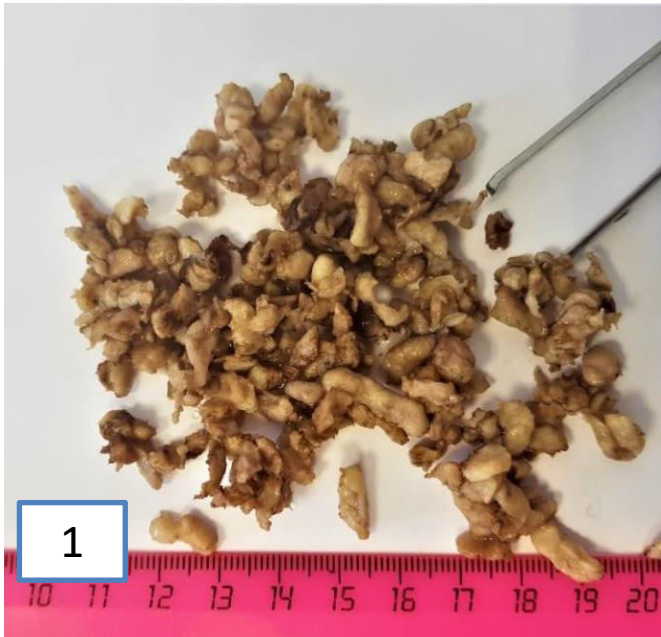
## Histoprocessing

Fixation (formalin)

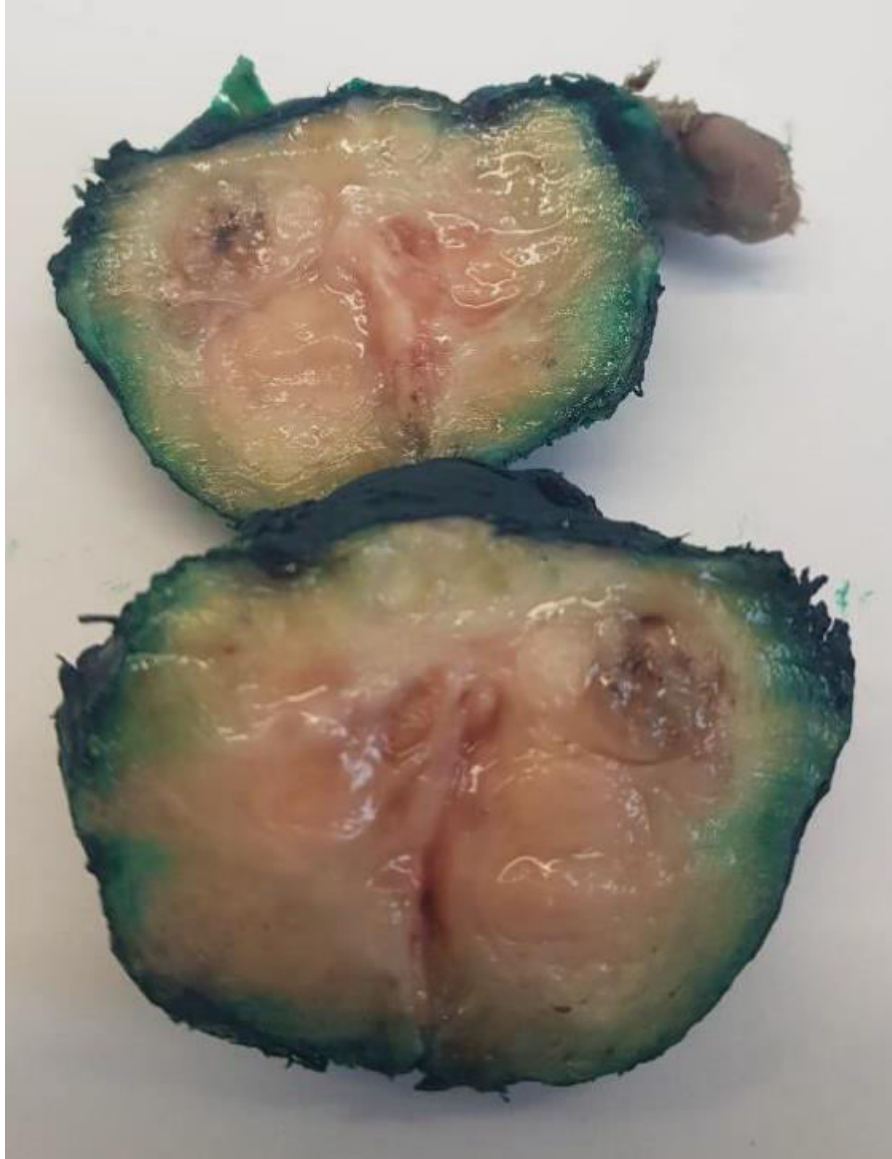
Processing in chemical reagents

Preparation of histological slides and microscopic examination

# Gross examination and labeling



# Cutting



- For microscopic examination, a pathologist cuts out individual small fragments.
- There are special protocols and recommendations governing the rules of the gross examination of organs and tissues.

