

**DESCRIPTION**

<b>Source</b>	<i>E. coli</i> -derived Asn299-Ser407, with an N-terminal Met Accession # O95390
<b>N-terminal Sequence Analysis</b>	Met-Asn <sub>299</sub> -Leu-Gly-Leu-Asp-(Cys)-Asp-Glu-His
<b>Structure / Form</b>	Disulfide-linked homodimer
<b>Predicted Molecular Mass</b>	12.6 kDa (monomer)

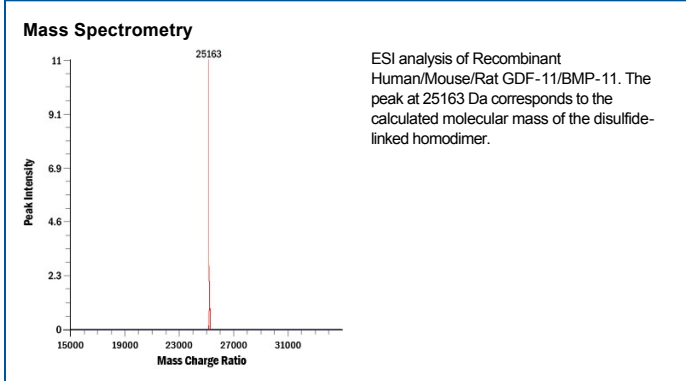
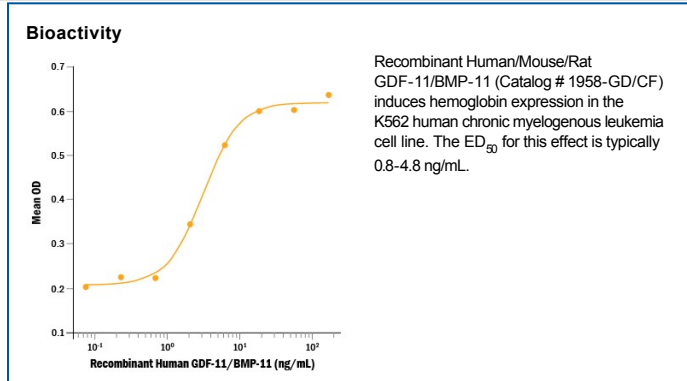
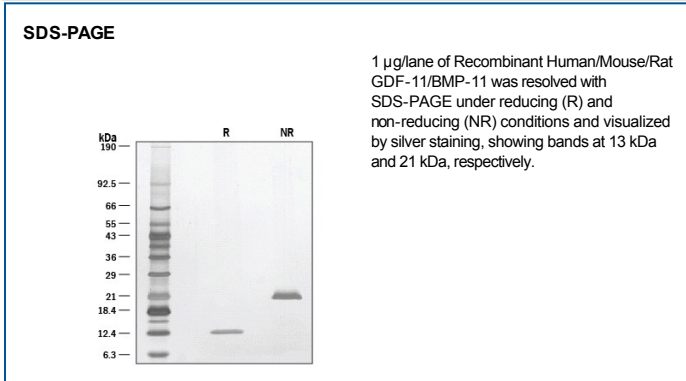
**SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>Activity</b>	Measured by its ability to induce hemoglobin expression in K562 human chronic myelogenous leukemia cells. Schwall, R.H. <i>et al.</i> (1991) <i>Method Enzymol.</i> <b>198</b> :340. The ED <sub>50</sub> for this effect is typically 0.8-4.8 ng/mL.
<b>Endotoxin Level</b>	<0.01 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.
<b>Purity</b>	>95%, by SDS-PAGE visualized with Silver Staining and quantitative densitometry by Coomassie® Blue Staining.
<b>Formulation</b>	Lyophilized from a 0.2 µm filtered solution in Acetonitrile and TFA. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

<b>Reconstitution</b>	Reconstitute at 100 µg/mL in sterile 4 mM HCl.
<b>Shipping</b>	The product is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below.
<b>Stability &amp; Storage</b>	<b>Use a manual defrost freezer and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 12 months from date of receipt, -20 to -70 °C as supplied.</li> <li>● 1 month, 2 to 8 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution.</li> <li>● 3 months, -20 to -70 °C under sterile conditions after reconstitution.</li> </ul>

**DATA**



**BACKGROUND**

Growth Differentiation Factor 11 (GDF-11), also known as BMP-11, is a member of the TGF- $\beta$  superfamily and is highly related to GDF-8. GDF-11 encodes a 407 amino acid (aa) prepropeptide which contains a signal sequence for secretion and an RXXR proteolytic processing site to yield a 109 aa residue carboxy-terminal mature protein (1). Mature GDF-11 contains the canonical 7-cysteine motif common to other TGF- $\beta$  superfamily members; however, like the TGF- $\beta$ s, Activins and GDF-8, GDF-11 also contains one extra pair of cysteine residues. At the amino acid sequence level, mature human, mouse, rat and chicken GDF-11 are 99-100% identical. GDF-11 and GDF-8 share 90% amino acid sequence identity within the mature protein. As detected by in situ hybridization, GDF-11 is expressed in diverse regions of the mouse embryo: tailbud, somitic precursors, limbs, mandibular and branchial arches, dorsal neural tube, odontoblasts, nasal epithelium, and particular regions of the brain (1, 2). Targeted deletion of GDF-11, in mice, results in a spectrum of abnormalities including palatal malformation, vertebral defects, elongated trunks with a reduced or absent tail, missing or malformed kidneys, and an increased number of neurons in the olfactory epithelium (2-5). GDF-11 signals through the Activin type II receptors and induces phosphorylation of Smad2 to mediate axial patterning (6). Systemic GDF-11 levels decline with age and administration of higher levels of GDF-11 can reverse age-related cardiac hypertrophy (7). In addition, systemic administration of recombinant GDF-11 protein restores genomic integrity and health of muscle stem cells, neurovasculature and enhances neurogenesis (8, 9). R&D Systems recombinant GDF-11 preparations have been shown to act similarly to GDF-8 in both the *Xenopus* animal cap and the K562 assays.

**References:**

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3. Gad, J.M. and P.P.L. Tam (1999) *Curr. Biol.* **9**:R783.
4. McPherron, A.C. *et al.* (1999) *Nat. Genet.* **22**:260.
5. Esquela, A.F. and S.J. Lee (2003) *Dev. Biol.* **257**:356.
6. Oh, S.P. *et al.* (2002) *Genes & Dev.* **16**:274.
7. Loffredo, F.S. *et al.* (2013) *Cell.* **153**.828.
8. Katsimpardi, L. *et al.* (2014) *Science* (ahead of print).
9. Sinha, M. *et al.* (2014) *Science* (ahead of print).