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## F-372 TANZER-UNNA ORCEIN METHOD

**FIXATION:** Any Fixative  
**SECTION:** Paraffin, @ 6 microns

### **STAINING PROCEDURE:**

1. Filter **Tanzer's Orcein** (F-372-1) onto sections and warm gently in an incubator or over a small flame 10-15 minutes until the solution thickens, or alternatively, leave sections in the solution at room temperature overnight.
2. Wash off thoroughly in 70% alcohol.
3. Wash in distilled water to remove all acid and to fix color.
4. Dilute **Unna's Polychrome Methylene Blue**, (F-372-2) 1:10 or 1:15 with distilled water and stain nuclei 1 minute in diluted solution. (If it is desired to have only the elastic fibers stained, dip sections for a few seconds in **Acid Alcohol**, (F-372-2A), before washing in distilled water and omit the nuclear stain.
5. Differentiate and dehydrate in 95% alcohol followed by absolute alcohol.
6. Clear in **Xylene** (C-120) and mount in **Balsam** (M-4).

### **RESULTS:**

Elastic Fibers.....deep brown to purple  
Nuclei.....blue  
Connective Tissue.....pale brown

### **REFERENCES:**

- Clark, G.: Staining Procedures, Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed., C. 1973, p. 62.
- Mallory, F.B., Pathological Technique, W.B. Saunders Co., Phila., 1938.
- Lillie, R.D., Histopathologic Technique and Practical Histochemistry, ed. 3, 1965.