

## **KOH 3%**

CK9860

### **Background**

The classic Gram stain can sometimes give problems with anaerobes. Gram-positive anaerobes can over decolourise if acetone rather than alcohol is used. The use of the KOH slide test is a useful adjunct to staining.

### **Method**

Simply mix a loopful of colony from a plate culture with 2 drops of 3% KOH on a glass slide.

### **Results**

With Gram-negative organisms the suspension becomes viscous and stringy whereas Gram-positive anaerobes show no reaction.

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