

DESCRIPTION

Source	Human embryonic kidney cell, HEK293-derived human IL-12 protein		
	Human IL-12p40 (Ile23-Ser328) Accession # P29460	GSGSSRRGGSGSGSGGGGSK	Human IL-12p35 (Arg23-Ser219) Accession # P29459
	N-terminus		C-terminus

N-terminal Sequence Analysis	Ile23
Structure / Form	GS-linked heterodimer
Predicted Molecular Mass	59 kDa

SPECIFICATIONS

SDS-PAGE	63-75 kDa, reducing conditions
Activity	Measured in a cell proliferation assay using PHA-stimulated human T lymphoblasts. Symons, J.A. <i>et al.</i> (1987) in Lymphokines and Interferons, a Practical Approach. Clemens, M.J. <i>et al.</i> (eds): IRL Press. 272. The ED ₅₀ for this effect is 0.01-0.05 ng/mL.
Endotoxin Level	<0.10 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.
Purity	>95%, by SDS-PAGE visualized with Silver Staining and quantitative densitometry by Coomassie® Blue Staining.
Formulation	Lyophilized from a 0.2 µm filtered solution in PBS. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

PREPARATION AND STORAGE

Reconstitution	Reconstitute at 100-200 µg/mL in PBS.
Shipping	The product is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below.
Stability & Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12 months from date of receipt, ≤ -20 °C as supplied. ● 1 month, 2 to 8 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution. ● 3 months, ≤ -20 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution.

DATA

Bioactivity

Recombinant Human IL-12 (Catalog # 10018-IL) stimulates proliferation in PHA-activated human T lymphoblasts. The ED₅₀ for this effect is 0.01-0.05 ng/mL.

SDS-PAGE

2 µg/lane of Recombinant Human IL-12 was resolved with SDS-PAGE under reducing (R) and non-reducing (NR) conditions and visualized by Coomassie® Blue staining, showing bands at 63-75 kDa.

BACKGROUND

Interleukin 12, also known as natural killer cell stimulatory factor (NKSF) or cytotoxic lymphocyte maturation factor (CLMF), is a pleiotropic cytokine originally identified in the medium of activated human B lymphoblastoid cell lines (1). The p40 subunit of IL-12 has been shown to have extensive amino acid sequence homology to the extracellular domain of the human IL-6 receptor while the p35 subunit shows distant but significant sequence similarity to IL-6, G-CSF, and chicken MGF (2, 3). These observations have led to the suggestion that IL-12 might have evolved from a cytokine/soluble receptor complex. Human and murine IL-12 share 70% and 60% amino acid sequence homology in their p40 and p35 subunits, respectively. IL-12 apparently shows species specificity with human IL-12 reportedly showing minimal activity in the murine system. IL-12 is produced by macrophages and B lymphocytes and has been shown to have multiple effects on T cells and natural killer (NK) cells (4). These effects include inducing production of IFN-gamma and TNF by resting and activated T and NK cells, synergizing with other IFN-gamma inducers at both the transcriptional and post-transcriptional levels. This interaction induces IFN-gamma gene expression, enhancing the cytotoxic activity of resting NK and T cells, inducing and synergizing with IL-2 in the generation of lymphokine-activated killer (LAK) cells, acting as a co-mitogen to stimulate proliferation of resting T cells, and inducing proliferation of activated T and NK cells (5). Current evidence indicates that IL-12, produced by macrophages in response to infectious agents, is a central mediator of the cell-mediated immune response by its actions on the development, proliferation, and activities of TH1 cells. In its role as the initiator of cell-mediated immunity, it has been suggested that IL-12 has therapeutic potential as a stimulator of cell-mediated immune responses to microbial pathogens, metastatic cancers, and viral infections such as AIDS.

References:

1. Gubler, U. *et al.* (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **88**:4143.
2. Gearing, D. *et al.* (1991) *Cell* **66**:9.
3. Merberg, D. *et al.* (1992) *Immunology Today* **13**:78.
4. Wolf, S.F. *et al.* (1991) *Journal of Immunology* **146**:3074.
5. Airoidi, I. *et al.* (2000) *Journal of Immunology* **165**:6880.