Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

NIBSC Confidence in Biological Medicines

WHO International Standard
Anti-Citrullinated Peptide Antibodies (ACPA)
NIBSC code: 18/204
Instructions for use
(Version 1.0, Dated 09/08/2023)

This material is not for in vitro diagnostic use

1. INTENDED USE

The 1st International Standard (product code 18/204) is intended for use in the calibration of immunoassays to measure Anti-Citrullinated Peptide/Protein Antibodies (ACPA) in human plasma and serum.

The standard was characterised in a large International Collaborative Study showed to improve in between-laboratory variability with alignment in a majority of the second-generation (anti-CCP2) methods. This preparation was established as the 1st International Standard (IS) for ACPA by the Expert Committee on Biological Standardisation of the World Health Organisation in 2023. When reconstituted as described below, the standard is used as a calibrator for CCP2 assays, with assigned content of 260 IU per ampoule.

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 1st IS for ACPA has an assigned potentcy of 260 IU per ampoule.

4. CONTENTS

Country of origin of biological material: United Kingdom.
Each ampoule contains the residue after freeze-drying 1 ml of plasma from a pool of 5 individuals' serum diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis.

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. 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 contents of each ampoule may be reconstituted by the addition of 1ml of either distilled water or buffered saline, mix gently until fully reconstituted. This solution will contain 260 IU per ml.

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 materials. The material has no expiry date, and the potency remains valid until the product is withdrawn or replaced.

Accelerated degredation studes have indicated that this material is suitably stable, when stored at -20°C. Once reconstituted, diluted or aliquoted, users should determine the stability of the material according to their own method of preparation, storage and use.

9. REFERENCES

The following report describes the International Collaborative Study that was carried out to characterise the standard: L Studholme, J Hockley, D Vara; International collaborative study to evaluate a proposed 1st WHO International Standard: anti-citrullintaed peptide antibodies (ACPA) code 18/204.
www.who.int/publications/m/item/WHO-BS-2023-2446

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the participants of 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

National Institute for Biological Standards and Control,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 3QG. T +44 (0)1707 641000, nibsc.org
WHO International Laboratory for Biological Standards,
UK Official Medicines Control Laboratory

World Health Organization

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 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: 0.09g
Toxicity Statement: Non-toxic
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_biolefstandardsrev2004.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.