

## 3 Operating Slides and Magazines

### 3.1 Preparing Slides and Magazines

This section demonstrates how to prepare slides and magazines. You can use slides and coverslips that meet the following specifications:

	Slides	Cover slips
<b>Length</b>	75.0 to 76.0 mm	max. 50 mm
<b>Width</b>	25.0 to 26.0 mm	max. 24 mm (recommended: 22 mm)
<b>Thickness</b>	0.9 to 1.2 mm	No. 1 and No. 1.5 (0.13 to 0.16 mm and 0.16 to 0.19 mm)
<b>Corners</b>	45° beveled corners	
<b>Edges</b>	Grounded or cut	



#### Warning!

Always wear personal protective equipment (safety goggles, gloves and coat) when working with biohazardous material or slides.



#### Warning!

Do not use a slide when it is broken or its edges are not properly cut or grounded. Using such slides can lead to injury.



#### Warning!

Ensure that no part of the mounted coverslip protrudes from the edges of the slide. Use slides only with completely dried embedding medium. If not so, the coverslip can be shifted that makes slide loading less reliable. Not completely dried embedding might also influence the operation of objectives and other device parts.



#### Caution!

Do **NOT** scratch any circular marker onto the glass surface of a slide, use a soft tip pen instead for marking area of interest.

**Note:**

The distance between slide edges and the edges of the mounted coverslip should be 1-2 mm, and they should be parallel with each other.

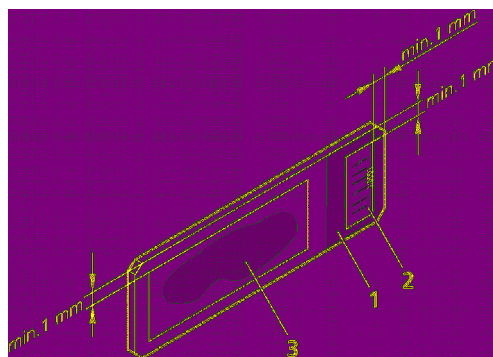
**Note:**

Fluorescent signals become more easily detectable for the scanner, therefore resulting in a brighter and better image, by treating the slide with a formula that prevents rapid photobleaching of fluorescent reagents (e.g. VECTASHIELD® Fluorescent Mounting Medium by **Vector Laboratories** and ProLong® Gold and *SlowFade*® Gold antifade reagents by **Invitrogen**) during the FISH protocol.

For further information, see the homepages of the manufacturers:  
<http://www.vectorlabs.com/> and <http://www.invitrogen.com>.

## 3.2 Affixing Barcode Stickers to Slides

This section describes how to affix barcode stickers to slides. Barcodes enable virtual slide identification.



*Figure 6 – Slide with a barcode sticker*

The label area is recorded by the preview camera, and can be displayed by the control and viewer software.