1. INTENDED USE

The 2nd International Standard for Factor XI, Plasma, Human consists of ampoules, coded 15/180, containing approximately 1 mL aliquots of human normal plasma, freeze-dried. This preparation is intended for use in the measurement of FXI functional activity (FXI:C) and antigen (FXI:Ag) in plasma. In addition it can be used for potency assignment of FXI therapeutic concentrates.

The ECBS report is available from the WHO eryguy(www.who.int/entity/biologicales/ECBS_2016_BS2281 FXI-2nd_IS_final.pdf)

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 HBsAg, 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.

3. UNITAGE

The standard was assayed in an international collaborative study. The units assigned to this preparation are:

Factor XI Functional activity (FXI:C): 0.71 IU/ampoule
Factor XI Antigen (FXI:Ag): 0.78 IU/ampoule

Results from 29 laboratories (11 countries), employing one-stage clotting assays were used to value assigned Functional activity (FXI:C) to the 2nd IS relative to the 1st IS. The antigen value was assigned relative to local normal pooled plasma (total no. of donors >20,000) by ELISA method, using data from 11 laboratories (8 countries).

Uncertainty: the assigned unitage does not carry an uncertainty associated with its calibration. The uncertainty may therefore be considered to be the variance of the ampoule content which was determined to be +/- 0.25 %.

4. CONTENTS

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom

The WHO 2nd IS for Factor XI, Plasma, Human was prepared from a plasma pool derived from normal healthy donors (United Kingdom National Blood Transfusion Service). Blood was collected into CPD-adenine anticoagulant and subjected to two centrifugation steps after which the plasma was frozen rapidly and stored at -70°C until the day of ampoule filling. Individual donations were tested and found negative for HBsAg, anti-HIV-1/2 and anti-HCV. The material was formulated with glycine and a buffering agent HEPES (N-[2-Hydroxyethyl]pipperazine-N'-[2-ethanesulfonic acid]) at a final concentration of 1 % w/v and 40 mmol/L respectively. To avoid activation of FXI, polyethylene vessels were used for storage and transport of the pooled plasma. The frozen pooled plasma was thawed at 37°C and maintained at room temperature throughout the process. The material was filled into siliconised glass ampoules and freeze-dried under conditions used for International Biologicals Standards (1). Activation status of the WHO 2nd IS: The non-activated partial thromboplastin time (NAPTT) is known to be sensitive to activated clotting factor especially factor Xla and so it was used to assess the activation status of the finished product. The long mean clotting time of 300s (n = 9; sd ± 2.26) for 15/180 indicates the samples to be relatively unactivated.

5. STORAGE

Unopened ampoules should be stored in the dark below -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.

Allow ampoules to warm to room temperature. Open ampoule, taking care to ensure that all material is in the lower part, and reconstitute with 1.0 mL of distilled water. After reconstitution please store the material as indicated in section 8 (On Bench Stability).

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 material. It is the policy of WHO not to assign expiry dates to international reference materials. They remain valid with the assigned potency and status until withdrawn or amended. Accelerated degradation study, which involves potency estimation of ampoules stored at elevated temperatures relative to ampoules stored at below -150°C; has indicated that the Standard is stable when stored at -20°C or below; a predicted loss of less than 0.01% (FXI:C) and less than 1.00% (FXI:Ag) per year. The study was carried out in one laboratory (NIBSC), using a one-stage assay based on the APTT (FXI:C) and ELISA (FXI:Ag).

On Bench Stability: It is recommended that assays are to be performed as soon as possible after reconstitution. The stability of coagulation factors in plasma standards, after reconstitution, is mainly affected by two components - the surface of the container and the storage temperature. Unlike other WHO IS for blood coagulation factors it is recommended that upon reconstitution, the standard should either be transferred to a plastic tube or retained in the siliconised ampoule at room temperature (18 - 22°C) in order to prevent cold activation of FXI. Results from NIBSC indicated no significant change in FXI clotting activity or antigen measurement when the reconstituted material was stored at room
temperature in the siliconised ampoules for over 3 hours. However, users will be advised that local validation will be necessary if the reconstituted standard is stored under different conditions. The use of frozen aliquots of this International Standard cannot be recommended since the effect of freezing and thawing, under local conditions, on the FXI activity is unpredictable.

9. REFERENCES

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The participants of the study.

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>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical appearance: Freeze-dried powder</td>
<td>Corrosive: No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stable: Yes</td>
<td>Oxidising: No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygroscopic: No</td>
<td>Irritant: Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flammable: No</td>
<td>Handling: See caution, Section 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (specify): Contains material of human origin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. |

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/Legal/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: ~100 mg
Toxicity Statement: Toxicity not assessed
Veterinary certificate or other statement if applicable. Attached: 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_bioefstandardsrev2004.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.