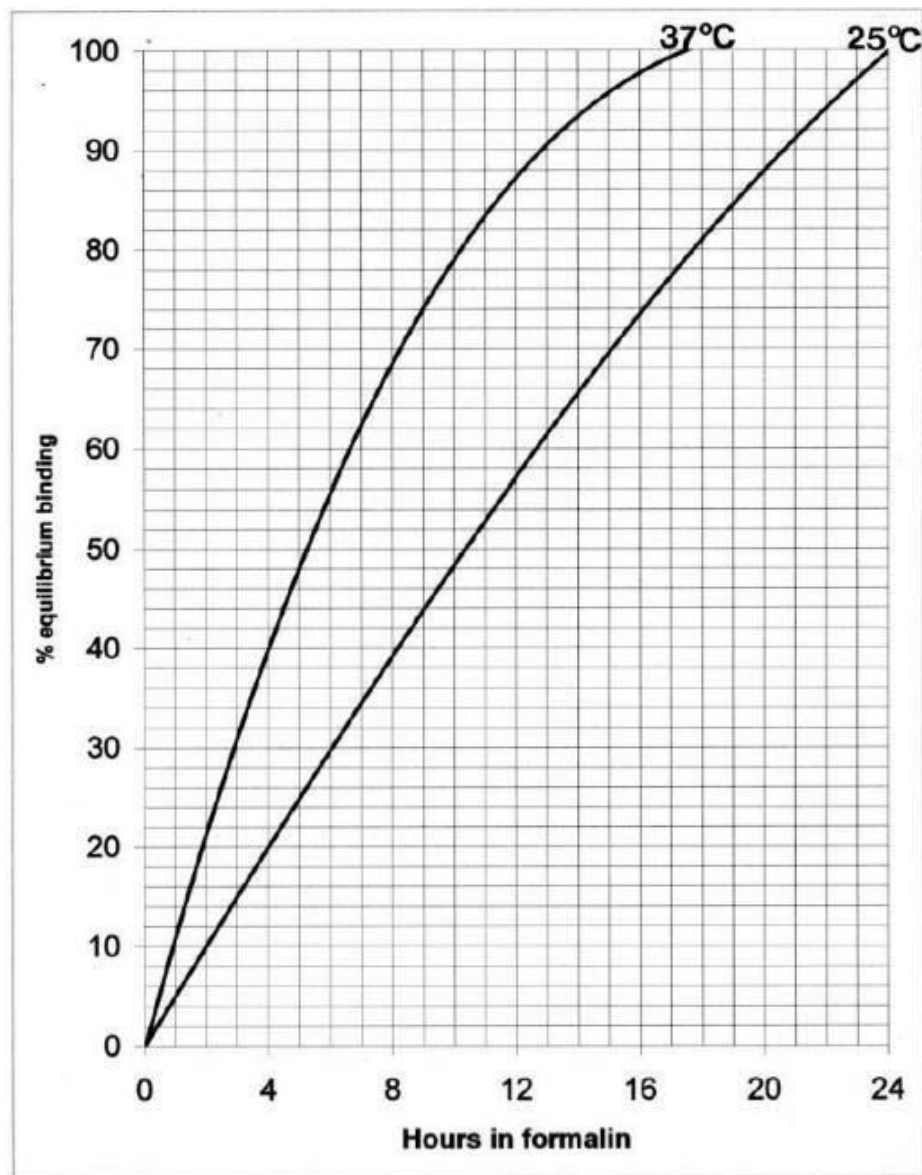
# An example of a macroscopic examination of the prostate gland



# Standard stages of histological processing

## STAGE 1

- **Fixation in formalin** (at least 24 hours).
- This is the most critical stage, violation of which leads to irreversible damage of the tissue.
- Haste at this stage is unacceptable.



Fox CH, Johnson FB, Whiting J, Roller PP: Formaldehyde fixation. *J Histochem Cytochem*, 1985; 33(8):845-853

## Stage 2

- Processing in alcohols, xylene.

## Stage 3

- Paraffin impregnation

Stages of histological processing are carried out either in containers (jars) placed in thermostats or in histoprocessors



