



# CARBIGEN™

(polymer based adjuvant)

## Technical Bulletin

### Summary of Key Points:

- ❑ Carbomer based (Carbopol 934P)
- ❑ Free of animal origin ingredients
- ❑ Terminally sterilized
- ❑ Best with acid stable antigens
- ❑ Known to stimulate humoral and T-cell responses
- ❑ Effective for intranasal or parenteral products
- ❑ Manufactured using components on Annex II, EC Regulation No. 470/2009 and/or various GRAS lists

CARBIGEN™ is a terminally-sterilized, carbomer-based adjuvant suspension containing a proprietary emulsified component and is free of animal origin ingredients. Its milky-white appearance creates a smooth, uniform mixture when added to your veterinary vaccine.

CARBIGEN™ is prepared in a non-buffered base and has a pH of approximately 2.5. To obtain maximum benefit, combine CARBIGEN™ and the antigen at the lowest pH possible for retention of antigen stability. Then, adjust the pH to between 6.8 and 7.2 for optimal antigen encapsulation.

Carbopol 934P is a pharmaceutical grade, cross-linking polymer that encapsulates the antigen, providing a slow-release as well as a depot effect. The depot effect with slow release improves the presentation of antigen to effector cells and provides a significant enhancement of the immune response and vaccine efficacy.

CARBIGEN™ has been used intranasally to produce IgA and IgG responses against respiratory disease organisms.

### INFORMATION ABOUT CARBIGEN™

**Immune Response:** CARBIGEN™ has the potential to elicit higher levels of humoral antibody and cellular immunity, more rapid onset of immunity and enhanced protection with a single vaccine dose as compared with conventional aluminum based adjuvants. It may be combined with bacterial and viral antigens and administered parenterally or intranasally.

**Animal Safety:** Carbopol-based adjuvant suspensions have been used in veterinary vaccines since the 1970's. They have been demonstrated to be safe and effective when used in all animal species. Each lot is safety tested in mice prior to release.

**Stability:** CARBIGEN™ is an emulsified suspension. As such, it does not separate upon storage.

**Syringeability:** Vaccines containing up to 20% CARBIGEN™ easily pass through a 25 gauge needle at 10°C (50° F).

**Uniformity:** The use of highly skilled operators and standardized manufacturing procedures ensures that each batch of CARBIGEN™ will be consistent, uniform and in compliance with established specifications.

**Preservatives:** Since CARBIGEN™ is terminally sterilized, preservatives are not generally added. Formaldehyde, gentamicin or other preservatives of choice may be added at the customer's request.

**Ingredients:** Each lot of CARBIGEN™ is manufactured to the highest standards using the finest components available. All ingredients meet USP, NF, EC Regulation No. 470/2009, or equivalent specifications and/or have been approved for vaccine use by USDA and regulatory agencies in numerous countries. CARBIGEN™ is free of animal origin ingredients.

**Testing:** Each ingredient contained in CARBIGEN™ must meet stringent in-house parameters for identity and consistency. Each lot of final product is thoroughly tested to ensure that it is free of viable bacteria and fungi. To assure batch to batch quality and consistency each lot is tested for viscosity, stability, and pH. Macroscopic and microscopic appearance is also carefully monitored during the manufacturing process. Other testing may be conducted at the customer's request.

**Storage:** CARBIGEN™ may be stored at 4°C-30°C (39°F-86°F). Temperature extremes should be avoided.

**Packaging:** CARBIGEN™ is available in 10 and 20 liter volumes. Other size containers can be provided at the customer's request. CARBIGEN™ is also available in sterile bags.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

- 1) With **acid stable** antigens, add 10% v/v of CARBIGEN™ to the antigen, mix well for 1-8 hours and raise pH carefully to approximately 7.0 with 10N NaOH.\* Mix an additional 12-24 hours. If necessary, readjust pH to between 6.8 and 7.2.
- 2) With **acid labile** antigens, add 10% v/v of CARBIGEN™ to a vessel equipped with a mixer. Adjust the pH of the CARBIGEN™ upward with 10N NaOH to as low a pH as the antigen will tolerate without damage.\* The lower the pH that the antigen can tolerate, the better will be the adjuvanting characteristics. When adjuvant is adjusted to the proper pH, add about 10% of the total antigen volume and mix for at least 30 minutes. The pH may drop. Readjust the pH and add the remainder of the antigen. Adjust the final pH to between 6.8 and 7.2. Mix at least an additional 12 hours (overnight) and readjust the pH, if necessary. Recheck the pH prior to filling.

\* **Caution: Do not to raise the pH above 7.5. Addition of HCl or other acids to bring pH down, if too much NaOH is added, may decrease the effectiveness of the adjuvant.**

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