



**WHO Reference Reagent
VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL GROWTH FACTOR 165
(VEGF165)(recDNA, human sequence)
NIBSC code: 02/286
Instructions for use
(Version 3.0, Dated 02/04/2013)**

1. INTENDED USE

The preparation coded 02/286 was established as the 1st WHO Reference Reagent for vascular endothelial growth factor 165 (VEGF165) human sequence, by the WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization in 2005, following evaluation in an international collaborative study. The VEGF165 used in this preparation is the human form of the molecule, synthesized in *E. coli* by recombinant DNA technology.

To provide continuity for laboratories currently using preparation 01/424, NIBSC research reagent for VEGF165, it is intended to maintain availability of 01/424 until at least November 2010, to permit laboratories to make direct comparison of the two preparations in their own assay systems.

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 assigned potency of the 1st WHO Reference Reagent for VEGF165 is 13000 units of VEGF165 per ampoule.

4. CONTENTS

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.
Each ampoule contains the residue after freeze-drying of 1.0mL of a solution that contained

VEGF165	13.0 microgram/mL
Citric acid	10 mM pH 5.2
trehalose	2.0 mg/mL
HSA	0.5 %

To assist laboratories currently using mass units for VEGF165, 02/286 could be considered to contain approximately 13 microgram VEGF165 per ampoule, based on the predicted content from the manufacturer's stated concentration and the results of the collaborative study.

5. STORAGE

The ampoules are shipped at ambient temperature. Unopened ampoules should be stored at minus 20 degrees C in the dark. It may be possible to store frozen aliquots of the reconstituted preparations for subsequent use as the collaborative study did not show any detectable effects on freezing and thawing the reconstituted preparations. However, this should be validated for the user's particular laboratory, storage and assay conditions. Repeated freezing and thawing should be avoided. The ampoules do not contain bacteriostat and solutions of the ampouled material should not be assumed to be sterile.

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. Various types of ampoule breaker are available commercially. To open the ampoule, tap the ampoule gently to collect material at the bottom (labelled) end and follow manufactures instructions provided with the ampoule breaker.

7. USE OF MATERIAL

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

The WHO Reference Reagent is intended for calibration of local standards. For all practical purposes, each ampoule contains the same quantity of VEGF165. The entire contents of each ampoule should be completely dissolved in a known volume of suitable solvent. It is recommended that, when possible, buffer containing carrier protein should be used to minimize loss by surface adsorption. The solvent should be compatible with the assay system used.

8. STABILITY

Reference materials are held at NIBSC within assured, temperature-controlled storage facilities and they should be stored on receipt as indicated on the label. Accelerated degradation studies have indicated that this material is suitably stable, when stored at -20°C or below, for the assigned values to remain valid until the material is withdrawn or replaced. These studies have also shown that the material is suitably stable for shipment at ambient temperature without any effect on the assigned values. Users who have data supporting any deterioration in the characteristics of any reference preparation are encouraged to contact NIBSC.

9. REFERENCES

The World Health Organization Reference Reagent for Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor, VEGF165
Robinson CJ, Gaines Das R, Stammers R, Rafferty B
Growth Factors (2006) 24 (4) 285-290

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Grateful acknowledgements are due to Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, CA, USA, for the donation of preparations of recombinant VEGF165, and to the participants in the collaborative 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

Physical and Chemical properties	
Physical appearance: Freeze dried powder	Corrosive: No
Stable: No	Oxidising: No
Hygroscopic: Yes	Irritant: No
Flammable: No	Handling: See caution, Section 2
Other (specify):	Contains material of human 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: 10mg
Toxicity Statement: Toxicity not assessed
Veterinary certificate or other statement if applicable. Attached: No

17. CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

National Institute for Biological Standards and Control,
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WHO International Laboratory for Biological Standards,
UK Official Medicines Control Laboratory

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_biol_efstandardsrev2004.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.