# Histological blocks - plastic cassettes in which biological tissue fragments are imbedded with paraffin



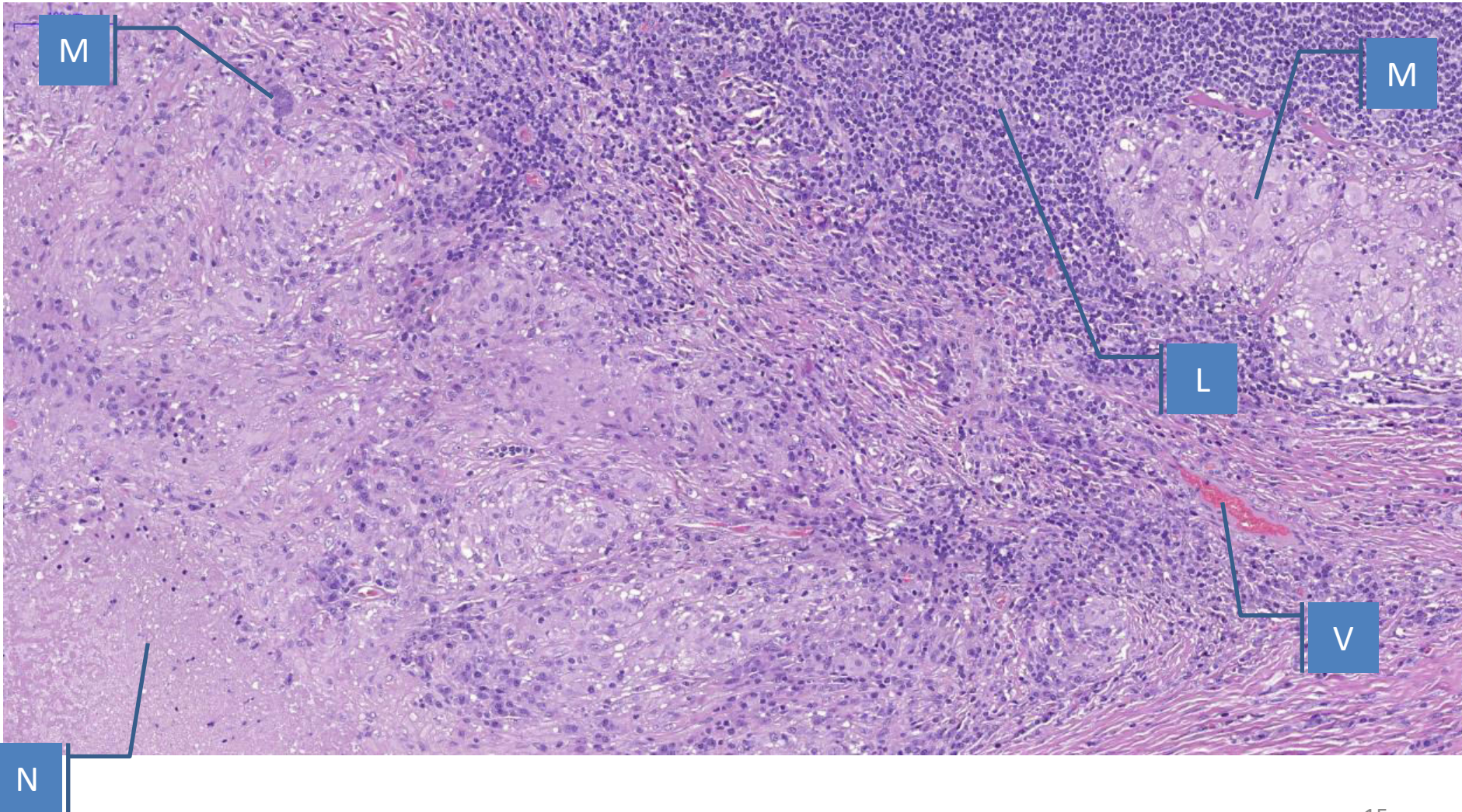
- paraffin blocks are installed in the microtome and thin sections with a thickness of 2 to 5 microns are made from them, which are applied to the histological glass.

Depending on the objectives of the study, slides are stained with histochemical dyes (there are hundreds of stains and their modifications).

