**WHO International Standard**

**Botulinum type D antitoxin, 1st International Standard**

**NIBSC code: 61/001**

**Instructions for use**

(Version 6.0, Dated 24/01/2014)

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1. **INTENDED USE**

This material is a freeze-dried residue of horse antiserum to Clostridium botulinum type D toxin. It is intended for calibration of the bioassay for botulinum type D antitoxin. The material can also be used to confirm serotype identity. As a primary WHO International Standard (61/001 or BTUSD) it is intended for calibrating secondary in-house standards.

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**

By definition, each ampoule contains 1000 botulinum type D antitoxin International Units (IU).

4. **CONTENTS**

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.

The material is horse serum. Each ampoule contains 12.1mg of the International Standard, 61/001 (BTUSD).

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.

7. **USE OF MATERIAL**

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

Clostridium botulinum antitoxins were established to define International Units for each type of antitoxin to be used in the control of therapeutic antitoxin preparations. Preparation and assay of the 1st International Standard for Clostridium botulinum types A, B, C, D and E antitoxin were described by Bowner [1]. The antitoxin was raised in horses following immunisation with type D toxoid and toxin, strain D6F (a subculture of the type strain).

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.

It is the policy of WHO not to assign an expiry date to their International Reference Materials.

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 [2].

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**


10. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

N/A

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/jcml/

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical properties</th>
<th>Corrosive: No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical appearance:</td>
<td>Freezedried powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stable:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygroscopic:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flammable:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (specify):</td>
<td>Contains horse serum</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. |

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of origin for customs purposes*: United Kingdom</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net weight: 12.1 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toxicity Statement: Non-toxic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary certificate or other statement if applicable: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 (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.