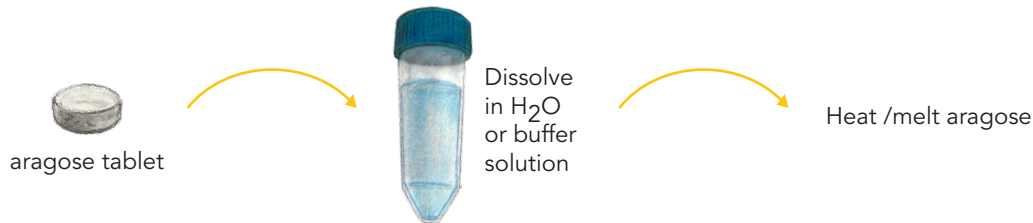


HOW TO EMBED SPINAL CORD FOR THE COMPRESSTOME® TISSUE SLICER

1 Make agarose: usually ~2% concentration



2 Make the agarose base for holding the spinal cord

(This step helps stabilize the spinal cord for embedding in the Compresstome® specimen tube)



2a. Pour half of the agarose solution into a small petri dish

2b. Store the remaining half of the agarose solution in a hot water bath (~37°C) so that it does not solidify

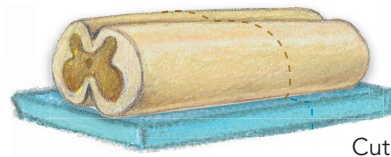
2c. Solidify the agarose in the petri dish at 4°C

2d. After the agarose solidifies, cut out a small rectangular block of agarose about 5 mm wide x 3 mm tall x 3 mm long.

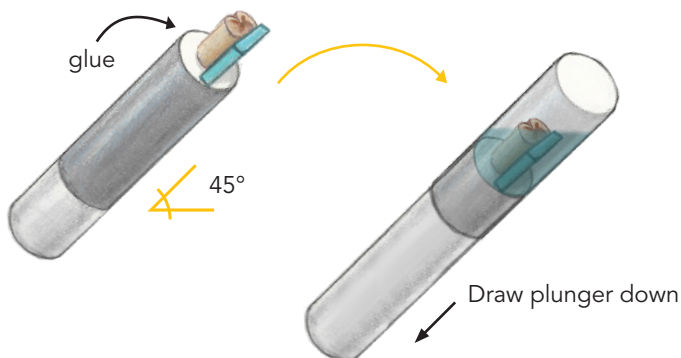
3 Dissect out the spinal cord tissue that you would like to section with the Compresstome® Vibratome

3a. Lay the spinal cord longitudinally onto the small agarose block

3b. Cut off one end so that both the spinal cord and agarose block are even



4 Embed the spinal cord in the agarose in the specimen tube



4a. Glue the spinal cord and agarose block together to the surface of the white plunger. (Tip: keep everything at a 45° angle when loading the spinal cord and agarose block)

4b. Slowly draw down the white plunger until the entire specimen is inside the tube.

4c. Using a transfer pipette, add agarose solution to cover the entire content of the specimen tube

4d. Chill with chilling block

4e. Now you're ready to slice spinal cord tissue!