

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Ser87-Arg196  
Accession # AAB59693.1

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Ser87

**Structure / Form** Disulfide-linked homodimer

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 12.5 kDa (monomer)

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using NR6R-3T3 mouse fibroblast cells. Raines, E.W. *et al.* (1985) *Methods Enzymol.* **109**:749. The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is 3-9 ng/mL.

**Endotoxin Level** <0.01 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.

**Purity** >97%, by SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions and visualized by silver stain.

**Formulation** Lyophilized from a 0.2 µm filtered solution in Acetonitrile and TFA. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Reconstitution** Reconstitute at 100 µg/mL in sterile 4 mM HCl.

**Shipping** The product is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below.

**Stability & Storage** Use a manual defrost freezer and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

- 12 months from date of receipt, -20 to -70 °C as supplied.
- 1 month, 2 to 8 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution.
- 3 months, -20 to -70 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution.

**BACKGROUND**

The platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) family consists of proteins derived from four genes (PDGF-A, -B, -C, and -D) that form four disulfide-linked homodimers (PDGF-AA, -BB, -CC, and -DD) and one heterodimer (PDGF-AB) (1, 2). These proteins regulate diverse cellular functions by binding to and inducing the homo- or hetero-dimerization of two receptors (PDGF R $\alpha$  and R $\beta$ ). Whereas  $\alpha/\alpha$  homo-dimerization is induced by PDGF-AA, -BB, -CC, and -AB,  $\alpha/\beta$  hetero-dimerization is induced by PDGF-AB, -BB, -CC, and -DD, and  $\beta/\beta$  homo-dimerization is induced only by PDGF-BB, and -DD (1 - 4). Both PDGF R $\alpha$  and R $\beta$  are members of the class III subfamily of receptor tyrosine kinases (RTK) that have five immunoglobulin-like domains in their extracellular region and a split kinase domain in their intracellular region. Ligand-induced receptor dimerization results in autophosphorylation in trans resulting in the activation of several intracellular signaling pathways that can lead to cell proliferation, cell survival, cytoskeletal rearrangement, cell migration and extracellular matrix production. Rat PDGF-A chain cDNA encodes a 204 amino acid (aa) residue precursor protein with a 20 aa signal peptide, a 65 aa propeptide that is removed by proteolysis, and a 119 aa mature protein. By alternative splicing, a short form lacking 8 C-terminal aa residues also exists. The long form contains the 8 aa basic insert which promotes intracellular cell retention and association with cell matrix. PDGF-A is expressed in multiple cell types and tissues. Based on PDGF-A knockout studies, PDGF-A appears to be important for the development of oligodendrocytes, testicular Leydig cells, alveolar smooth muscle cells, hair follicles and intestinal villus (1).

**References:**

1. Betsholtz, C. *et al.* (2001) *BioEssays* **23**:494.
2. Ostman, A. and A.H. Heldin (2001) *Advances in Cancer Research* **80**:1.
3. Gilbertson, D. *et al.* (2001) *J. Biol. Chem.* **276**:27406.
4. LaRochells, W.J. *et al.* (2001) *Nature Cell Biol.* **3**:517.