

Minimum Protocol for Brain Dissection

All tissues: Rinse with water, blot dry, discard paper towel, and freeze on flat surface. Once the tissue is frozen, place it in separate PLASTIC bags. Please do not wrap brain in aluminum foil as it is nearly impossible to remove from the frozen brain.

STEP 1: Remove entire brain and as much of the cervical spinal cord as possible.

STEP 2: Remove the entire medulla and any attached cervical spinal cord (to be frozen).

STEP 3: Section into left and right hemisphere, after the medulla has been removed.

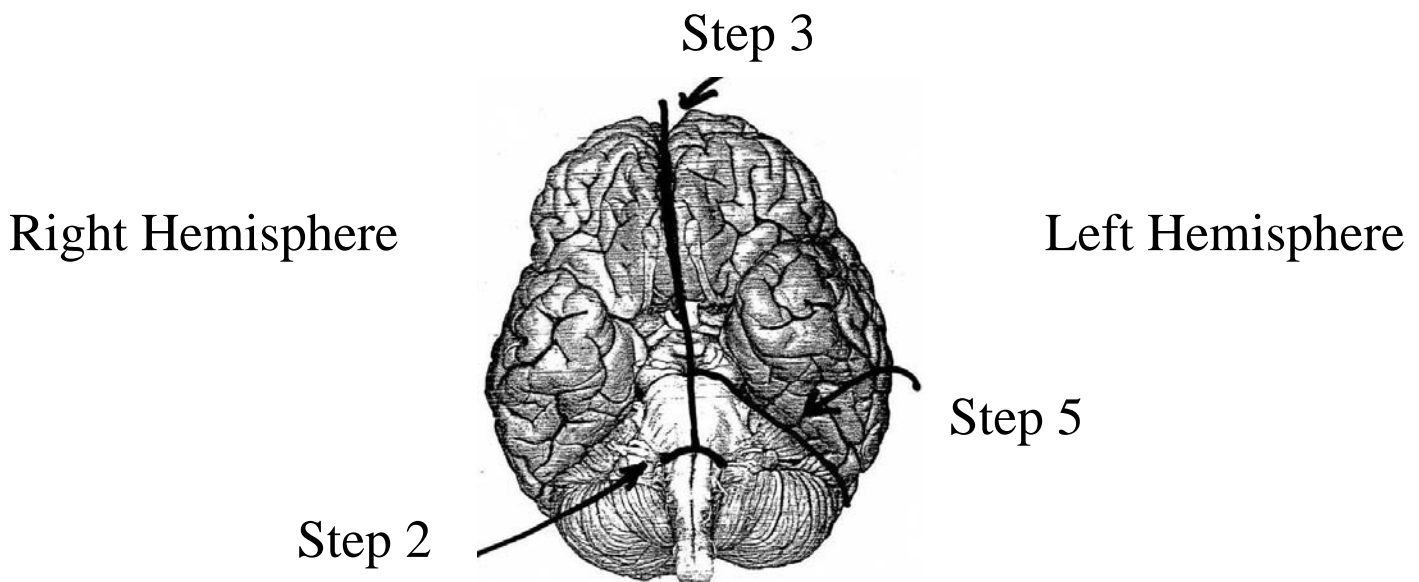
STEP 4: Fix entire right hemisphere, minus medulla, in 10% formalin.

STEP 5: For the left hemisphere, remove the brain stem/cerebellum as a unit by cutting just posterior to the cerebral peduncle.

STEP 6: Remove the cerebellum from the brain stem/cerebellum unit.

STEP 7: Freeze the medulla, cerebrum, brain stem and left cerebellum in 4 separate plastic bags at -80°C . Assure that the tissue remains flat.

STEP 8: Ship fixed tissue at room temperature and frozen tissue with dry ice using shipping material supplied by Bank. Tissue will be further sectioned at the Bank.



University of Maryland Brain & Tissue Bank
1-800-847-1539