

Table 4.4.2 B: Assessment Summary for Preserved Specimens for Educational Dissection

Assessment Criteria		Formalin-Fixed Specimen (Reference)	Comparison Relative to Specimens in Formalin			
			Form-alternate (propylene glycol based)	STF (includes Diazolidinyl urea)	Ward's (glutar-aldehyde based)	Video/Virtual Dissection
Technical/Performance Criteria	Color	Not life-like	+	+	+	n/a
	Texture	Hardened	+	+	=	n/a
	Stiffness	Rigid	+	+	=	n/a
	Odor	Irritating	+	+	=	+
	Longevity	Indefinite	?	?	-	+
	Special handling	Extensive	+	+	+	+
	Availability	Good	=	=	=	=
	Educational value	Good	=	=	=	-
Financial Criteria	Cost (per specimen)	\$5.60	+	+	+	n/a
Environmental Criteria	EcoToxicity	Not acutely toxic, except to zooplakton	-	-	-	+
	Hazardous Waste Storage/ Disposal	Regulated	+	+	+	+
	Carcinogen	Yes	+	+	+	+
Human Health Criteria	LD50 (oral rat)	100 mg/kg	+	+	+	+
	Sensitizer	Yes	+	+	=/+	+
	Skin Adsorption	Yes	=	=	=	+
	Irritation	Severe	+	+	+	+

<p>COMPARISON KEY</p> <p align="center"> + Better = Similar - Worse ? Unknown </p>
