WHO International Standard
Follicle-Stimulating Hormone and Luteinizing Hormone, Human, Urinary, For Bioassay
NIBSC code: 10/286
Instructions for use
(Version 3.0, Dated 03/04/2013)

1. INTENDED USE
The 4th International Standard (IS) for human, urinary Follicle-Stimulating hormone (FSH) and Luteinizing Hormone (LH) in ampoules coded 98/704, was established in 2000 and has been widely used for the calibration, by in vivo bioassay, of preparations with FSH and LH bioactivities of human, urinary origin. The WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization (ECBS) has recognized (2011) the need for a replacement IS for the assignment of potency to therapeutic preparations containing human, urinary FSH and LH bioactivities used in the treatment of infertility. The 5th IS, coded 10/286, was established at the 63rd meeting of the ECBS in 2012. This material replaces the 4th IS which is discontinued.

The 5th IS, in ampoules coded 10/286, contains purified proteins of human, urinary origin for the value assignment of FSH and LH bioactivities in preparations of human, urinary origin by in vivo bioassay, only.

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

The preparation contains material of human origin, and either the final product or the source materials, from which it is derived, have been tested and found negative for HBVAg, anti-HIV and HCV RNA. 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. The disposable ampoule safety breaker provided is only.

3. UNITAGE
Each ampoule contains 183 INTERNATIONAL UNITS of FSH bioactivity and 177 INTERNATIONAL UNITS of LH bioactivity.

4. CONTENTS
Country of origin of biological material: Argentina and Switzerland.
Each ampoule contains the residue after freeze-drying of 1 ml of a solution that contained:

- Purified proteins from human menopausal urine* approx. 58µg
- Human serum albumin 0.2% (w/v)
- Lactose 0.5% (w/v)

* Human chorionic gonadotrophin, derived from human menopausal urine or added exogenously during manufacture will contribute to the LH bioactivity defined above.

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
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.

For practical purposes, each ampoule contains the same quantity of material. The entire content of each ampoule should be completely dissolved in an accurately measured amount of buffer solution. The use of water to reconstitute ampoule contents is not recommended. The material has not been sterilized and the ampoules contain no bacteriostat.

COLLABORATIVE STUDY
The preparation was evaluated in a collaborative study in which eleven laboratories in ten countries took part, organized with the following aims:

1) To calibrate the candidate preparation, 10/286 relative to the 4th IS (98/704) for FSH and LH bioactivities by in vivo bioassays.
2) To assess the suitability of the candidate preparation 10/286 to serve as the 5th IS for the calibration of therapeutic preparations of human, urinary origin containing FSH and LH bioactivities by bioassay.
3) To determine the stability of the candidate preparation 10/286 by comparison with ampoules stored at elevated temperatures as part of an accelerated degradation stability study.

The geometric mean potency calculated from all laboratories using log$_2$(organ weight) as the assay response was 183 IU FSH bioactivity per ampoule (n = 10; 95% confidence limits 159-202; GCV 15%) and 177 IU LH bioactivity per ampoule (n = 9; 95% confidence limits 159-197; GCV 15%). The candidate preparation 10/286 is sufficiently stable to serve as an IS. Analysis of the thermally accelerated degradation samples in this study gave a predicted 0.001% loss of potency per year for FSH when stored at +20°C, but no consistent loss of activity was detected for the samples stored at +20°C or +37°C for LH. This suggests that 10/286 is likely to be highly stable under long term storage at +20°C.

8. STABILITY
It is the policy of WHO not to assign an expiry date to their international reference materials. They remain valid with the assigned potency and status until withdrawn or amended.

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

In addition, once reconstituted, diluted or aliquoted, users should determine the stability of the material according to their own method of preparation, storage and use. Users who have data supporting any deterioration in the characteristics of any reference preparation are encouraged to contact NIBSC.

9. REFERENCES

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
We gratefully acknowledge the important contributions of all the participants in the collaborative study and Instituto Massone S.A. and IBSA Institut Biochimique S.A. for the kind donation of the bulk material.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical and Chemical properties</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical appearance: Freeze dried white powder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corrosive: No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stable: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oxidising: No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hygroscopic: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irritant: No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flammable: No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handling: See caution, Section 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (specify): Contains material of human origin</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Toxicological properties</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effects of inhalation: Not established, avoid inhalation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effects of ingestion: Not established, avoid ingestion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Effects of skin absorption: Not established, avoid contact with skin</td>
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<tr>
<th>Suggested First Aid</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inhalation: Seek medical advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingestion: Seek medical advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact with eyes: Wash with copious amounts of water. Seek medical advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact with skin: Wash thoroughly with water.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Action on Spillage and Method of Disposal</th>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Absorbent materials used to treat spillage should be treated as biological waste.</td>
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15. LIABILITY AND LOSS
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