

**Advantages:  
particular focal point  
and light coming**



Advantages:· It provides high contrast imaging because it only provides us the idea of which region of the cell contains fluorescent dye and which is not.· High specificity since we tag the fluorescent dye with our interested cellular components.· Quantitative imaging and live cell imaging

Disadvantage:· Photo bleaching

Confocal Microscopy: Confocal microscopy is an optical microscopic technique for increased resolution and contrast. The reconstruction of 3D structure from the obtained images can be done. The special feature here is the pinhole, which only selects the light coming from a special focal point of the sample and blocks any other scattered lights that are coming from the different planes of the specimen. It allows only a particular point to be focused and only detect light or emission that is coming from this specific point which eventually gives crystal clear images. The idea about the fluorescence is the same as the fluorescence microscopy, the pinhole is placed which only allows the emission coming from the particular plane of the specimen to pass and block any other excitation. Concise and contrast image from the particular location can be seen. Pinhole provides the optical sectioning which allows blocking the emission light from out of plane regions of the sample and only select one particular focal point and light coming from that point passes through the pinhole to the detector.

Working Principle: When the laser light from the laser module is focused onto the specimen and illuminated, it enters the excitation filter and hits the dichroic mirror.

Then the laser passes through the objective and hits in different focal plane. The emission beam again passes through the objective and dichroic mirror and finally there is an emission filter which will prevent any other further

scattering there, the laser light pass through it and reaches pinhole, which is a unique feature about the confocal microscopy. Selected emission light will break through the pinhole aperture and hits the detector.

We can precisely focus particular region of the cell which we are interested.

Advantages of Confocal microscopy:

- Possible to get 3D image and 3D reconstruction
- Optical sectioning can be done without physical contact
- High resolution image (0.1-0.2 μm)

Limitations of Confocal microscopy:

- If it is a thick sample, tissue depth problem occurs. When the laser hits the sample, intensity of the light/penetration power depends on the length/depth of the tissue. If it is thicker, the light will not be able to penetrate the tissue.

- Lot of energy loss occurs.
- Choice of fluorophores is important.
- It is largely time consuming.
- Diffraction limits the image resolution.