



**Non WHO Reference Material  
Clostridium septicum (Gas Gangrene) Antitoxin, 3rd British  
Standard**

**NIBSC code: 64/014  
Instructions for use  
(Version 8.0, Dated 24/01/2014)**

**This material is not for in vitro diagnostic use.**

### 1. INTENDED USE

This material is the freeze-dried residue of a hyperimmune horse antiserum to Clostridium septicum toxin. It is intended for calibration of the bioassays for anti-gas gangrene (Clostridium septicum) antitoxin. The material was established in 1966 as the 3<sup>rd</sup> British Standard following calibration against the International standard.

### 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

1100 International Units per ampoule

### 4. CONTENTS

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.  
Each ampoule contains the freeze-dried residue of approximately 1ml of horse serum. Each ampoule contains 1100 International Units of gas gangrene Cl. septicum antitoxin.

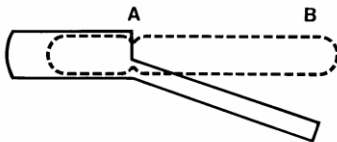
### 5. STORAGE

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.



Side view of ampoule opening device containing an ampoule positioned ready to open. 'A' is the score mark and 'B' the point of applied pressure.

### 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 serum. The entire contents of each ampoule should be completely dissolved in 1ml distilled water. The solution may then be made up with buffered saline to a total of 22ml to give 50 International units per ml. Ideally, the reconstituted standard should be used immediately after reconstitution. However, the reconstituted solution may be expected to retain its potency for some time if kept sterile at +4°C.

### 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.

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 [1].

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

1. Jerne NK and Perry WLM. The Stability of Biological Standards, Bull. Wld. Hlth. Org. 1956, vol. 14 pp 167-182.

### 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This antitoxin material was generously donated by Wellcome Research Laboratories in 1964.

### 11. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained as follows;

This material: [enquiries@nibsc.org](mailto: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](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](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](mailto: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: Yes  | Irritant: No  |
| Flammable: No   | Handling: See caution, Section 2                        |
| Other (specify):  | Contains equine serum                                   |
| 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

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|---|
| <b>Country of origin for customs purposes*:</b> United Kingdom<br>* 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> Approx. 100mg  |
| <b>Toxicity Statement:</b> Non-toxic  |
| <b>Veterinary certificate or other statement</b> if applicable.   |
| <b>Attached:</b> No   |