



1st World Health Organization International Standard for Hepatitis D Virus RNA for Nucleic Acid Amplification Techniques (NAT)-Based Assays

PEI code 7657/12

(Version 2.0, November 2013)

1. INTENDED USE

The 1st World Health Organization (WHO) International Standard for hepatitis D virus (HDV) RNA is intended to be used in the standardization of nucleic acid amplification technique (NAT)-based assays for HDV. The establishment of an international standard is an urgent need in the standardization, harmonization and quality control of the NAT tests and patient management (1). The standard has been prepared using a genotype 1 strain of HDV, derived from the HDV positive human plasma and further diluted in human negative plasma. The material has been lyophilized in 0.5 ml aliquots and stored at -20°C. The material has been evaluated in an international collaborative study involving 15 laboratories performing a wide range of HDV real-time NAT assays. Further details of the collaborative study are available in the report WHO/BS/2013.2227 (2).

2. UNITAGE

This reagent has been assigned a unitage of 575,000 International Units/ml.

3. CONTENTS

Each vial contains 0.5 ml of lyophilized plasma containing infectious HDV.

4. CAUTION

THIS PREPARATION IS NOT FOR ADMINISTRATION TO HUMANS.

The preparation contains material of human origin, and contains infectious HDV. The reference materials has been diluted in human plasma negative for HBV DNA, HCV RNA, HDV RNA, HIV-1 RNA, HBsAg, anti-HDV, anti-HCV, and anti-HIV-1/2.

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 probably will include the wearing of protective gloves and avoiding the generation of aerosols. Care should be exercised in opening ampoules or vials, to avoid cuts.

5. USE OF MATERIAL

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

The material is supplied lyophilized and should be stored at or below -20°C. Each vial should be **reconstituted in 0.5 ml of sterile nuclease-free water**. The product should be reconstituted just prior to use, once reconstituted, freeze thawing of the product is not recommended. If not all the material is used immediately, laboratories may aliquot the remaining material into suitable volumes which should be stored at or below -70°C.

6. STABILITY

As the stability studies with accelerated conditions indicate high stability of the lyophilized reference material under the recommended storage conditions (at or below -20°C), there is no expire date assigned to the international standard. This approach complies with the recommendations for the preparation, characterization and establishment of international and other biological reference standards (3). The reference material is held at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI) within assured, temperature-controlled storage facilities. During its life cycle the stability is monitored at regular intervals. The international standard remains valid with the assigned potency and status until withdrawn or amended.

Reference materials should be stored on receipt as indicated on the label. Once, diluted or aliquoted, users should determine the stability of the material according to their own method of preparation, storage and use.

Users who have data supporting any deterioration in the characteristics of any reference preparation are encouraged to contact PEI.

7. REFERENCES

- (1) Wedemeyer H, Manns MP. Epidemiology, pathogenesis and management of hepatitis D: update and challenges ahead. *Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol* 2010, 7:31-40.
- (2) Chudy M, Hanschmann KM, Bozsayi M, Kreß J, Nübling CM. Collaborative Study to Establish a World Health Organization International Standard for Hepatitis D Virus RNA for Nucleic Acid Amplification Technology (NAT) –Based Assays. WHO Report 2013, WHO/BS/2013.xxxx.
- (3) Recommendations for the preparation, characterization and establishment of international and other biological reference standards. WHO Expert Committee on Biological Standardization. Fifty-fifth report, 2004. (WHO Technical Report Series, No. 932).

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the Department of Gastroenterology of the Ankara University, Turkey for supplying the candidate materials and for their collaboration and to all study participants.

9. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information for this material can be obtained as follows: whoccivd@pei.de or WHO Biological Reference Preparations: <http://www.who.int/biologicals/en/>

10. 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 whoccivd@pei.de

11. CITATION

In any circumstance where the recipient publishes a reference to PEI materials, it is important that the correct name of the preparation, the PEI code number, the name and the address of PEI are cited correctly.



12. MATERIAL SAFETY SHEET

Physical properties (at room temperature)		
Physical appearance	Lyophilized powder	
Fire hazard	None	
Chemical properties		
Stable	Yes	Corrosive:No
Hygroscopic	No	Oxidising:No
Flammable	No	Irritant:No
Other (specify)	CONTAINS HUMAN PLASMA & INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS D VIRUS (HDV)	
Handling:	See caution, section 4	
Toxicological properties		
Effects of inhalation:	Avoid – contains infectious HDV	
Effects of ingestion:	Avoid – contains infectious HDV	
Effects of skin absorption:	Avoid – contains infectious HDV	
Suggested First Aid		
Inhalation	Seek medical advice - contains infectious HDV	
Ingestion	Seek medical advice - contains infectious HDV	
Contact with eyes	Wash thoroughly with water. Seek medical advice – contains infectious HDV	
Contact with skin	Wash thoroughly with water. Seek medical advice – contains infectious HDV	
Action on Spillage and Method of Disposal		
Spillage of vial 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.		

All warranties are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law, including without limitation that the Goods are free from infectious agents or that the supply of Goods will not infringe any rights of any third party.

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13. LIABILITY AND LOSS

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