

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Leu78-Leu234, with an N-terminal Met  
Accession # NP\_001075288

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 17.2 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Measured in a cytotoxicity assay using L-929 mouse fibroblast cells in the presence of the metabolic inhibitor actinomycin D. Matthews, N. and M.L. Neale (1987) in *Lymphokines and Interferons, A Practical Approach*. Clemens, M.J. *et al.* (eds): IRL Press. 221.  
The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is 0.025-0.1 ng/mL.

**Endotoxin Level** <0.01 EU per 1  $\mu$ g 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  $\mu$ m filtered solution in PBS. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Reconstitution** Reconstitute at 100  $\mu$ g/mL in sterile PBS.

**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**

Tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ), also known as cachectin and TNFSF2, is the prototypic ligand of the TNF superfamily. It is a pleiotropic molecule that plays a central role in inflammation, immune system development, apoptosis, and lipid metabolism (1, 2). Equine TNF- $\alpha$  consists of a 35 amino acid (aa) cytoplasmic domain, a 21 aa transmembrane segment, and a 178 aa extracellular domain (ECD) (3). Within the ECD, equine TNF- $\alpha$  shares 69% - 88% aa sequence identity with bovine, canine, cotton rat, feline, human, mouse, porcine, rat, and rhesus TNF- $\alpha$ . TNF- $\alpha$  is produced by a wide variety of immune, epithelial, endothelial, and tumor cells (1, 2). TNF- $\alpha$  is assembled intracellularly to form a noncovalently linked homotrimer which is expressed on the cell surface (4). Cell surface TNF- $\alpha$  can induce the lysis of neighboring tumor cells and virus infected cells, and it can generate its own downstream cell signaling following ligation by soluble TNFR I (2, 5). Shedding of membrane bound TNF- $\alpha$  by TACE/ADAM17 releases the bioactive cytokine, a 55 kDa soluble trimer of the TNF- $\alpha$  extracellular domain (6-8). TNF- $\alpha$  binds the ubiquitous 55-60 kDa TNF RI (9, 10) and the hematopoietic cell-restricted 80 kDa TNF RII (11, 12), both of which are also expressed as homotrimers (1, 2, 13). Both type I and type II receptors bind TNF- $\alpha$  with comparable affinity (14), although only TNF RI contains a cytoplasmic death domain which triggers the activation of apoptosis. Soluble forms of both types of receptors are released and can neutralize the biological activity of TNF- $\alpha$  (15).

**References:**

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