

# How to run the antigen-unmasking cycle



**1** Place the slides into a slide chamber and add the appropriate processing buffer. Each chamber is for 18 slides, and takes between 70 to 100 ml of buffer.



**2** Fill the Retriever's body (without Rack and Bucket, with 750ml of deionised water. Use only deionised/ distilled water.

**3** Place the Chamber Rack into the bucket. Turn it for approx 90 degrees clockwise to fix its position in the Bucket.



**4** Place the Slide Chambers into the Rack. In one cycle, depending on the load and the number of required various processing buffers you may use from one to 6 chambers.



**5** Place the Bucket into the Retriever's body.



**6** Put on the lid by aligning the black arrows on the lid and the body of the unit. Close the lid by turning it clockwise and aligning the handles of the lid and the body.

Closed



Open

**7** Make sure the Depressurising valve is closed.

**8** Push the Start button. The cycle starts and runs automatically for approximately 20 minutes.

Once the cycle is completed, let the unit cool for a minimum of 2 hours.

Then open the depressurisation valve and the lid. Remove the chambers from the rack and rinse the slides twice with deionised water. Finally, add PBS or another buffer to the slides and proceed further with immunostaining.



## Universal Buffer

Aptom has developed a unique Universal buffer to recover epitopes that normally require High, Low, pH 3, 6, 8, 9 buffers, EDTA or Citrate, etc. One buffer replaces all and minimises non-specific reactivity of antibody with a processed tissue section.



## The Cycle Indicators

The cycle will run for approximately 20 minutes. The following sequence of events will occur during the cycle:

**L1** illuminates **Green**

**L2** illuminates **Orange**

As the temperature rises, air will be displaced by steam through the Air bleed device located in the lid. Pressure indicator (**C**) will rise, indicating the unit is now pressurised.

The temperature and pressure conditions are reached when:

**L1** illuminates **Green**

**L2** flashes **Orange**

**L3** illuminates **Yellow**

Processing cycle is completed when the buzzer sounds.

**L1** illuminates **Green**

**L4** illuminates **Green**

(Note: L4 remains Green until a new cycle is started or the unit is disconnected from the mains power).



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