- **Serotyping of Shigella**
- **Slide agglutination**
- **Reaction in 5-10 seconds**
**Description**
The *Shigella* antisera from Statens Serum Institut are intended for serotyping *Shigella* strains. The polyclonal antisera against *S. dysenteriae*, *S. flexneri* and *S. boydii* are raised in rabbits and consist of O antisera. The antisera against *S. sonnei* are monoclonal antibodies. All antisera are absorbed, ready to use and delivered in 3 mL bottles that should last for typing of 100 strains.

**Background**
*Shigella* can cause both bloody diarrhea (dysentery) and nonbloody diarrhea. There exists four species: *S. dysenteriae* (15 serotypes), *S. flexneri* (8 serotypes, with serotype 1 to 5 being subdivided into 10 sub-serotypes), *S. boydii* (19 serotypes) and *S. sonnei* (1 serotype, two phases). The serologic identification of *Shigella* species is important for both clinical and epidemiologic purposes. *S. flexneri* and *S. boydii* are often biochemically identical so serologic testing is essential.

In the developed world *S. sonnei* and *S. flexneri* are the most prevalent serotypes whereas in the developing world *S. flexneri* and *S. dysenteriae* (especially serotype 1) are most frequent.

**Application**
The *Shigella* strain is grown overnight on a non-selective or selective agar medium. A small amount of bacterial mass is transferred to a slide and mixed with a drop of antiserum. If the bacteria are mixed with a homologous antiserum, the cells are bound together through antigen-antibody bonds to form aggregates (agglutination). The agglutination can be read after the slide has been tilted 5-10 seconds. It is easier to read the result by the naked eye if the slide is hold in front of a light source against a black background.

**Available products**

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<tr>
<th>Article No.</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Packing</th>
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<tr>
<td>66442</td>
<td><em>S. dysenteriae</em> pool antiserum</td>
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<td>66443</td>
<td><em>S. flexneri</em> pool antiserum</td>
<td>(type 1-6, group 3,4(y); 6,7,8(x)</td>
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<td>66444</td>
<td><em>S. boydii</em> pool antiserum</td>
<td>(type 1-15)</td>
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<td>66445</td>
<td><em>S. sonnei</em> pool antiserum</td>
<td>(phase I and II)</td>
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<td><em>S. sonnei</em> phase I antiserum</td>
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<td>66447</td>
<td><em>S. sonnei</em> phase II antiserum</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Storage and shelf life**
Store at 2-8°C in a dark place. Expiry date is printed on the package.

**Information and ordering**
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