May Grunwald/Giemsa Staining for Cytospin Slides

Reagents: May-Grunwald, 4% Giemsa, water, (alternative: -20° acetone), cytoseal.

Equipment: containers for dye, cover slips, kimwipes.

- As a note of caution; do not use markers on slides which will be stained. Use only a pencil. Markers will bleed into the stain and ruin the dyes.
- Remove slides from holders and allow to dry
- Immerse slides in 100% May-Grunwald for 4 minutes
- Transfer slides directly to 4% (diluted in tap water) Giemsa for 4 minutes.
- Rinse slides very briefly in water
- Wipe excess dye off back of slide and air dry
- Alternative method: To fix slides without staining place in -20° acetone for 10 minutes, remove from acetone and allow to dry
- Place small drop of cytoseal on slide near cells
- Place cover slip on slide and press firmly with back of a pipet tip, air dry