



1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) intends to describe the procedure for *Xenopus laevis* tagging by Visible Implant Elastomer (VIE) Tags.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff.

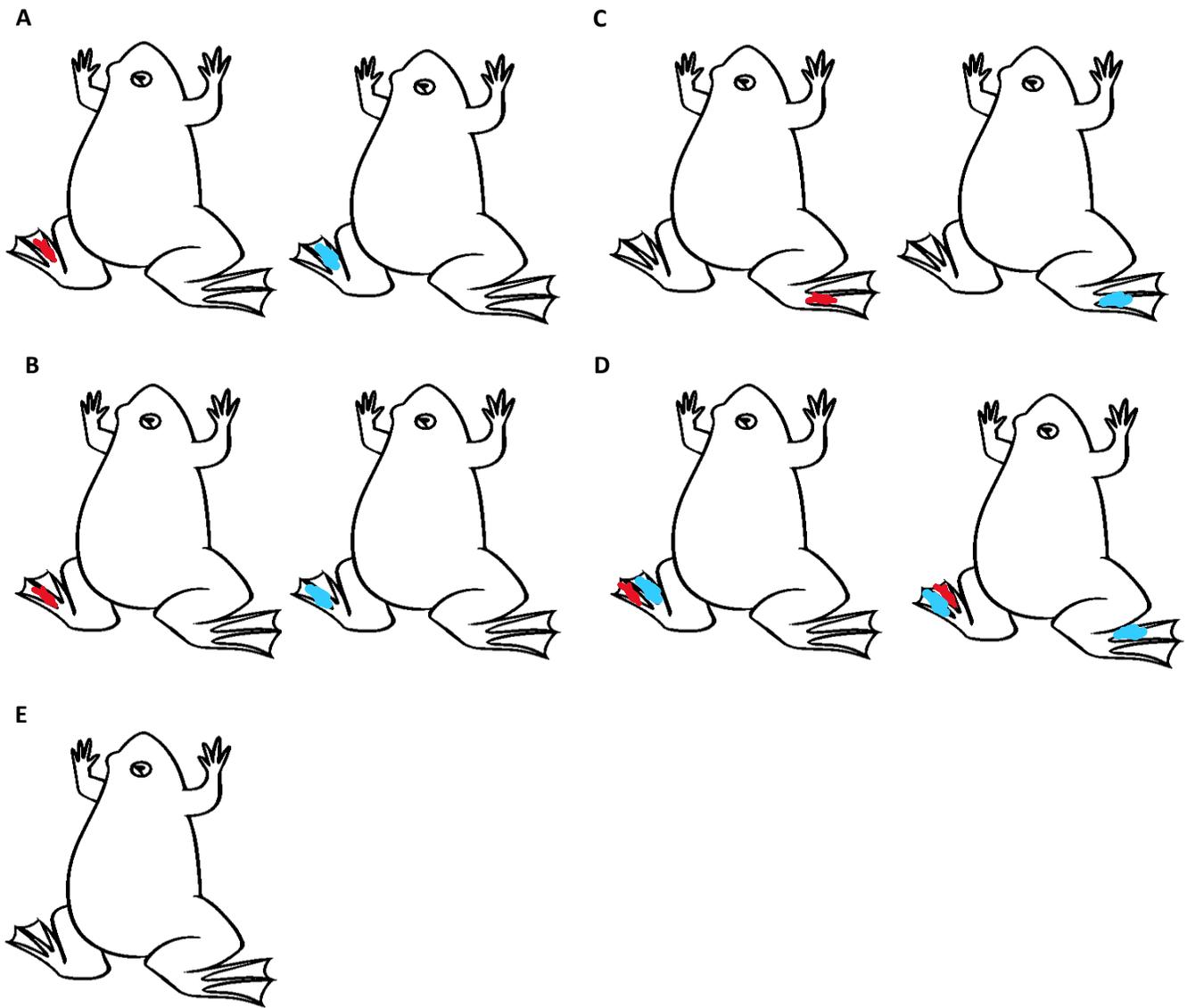
3. MATERIALS

- 3.1. Powder-free, non-textured gloves
 - 3.2. Frog anesthetics
 - 3.3. Visible Implant Elastomer (VIE) kit from Northwest Marine Technology (NMT).
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4. PROCEDURE

- 4.1. Perform the procedure as the manufacturer recommends (Visible implant Elastomer Tags, Kit instruction, (www.nmt.us).
- 4.2. Moisten gloves with tank water before handling frogs.
- 4.3. Designate a sterile area for working and use sterile material.
- 4.4. Anesthetize animals according to **SOP202**.
- 4.5. Before surgery, verify the anesthesia depth by assessment of the frog's response to toe pinch (i.e., pedal withdrawal reflex).
- 4.6. Keep the skin moistened during the injection.
- 4.7. Inject 25-50ul of the VIE tag SQ into the space between the hind toes of the frog according to a pre-prepared injection site scheme (Appendix 1).
- 4.8. Recovery from the anesthesia can take up to 30 min. Place the animal in a warm, anesthetic-free bath (shallow water level) and rinse it with fresh, well-oxygenated water to hasten the recovery process.
- 4.9. Place the animal back in its tank. Check the frog by their general appearance, muscle tone, and mobility in the tank.
- 4.10. Frogs should be **monitored once a day** for the next 3 days and adequately identified by the VIE tags.
- 4.11. *XENOPUS* Procedure Log must be filled out (refer to SOP501b).

Appendix 1. Injection Site Scheme



- A. Select a VIE color.
- B. Select a specific Toe space.
- C. Select a Leg
- D. Combine Colors, Toes, and Legs.
- E. Personalize your VIE Tag.

SOP 308 XENOPUS OOCYTE "VIE" Tagging
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