20% Sodium Azide (aqueous solution)
(Greg A. Perry, Ph.D.)

**Equipment:**

- 100ml Glass bottle
- Stir bar and stir plate

**Reagents:**

- 25 gm Sodium Azide (NaN$_3$
- 100 ml Distilled Water

**Method:**

1) Add about ½ (12.5gm) of the sodium azide to 100ml distilled water.
2) Stir continuously until all is in solution.
3) Add remaining sodium azide.
4) Stir continuously until all is in solution.
5) Filter with 0.45µm filter to remove particles

Use this solution to protect protein containing solutions from contaminant growth. Use at 0.1% final concentration (thus add 5µl of 20% sodium azide solution to each 1ml of protein solution).

**Notes:** Depending on the sodium azide used, you might be able to add all the azide at once and forgo filtering. 
Fisher “Purified Sodium Azide” (S-227I) does not go into solution. Baker “Sodium Azide Practical” (V015-5) worked well.