Plastination is a valuable tool for the teaching of neuroanatomy. However, the high cost of the process and the complexity of sheet plastination for brain slices remains a challenge.

A article describes an innovative, simple, and inexpensive method, called the Elnady Technique, to develop brain slices of various domestic animals. The slices are either enveloped in lamination sheets using an electric iron, or enveloped in transparent plastic using an impulse sealer. This fast, effortless process results in realistic, durable, odorless, soft, flexible slices. The models provide accurate three-dimensional (3D) reference guides for demonstration of neuroanatomical structures that show soft tissue contrast between the gray and white matter. This makes them invaluable for interpretation of clinical imaging modalities, such as computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). These ethically sourced models can provide a replacement for the killing of animals for practical classes [1)]

1)

Elnady FA. Innovative, Simple Models for Teaching Neuroanatomy Using the Elnady Technique. J Vet Med Educ. 2018 Nov 12:1-4. doi: 10.3138/jvme.0717-092r1. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 30418813.