

**Project No** : 3833/2008

**A COMPARITIVE STUDY OF PLASTINATION OF ANATOMY  
SPECIMENS: A STUDY ON VARIOUS METHODOLOGIES AND THEIR  
USABILITY VIS A VIS FORMALIN PRESERVED SPECIMENS**

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**Principal worker**

Lt Col Subhendu Pandit

**Unit**

AFMC Pune

**OBJECTIVES**

To plastinate various anatomical tissues by available methods and to develop a cost effective method of plastination and study the impact of these anatomical specimens as a teaching aid

**METHODOLOGY**

The lab for plastination was established in Dept of Anatomy. The room was adequately ventilated to ensure proper diffusion of acetone vapour. The refrigerator of the Dept was used as a freezer and was placed in a different room away from the flammable gases. Curing was done by heat outside the lab.

**RESULTS**

The specimens impregnated with Orthocryl and Araldite displayed maximum retention of colour. Orthocryl retained almost the original colour of the specimen. Orthocryl and Araldite are associated with minimal shrinkage. Silicon was associated with minimal shrinkage. Three specimens plastinated with Epoxy resin and one each by Orthocryl and polypropylene resin displayed gross distortion.

**CONCLUSION**

Plastination is a unique method of permanently preserving tissue in a life like state. Plastination by Van Hagens is a labour and equipment intensive affair and the polymers used are not available in the country. The study has demonstrated that indigenous methods and materials can produce quality plastinates which can be an important adjunct to traditional methods of teaching