

# Heart ink injection

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## Method Article

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# Abstract

## Introduction

With this technique it is possible to label the blood vessel *in vivo* in order to analyze in whole mount the quantity and quality of blood vessel.

## Reagents

1.0 ml syringe China Black Ink Standard anesthetic (Ketamine and Xylazine)

## Procedure

1. Anesthetize the mouse
2. Using a 1 ml syringe withdraw 0,5 ml of mouse blood from the heart ventricle
3. Inject 1 ml of China Ink and wait for 30 sec (until the eyes, mouth and legs became black)
4. Quickly dissect and fix in 4% PFA over night at 4°C
5. Treat the sample with a solution of 0,5% KOH for one day
6. Treat the sample with a solution of 0,5% KOH/Glycerol 2:1 one day
7. Treat the sample with a solution of 0,5% KOH/Glycerol 1:1 for one day
8. Treat the sample with 100% Glycerol for one day (in order to visualize clearly all the inner blood vessels)

## Timing

4 days

## Critical Steps

Injection in the heart after blood withdrawal

## Anticipated Results

eyes, mouth and legs black stained

## Figures

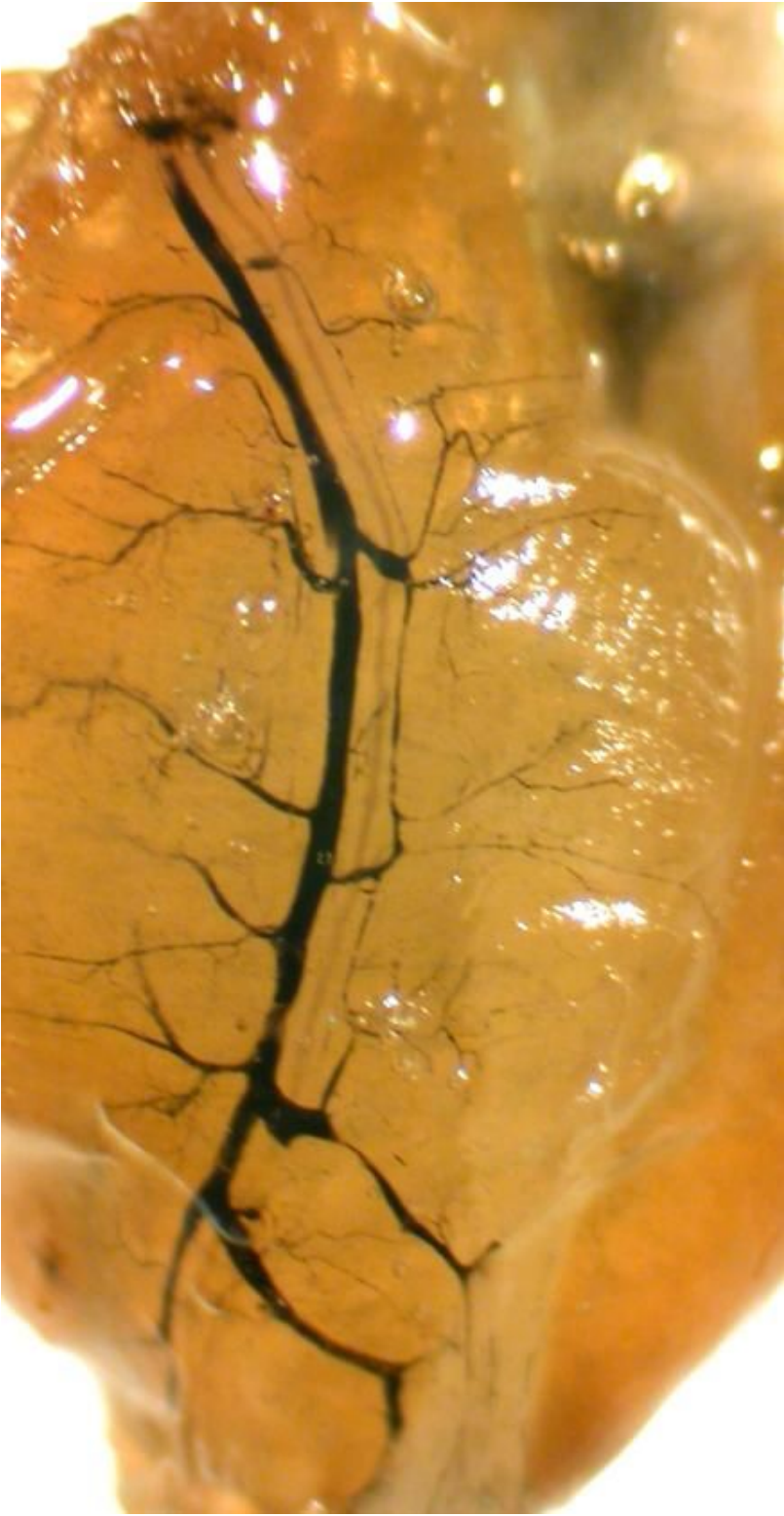


Figure 1