## Hematoxylin-Eosin

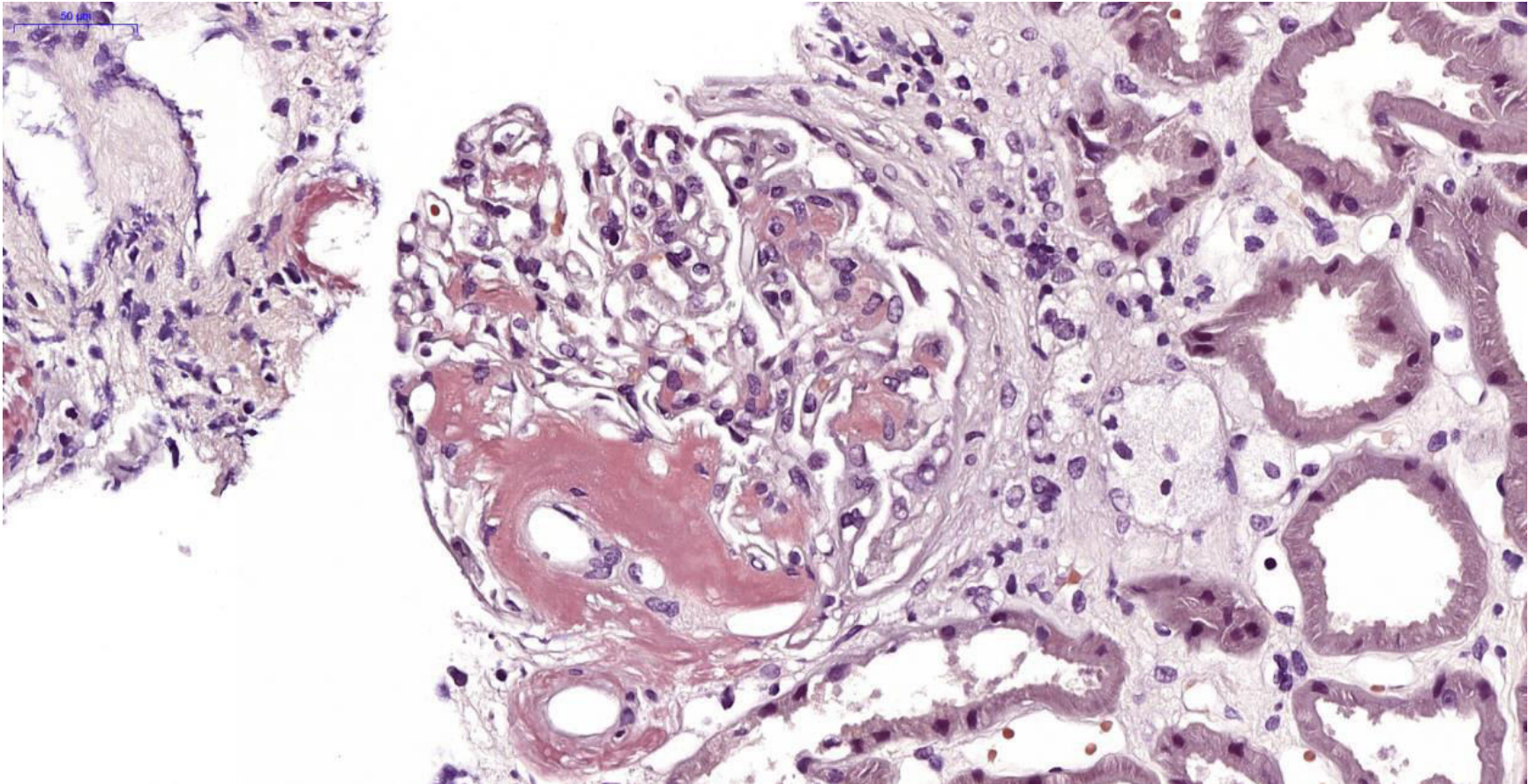
**Hematoxylin** stains nuclei in shades of blue and purple (**basophilic structures**).

**Eosin** stains the cytoplasm, basement membranes, fibrous elements of the stroma in shades of pink, erythrocytes in orange-red color (**eosinophilic structures**).



