

Pressure and Vacuum: High pressure facilitates infiltration of dense specimens with viscous resinous embedding media at the block forming stage, but is rarely employed for biological specimens. Tissues, particularly lung, are de-aerated, and the solvent boiling point is reduced, thus facilitating evaporation of the reagent from the molten infiltration medium. Vacuum applied during dehydration, clearing and infiltration stages improves the quality of processing. Positive pressures for fluid transfer that are encountered in closed system processors are probably too low to have a significant influence on tissue infiltration. 2005