



**WHO International Standard  
Anti-tick borne encephalitis serum  
NIBSC code: TISA  
Instructions for use  
(Version 4.0, Dated 03/04/2008)**

**1. INTENDED USE**

This material has been prepared and characterised by the Statens Serum Institut (SSI), Copenhagen, Denmark.

With effect from 1st July 1997, the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control (NIBSC), Potters Bar, UK is the custodian and distributor of this material.

**The package insert from SSI is attached.** (Please note that the statement in Section 2 of the SSI package insert about charges is no longer valid.)

**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**

1ml reconstituted serum was found to neutralize  $10^{5.76}$  virus in experiments with intravenous injection of white mice (see SSI insert)

**4. CONTENTS**

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.

**5. STORAGE**

Store unopened ampoules 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**

DIN ampoules have an 'easy-open' coloured stress point, where the narrow ampoule stem joins the wider ampoule body.

Tap the ampoule gently to collect the material at the bottom (labeled) end. Ensure that the disposable ampoule safety breaker provided is pushed down on the stem of the ampoule and against the shoulder of the ampoule body. Hold the body of the ampoule in one hand and the disposable ampoule breaker covering the ampoule stem between the thumb and first finger of the other hand. Apply a bending force to open the ampoule at the coloured stress point, primarily using the hand holding the plastic collar.

Care should be taken to avoid cuts and projectile glass fragments that might enter the eyes, for example, by the use of suitable gloves and an eye shield. Take care that no material is lost from the ampoule and no glass falls into the ampoule. Within the ampoule is dry nitrogen gas at slightly less than atmospheric pressure. A new disposable ampoule breaker is provided with each DIN ampoule.

**7. USE OF MATERIAL**

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

**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.

NIBSC follows the policy of WHO with respect to its reference materials.

**9. REFERENCES**

See Insert from SSI

**10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

NIBSC would like to thank SSI for the donation of this standard

**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

**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): <i>Contains dried sheep serum</i>	
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](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> 0.01g
<b>Toxicity Statement:</b> Non-toxic
<b>Veterinary certificate or other statement</b> if applicable. <b>Attached:</b> No

#### 17. CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

NIBSC does not provide a Certificate of Analysis for WHO Biological Reference Materials because they are internationally recognised primary reference materials fully described in the instructions for use. The reference materials are established according to the WHO Recommendations for the preparation, characterization and establishment of international and other biological reference standards [http://www.who.int/bloodproducts/publications/TRS932Annex2\\_Inter\\_biologicalstandardsrev2004.pdf](http://www.who.int/bloodproducts/publications/TRS932Annex2_Inter_biologicalstandardsrev2004.pdf) (revised 2004). They are officially endorsed by the WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (ECBS) based on the report of the international collaborative study which established their suitability for the intended use.



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STATENS  
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prevention and control  
of infectious diseases  
and congenital disorders

### THE INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE REAGENTS of

ANTI-TICK-BORNE ENCEPHALITIS SERUM (LOUPING ILL (MORDEDUN) VIRUS) AND  
ANTI-TICK-BORNE ENCEPHALITIS SERUM (RUSSIAN SPRING-SUMMER  
ENCEPHALITIS (SOPHYN AND ABSETTAROV) VIRUS)  
(1st international reference reagents)

#### 1. THE REFERENCE REAGENTS

The reference reagents were established in 1964<sup>1</sup>.

The Russian Spring-Summer encephalitis serum was produced by the Institute of Experimental Medicine, Leningrad by immunization of sheep with two virus strains, the *Sophyn* and the *Absettarov* strains of tick-borne encephalitis virus. The serum is freeze-dried with 2 ml serum per ampoule. 1 ml reconstituted serum was found to neutralize  $10^{4-10}$  virus in experiments with intravenous injection of white mice. The serum is not useful in complement fixation tests.

The Louping ill encephalitis serum is probably prepared in Copenhagen but it has not been possible to find any information about it.

#### 2. GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL REFERENCE MATERIALS

International biological standards and international biological reference reagents provide a means of ensuring uniformity throughout the world in the designation of the potency or activity of preparations used in the prophylaxis, therapy, or diagnosis of disease, where this cannot be expressed in terms of physical or chemical quantities. The International Units are units of quantities of "effective constituent"<sup>2</sup>.

The standard is the material as it exists in the ampoules, the "material" thus includes the effective constituents together with all the other constituents that may be present (moisture, carrier, buffer, salt etc., according to the form in which the standard is available).

International biological reference materials are intended for use in the calibration of the contents of "effective constituent" in national or working standard preparations and for the expression of these contents in the respective International Units. For the routine use in the laboratory the national or working standards should be used in order to save as much as possible the international reference materials. These are only sent to individual laboratories in very limited amounts. The preparations are sent free of charges but sometimes a small charge might be claimed for the air-freighting.

January 1997

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**1. REFERENCES**

1. WHO Technical Report Series No. 329, 1966, 21
2. Jerne & Wood, The Validity and Meaning of the Results of Biological Assays, Biometrics vol. 5, December 1949.