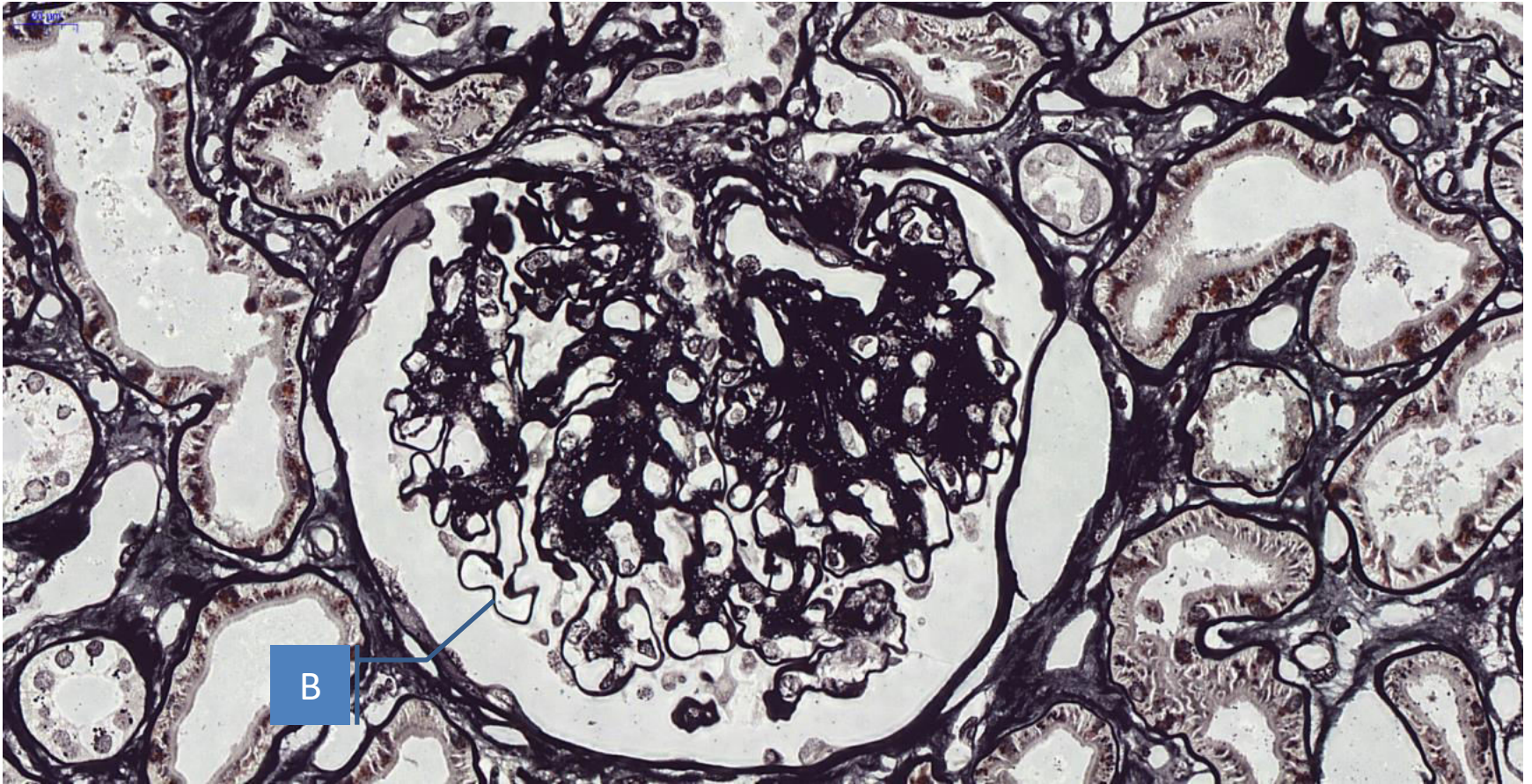
## Congo-red stain

Positively colored areas, when examined in polarized light, acquire an apple-green stain.



## Impregnation with silver salts (Silver stain)

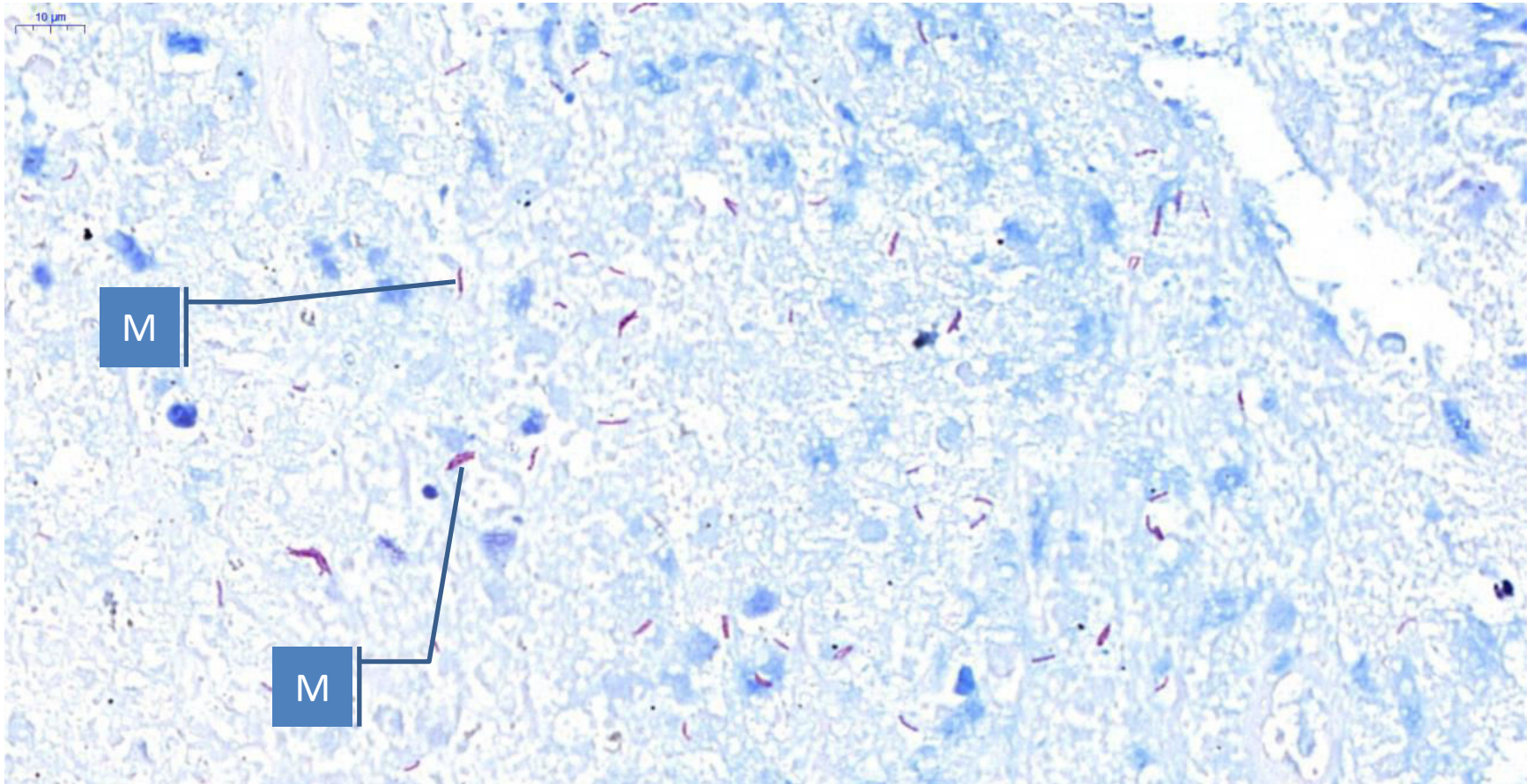
- staining reticulin fibers in various localizations (basement membranes),
- staining organelles



result of methenamine-silver staining of the basement membranes of the glomerular capillaries.

