

FIXING & DRYING FOR SEM

Fixation

1. Fix in FAA (5% acetic acid, 2% formaldehyde, 36% ethanol) for 2 days at room temperature.
2. Dehydrate through the following ethanol/dH₂O series for 2 hours each step:
 - 40%
 - 40%
 - 40%
 - 60%
 - 70%
 - 80%
 - 90%
 - 100%
3. Transfer to dehydrated ethanol for 2 x 1 hour.

Drying

1. Critical point dry using dryer and manufacturer's instructions.
2. Mount samples on blocks using araldite. Dry for 30' taking care not to let samples sink in glue.