Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

NIBSC Confidence in Biological Medicines

Non WHO Reference Material
Tetanus Antitoxin Equine for the Flocculation Test
NIBSC code: 66/021
Instructions for use
(Version 9.0, Dated 24/03/2020)

This material is not for in vitro diagnostic use.

1. INTENDED USE

This material is the freeze-dried residue of hyperimmune horse antiserum to tetanus toxoid/toxin. It is intended for use as a reagent (not a calibrant) in the in vitro flocculation (Lf) assay for tetanus toxoid [1]. When used in the flocculation assay, the Lf equivalent value must be determined in-house.

Equine antitoxin was prepared by repeated immunisation of horses with tetanus toxoid. The titre of the serum was determined by toxin neutralisation assay and, after adjustment to 1400 IU/ml, was filled into ampoules. After freeze-drying, the ampoules were sealed under nitrogen by heat fusion of the glass and stored at -20°C in the dark.

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

Each ampoule contains 1400 International Units (IU) of horse tetanus antitoxin.

4. CONTENTS

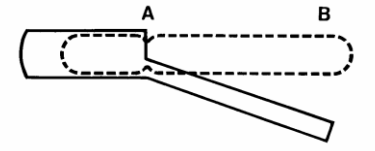
Country of origin of biological material: UK.
Each ampoule contains the freeze-dried residue of 1ml of horse tetanus antitoxin, adjusted to 1400 IU/ml with 0.15M NaCl. The source material was obtained from Wellcome Research Laboratories, UK in 1966 [2].

5. STORAGE

Unopened ampoules should be stored at -20°C.
Please note: because of the inherent stability of lyophilized material, NIBSC may ship these materials at ambient temperature.

6. DIRECTIONS FOR OPENING

Tap the ampoule gently to collect the material at the bottom (labelled) end. Ensure ampoule is scored all round at the narrow part of the neck, with a diamond or tungsten carbide tipped glass knife file or other suitable implement before attempting to open. Place the ampoule in the ampoule opener, positioning the score at position 'A'; shown in the diagram below. Surround the ampoule with cloth or layers of tissue paper. Grip the ampoule and holder in the hand and squeeze at point 'B'. The ampoule will snap open. Take care to avoid cuts and projectile glass fragments that enter eyes. Take care that no material is lost from the ampoule and that no glass falls into the ampoule.



Side view of ampoule opening device containing an ampoule positioned ready to open. 'A' is the score mark and 'B' the point of applied pressure.

7. USE OF MATERIAL

No attempt should be made to weigh out any portion of the freeze-dried material prior to reconstitution
The entire contents of each ampoule should be completely resuspended in an accurately measured amount of solution (e.g. distilled water) and the solution kept cool (e.g. 4°C) prior to use. It is recommended that the solution, not for immediate use, is stored at -20°C or below. Repeated freeze-thawing should be avoided. The ampoules contain no bacteriostat and the preparations should not be assumed to be sterile.

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.

Units assigned to this material were valid at the time of calibration and there is no data available on long term stability. However, freeze-dried serum standards are expected to undergo negligible loss of activity during long term storage at the indicated storage temperature [3].

Once reconstituted, users should determine the stability of the material according to their own method of preparation, storage and use. Users who have data supporting any changes in the characteristics of this material are encouraged to contact NIBSC.

9. REFERENCES

1. Preneta-Blanc, R., Rigsby, P., Sloth Wilhelmsen, E., Tierney, R., Brierley, M. and Sesardic, D. 2007. Collaborative Study: Calibration of Replacement International Standard of Tetanus Toxoid for use in Flocculation Test. WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization. WHO/BS/07.2061.

2. Sheffield F, Baldwin P.W, Knight P.A. and Richer P.R. The British Reference Preparation for Tetanus Antitoxin for the Flocculation Test. Journal of Biological Standardization. 1979; 7, 301-306.

3. Jerne NK and Perry WLM. The Stability of Biological Standards, Bull. Wld. Hlth. Org. 1956, vol. 14 pp 167-182.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Not applicable

11. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained as follows;
This material: 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
Ordering standards from NIBSC:
http://www.nibsc.org/products/ordering.aspx
NIBSC Terms & Conditions:
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

National Institute for Biological Standards and Control,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 3QG. T +44 (0)1707 641000, nibsc.org
WHO International Laboratory for Biological Standards,
UK Official Medicines Control Laboratory

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: Yes	Irritant: No
Flammable: No	Handling: See caution, Section 2
Other (specify):	Contains material of biological origin
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	
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.	

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 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

Country of origin for customs purposes*: 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.
Net weight: 97 mg
Toxicity Statement: Non-toxic
Veterinary certificate or other statement if applicable**.** **Attached:** No

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