## Ziehl-Nielsen stain

Bright red (fuchsin) staining of acid-fast *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Koch's sticks).

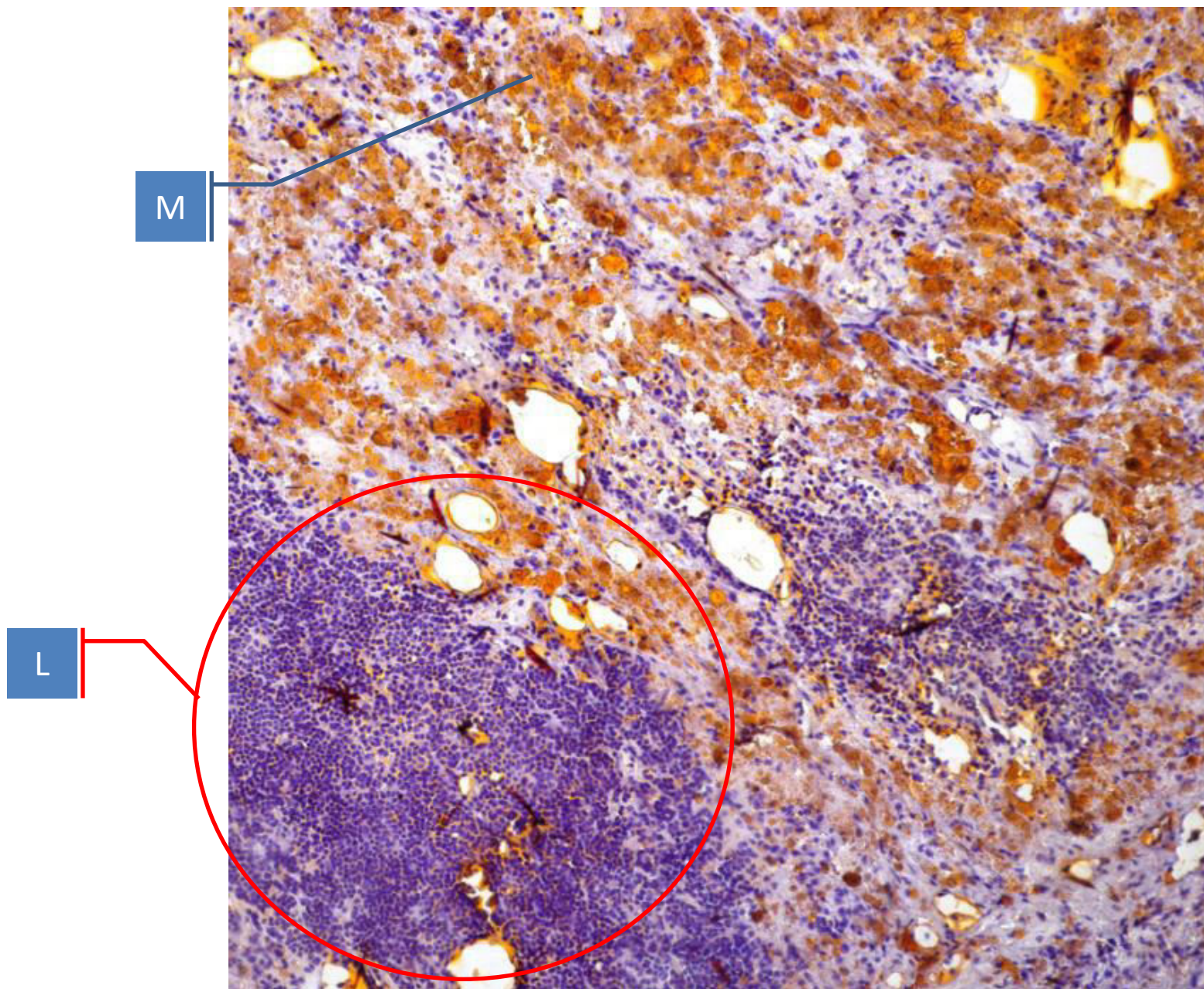


# Cryostat microtomy

- A method used for express diagnostics.
- tissue immediately after cutting by a pathologist is placed in special cryostat microtomes.
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- This technique allows a preliminary diagnosis to be obtained within 20 minutes.
- Also, this method is used to perform some additional stains (for example, staining for fats - Sudan-III, since fats are dissolved in alcohols during routine histoprocessing).



Technician with cryostatic microtome ("C")



Fields of macrophages with lipid-containing cytoplasmic inclusions of golden-orange color (Sudan-III stained cryostat section).

**Additional** morphological research methods.

**Currently, the most common in practice are:**

- Immunohistochemical study (IHC);
- In situ hybridization (CISH, SISH or FISH);
- Immunofluorescence analysis (ELISA);
- Electron microscopic examination.

