



**Non WHO Reference Material**  
**Meningococcal Capsular Group W polysaccharide**  
**NIBSC code: 21/180**  
**Instructions for use**  
**(Version 1.0, Dated 09/07/2021)**

**This material is not for in vitro diagnostic use.**

**1. INTENDED USE**

This material is intended as a coating antigen used in standardised ELISA to detect anti-meningococcal capsular group W antibody levels in human serum.

**2. CAUTION**

**This preparation is not for administration to humans or animals in the human food chain.**

The material is not of human or bovine origin. As with all materials of biological origin, this preparation should be regarded as potentially hazardous to health. It should be used and discarded according to your own laboratory's safety procedures. Such safety procedures should include the wearing of protective gloves and avoiding the generation of aerosols. Care should be exercised in opening ampoules or vials, to avoid cuts.

**3. UNITAGE**

When resuspended in 1ml of water the ampoule contains approximately 1 mg/ml serogroup W polysaccharide.

**4. CONTENTS**

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.  
Each ampoule contains 1 mg freeze-dried meningococcal capsular group W polysaccharide. Assigned content of vial valid at time of manufacture – no information on long term stability.

**5. STORAGE**

The contents of the ampoule should be rehydrated with sterile water to yield a stock solution of 1.0 mg/ml. Store in aliquots at –20°C and avoid excessive freeze-thawing.

**Please note: because of the inherent stability of lyophilized material, NIBSC may ship these materials at ambient temperature.**

**6. DIRECTIONS FOR OPENING**

DIN ampoules have an 'easy-open' coloured stress point, where the narrow ampoule stem joins the wider ampoule body. Various types of ampoule breaker are available commercially. To open the ampoule, tap the ampoule gently to collect material at the bottom (labelled) end and follow manufactures instructions provided with the ampoule breaker.

**7. USE OF MATERIAL**

No attempt should be made to weigh out any portion of the freeze-dried material prior to reconstitution

The preparation can be used for coating ELISA plates together with methylated human serum albumin (NIBSC reagent code 12/176).

**8. STABILITY**

Reference materials are held at NIBSC within assured, temperature-controlled storage facilities. Reference Materials should be stored on receipt as indicated on the label.

No information is available on long term stability of the material. Stability of the reconstituted material should be determined by the user. Users who have data supporting any deterioration in the characteristics of any reference preparation are encouraged to contact NIBSC.

**9. REFERENCES**

No references available.

**10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This material was kindly provided to NIBSC by GSK Vaccines S.r.l., Italy (formerly Novartis Vaccines) for distribution as a standard reagent.

**11. FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information can be obtained as follows;

This material: [enquiries@nibsc.org](mailto:enquiries@nibsc.org)

WHO Biological Standards:

<http://www.who.int/biologicals/en/>

JCTLM Higher order reference materials:

<http://www.bipm.org/en/committees/jc/jctlm/>

Derivation of International Units:

[http://www.nibsc.org/standardisation/international\\_standards.aspx](http://www.nibsc.org/standardisation/international_standards.aspx)

Ordering standards from NIBSC:

<http://www.nibsc.org/products/ordering.aspx>

NIBSC Terms & Conditions:

[http://www.nibsc.org/terms\\_and\\_conditions.aspx](http://www.nibsc.org/terms_and_conditions.aspx)

**12. CUSTOMER FEEDBACK**

Customers are encouraged to provide feedback on the suitability or use of the material provided or other aspects of our service. Please send any comments to [enquiries@nibsc.org](mailto:enquiries@nibsc.org)

**13. CITATION**

In all publications, including data sheets, in which this material is referenced, it is important that the preparation's title, its status, the NIBSC code number, and the name and address of NIBSC are cited and cited correctly.

**14. MATERIAL SAFETY SHEET**

Classification in accordance with Directive 2000/54/EC, Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008: Not applicable or not classified

Physical and Chemical properties		
Physical appearance: Freeze dried powder	Corrosive:	No
Stable: Yes	Oxidising:	No
Hygroscopic: No	Irritant:	No
Flammable: No	Handling:	See caution, Section 2
Other (specify):	No special precautions	
Toxicological properties		
Effects of inhalation:	Not established, avoid inhalation	
Effects of ingestion:	Not established, avoid ingestion	
Effects of skin absorption:	Not established, avoid contact with skin	
Suggested First Aid		
Inhalation:	Seek medical advice	
Ingestion:	Seek medical advice	
Contact with eyes:	Wash with copious amounts of water. Seek medical advice	
Contact with skin:	Wash thoroughly with water.	



Action on Spillage and Method of Disposal
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Spillage of ampoule contents should be taken up with absorbent material wetted with an appropriate disinfectant. Rinse area with an appropriate disinfectant followed by water. Absorbent materials used to treat spillage should be treated as biological waste.
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#### 15. LIABILITY AND LOSS

In the event that this document is translated into another language, the English language version shall prevail in the event of any inconsistencies between the documents.

Unless expressly stated otherwise by NIBSC, NIBSC's Standard Terms and Conditions for the Supply of Materials (available at [http://www.nibsc.org/About\\_Us/Terms\\_and\\_Conditions.aspx](http://www.nibsc.org/About_Us/Terms_and_Conditions.aspx) or upon request by the Recipient) ("Conditions") apply to the exclusion of all other terms and are hereby incorporated into this document by reference. The Recipient's attention is drawn in particular to the provisions of clause 11 of the Conditions.

#### 16. INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMS USE ONLY

<b>Country of origin for customs purposes*:</b> United Kingdom * Defined as the country where the goods have been produced and/or sufficiently processed to be classed as originating from the country of supply, for example a change of state such as freeze-drying.
<b>Net weight:</b> 4.5g.
<b>Toxicity Statement:</b> Toxicity not assessed
<b>Veterinary certificate or other statement</b> if applicable.
<b>Attached:</b> No