

## Procedural Diagram

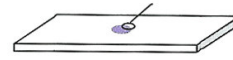
### *How to make a bacterial smear (emulsion)*

- Make a uniform smear
- Will allow consistent staining results to occur
- Heat fixing the smear kills the bacteria
  - Makes them adhere to the slide
  - And coagulates their protein for better staining

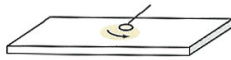
#### **Caution:**

- *Avoid producing aerosols*
- *Avoid splattering the smear as you mix it*
- *Avoid blowing on or waving the slide to speed-up air-drying*
- *Avoid overheating when heat-fixing*

## Procedural Diagram Bacterial Smear Preparation



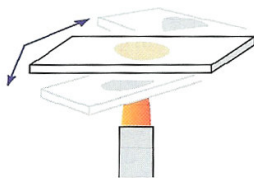
1. Place a small drop of water (not too much) on a clean slide using an inoculating loop.



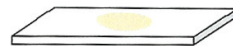
2. Aseptically add bacteria to the water. Mix in the bacteria and spread the drop out. Avoid splattering the emulsion as you mix. Flame your loop when done.



3. Allow the smear to air dry. If prepared correctly, the smear should be slightly cloudy.



4. Using a slide holder, pass the smear **over a hot plate** two or three times. This heat-fixes the preparation. Avoid overheating the slide as aerosols may be produced.



5. Allow the slide to cool, then continue with the staining protocol.