# IHC

## (Immunohistochemistry)

- Immunohistochemistry is the use of antibody-based reagents for localization of specific epitopes in tissue sections.
- This method is based on the principle of "antigen-antibody" interaction.
- A positive reaction in this case is denoted by the term "expression", indicating the identified antigen. For example, "cells express CD20".

The range of indications for IHC investigation is extremely diverse and, among other includes:

- Differential diagnosis of cancer.
- Making an accurate diagnosis in the case of a tumor of unknown origin, including cases with metastasis.
- Assessment of the tumor's malignant potential.
- Determination of target molecules in tumor cells for personalized therapy (especially important for tumors of the breast, lung, brain, cervix, intestines, stomach ...)
- Diagnosis of endometrial pathology in infertility...

# A basic principle in diagnostic immunohistochemistry

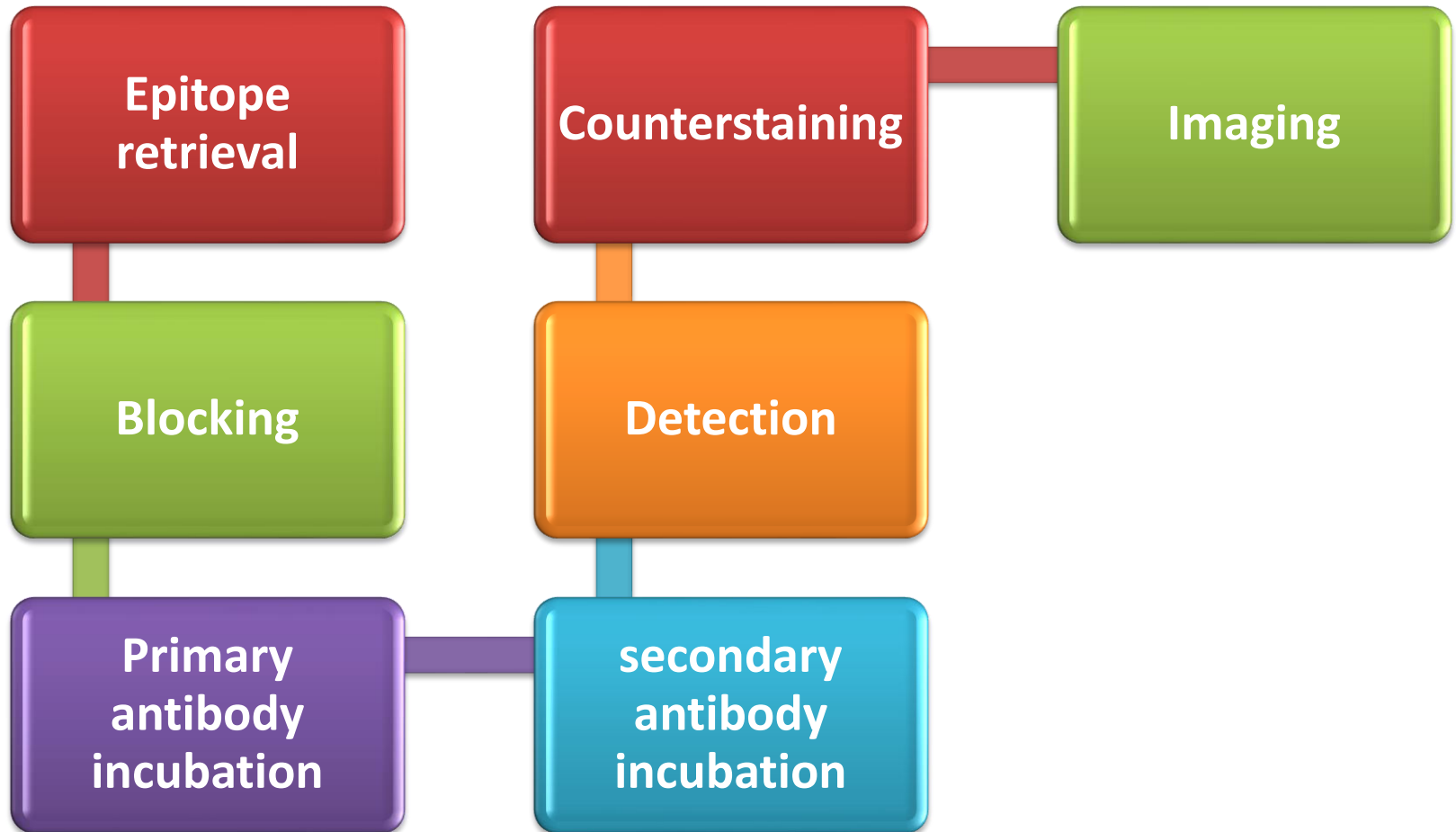
- the utilization of panels of antibodies, rather than single antibodies directed against markers of the suspected correct diagnosis.

