

DRUG CHEMISTRY SECTION TECHNICAL PROCEDURE MANUAL	
Procedure B-08	Polarized Light Microscopy Distilled Water
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Name of Procedure:

Polarized Light Microscopy
Distilled Water

Suggested Uses:

Microcrystalline test for excipients and diluents.

Apparatus Needed To Perform Procedure Including Preparation of Reagent:

Polarized Light Microscope
Eye protection
Laboratory coat
Spatula
Microscope slides
Reagent bottle
Distilled water

Formula for Preparing Reagent:

1. Fill reagent bottle with distilled water.
2. Properly label bottle.

Expiration Date of Chemical Reagent:

The reagent can be used until depletion.

Application of Procedure on Evidence:

1. Place a small portion of the substance on a microscope slide.
2. Place one drop of distilled water on the substance.
3. Immediately view specimen polars for solubility characteristics, crystal shape(s) and color(s), using the crossed and/or uncrossed polars of the polarized light microscope.
4. **Option:** Steps 2 and 3 may be omitted, viewing the specimen dry.
5. Record results.

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Safety Concerns:

Eye protection and a laboratory coat should be worn when using this reagent for the micro crystalline test.

Always dispose of used microscope slides in a broken glass container.

Literature References:

Developed by Chemist J.R. Daniel of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Drug Chemistry Laboratory, in use in the laboratory since 1975.