ANTIBODY TO	SMALL CELL CARCINOMA	MELANOMA	LYMPHOMA	EFT	RMS	PDSS	DSRCT
Cytokeratins	Positive	Variable	Negative	Variable	Rare	Positive	Positive
Melanocytic markers	Negative	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
CD45	Negative	Negative	Positive*	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
Desmin	Negative	Variable	Negative	Rare	Positive	Negative	Positive
FLI1/ERG, NKX2.2	Negative	Negative	Negative	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative
Synaptophysin	Positive	Negative	Negative	Variable	Rare	Negative	Negative

EFT, Ewing family of tumors; RMS, rhabdomyosarcoma; DSRCT, desmoplastic small round cell tumor; PDSS, poorly differentiated synovial sarcoma.

\*Lymphoblastic lymphomas may be CD45 negative. In children, screen with TdT and CD43 instead of CD45.

# IHC steps



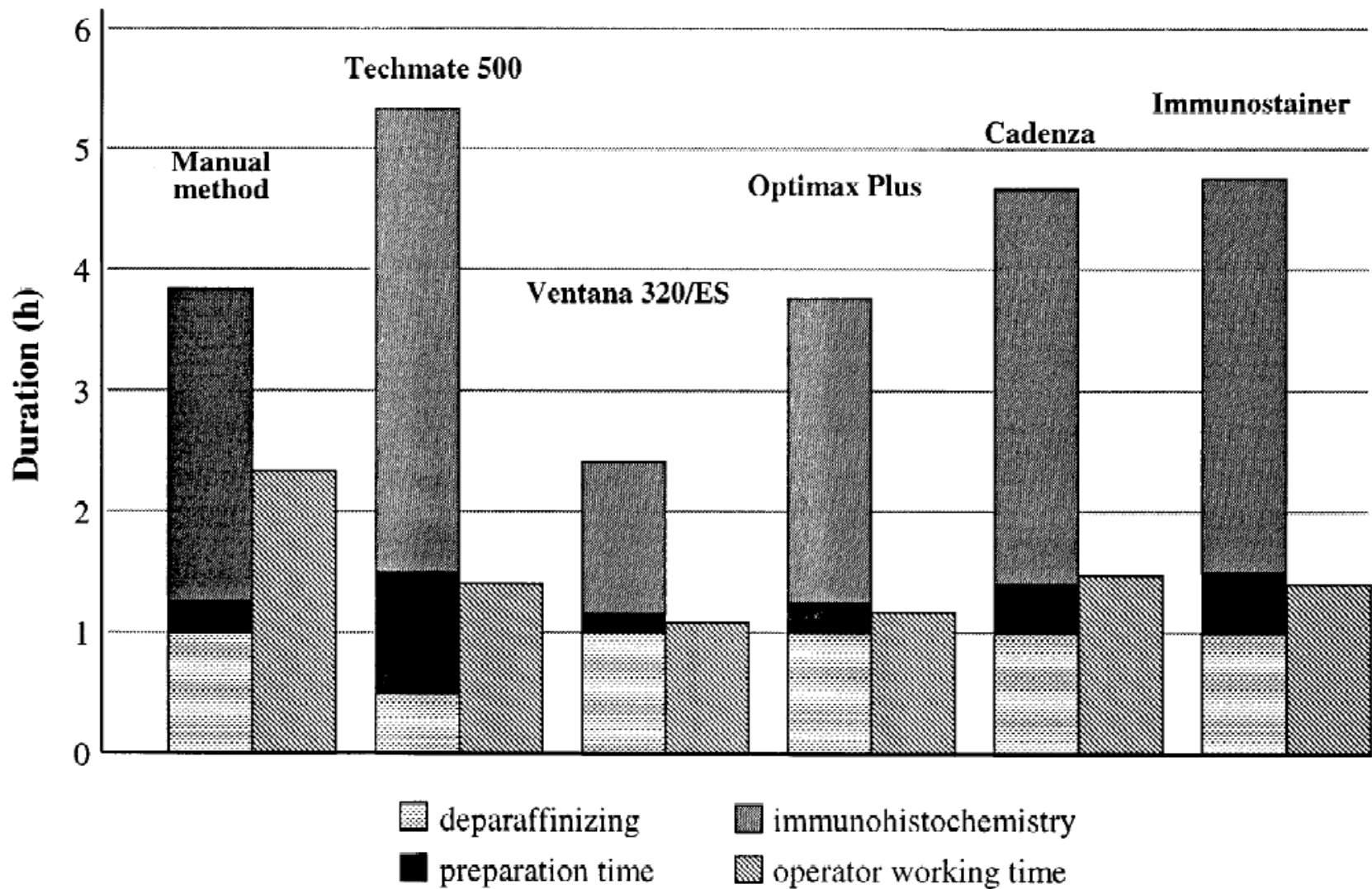
# automated systems

Biologist

Pathologist

Immunostainers





Le Neel, T., Moreau, A., Labois, C., & Truchaud, A. (1998). Comparative evaluation of automated systems in immunohistochemistry. *Clinica Chimica Acta*, 278(2), 185–192. doi:10.1016/S0009-8981(98)00146-6 ([https://doi.org/10.1016/S0009-8981\(98\)00146-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0009-8981(98)00146-6))

# Thanks for attention!



# Welcome to Pathology ☺