

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Pro29-Met212  
Accession # Q75MH2

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Pro29

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 20.3 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using T1165.85.2.1 mouse plasmacytoma cells. Nordan, R.P. *et al.* (1987) J. Immunol. **139**:813. The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is 0.2-0.8 ng/mL. The specific activity of Recombinant Human IL-6 is approximately 1.1 x 10<sup>5</sup> IU/μg, which is calibrated against human IL-6 WHO International Standard (NIBSC code: 89/548).

**Endotoxin Level** <0.10 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 PBS and NaCl. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

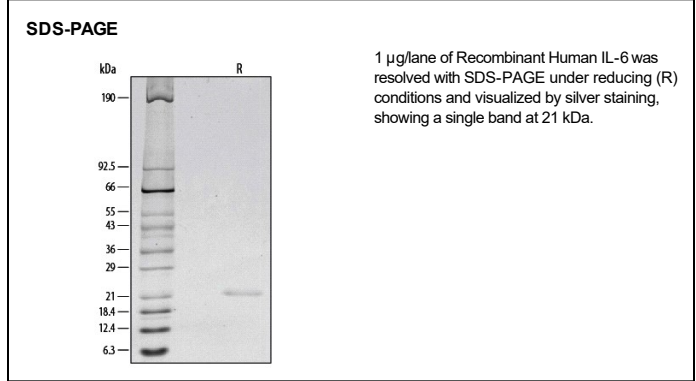
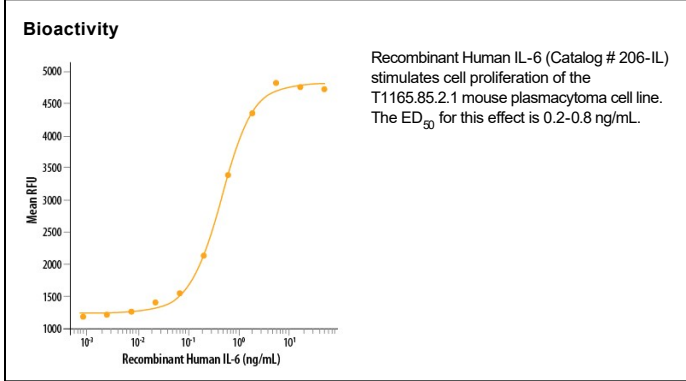
**Reconstitution** Reconstitute at 100-200 μg/mL in sterile PBS.

**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.

**DATA**



**BACKGROUND**

Interleukin-6 (IL-6) is a pleiotropic,  $\alpha$ -helical, 22-28 kDa phosphorylated and variably glycosylated cytokine that plays important roles in the acute phase reaction, inflammation, hematopoiesis, bone metabolism, and cancer progression (1-5). Mature human IL-6 is 183 amino acids (aa) in length and shares 39% aa sequence identity with mouse and rat IL-6 (6). Alternative splicing generates several isoforms with internal deletions, some of which exhibit antagonistic properties (7-10). IL-6 induces signaling through a cell surface heterodimeric receptor complex composed of a ligand binding subunit (IL-6 R  $\alpha$ ) and a signal transducing subunit (gp130). IL-6 binds to IL-6 R $\alpha$ , triggering IL-6 R $\alpha$  association with gp130 and gp130 dimerization (11). gp130 is also a component of the receptors for CLC, CNTF, CT-1, IL-11, IL-27, LIF, and OSM (12). Soluble forms of IL-6 R $\alpha$  are generated by both alternative splicing and proteolytic cleavage (5). In a mechanism known as trans-signaling, complexes of soluble IL-6 and IL-6 R $\alpha$  elicit responses from gp130-expressing cells that lack cell surface IL-6 R $\alpha$  (5). Trans-signaling enables a wider range of cell types to respond to IL-6, as the expression of gp130 is ubiquitous, while that of IL-6 R $\alpha$  is predominantly restricted to hepatocytes, monocytes, and resting lymphocytes (2, 5). Soluble splice forms of gp130 block trans-signaling from IL-6/IL-6 R $\alpha$  but not from other cytokines that use gp130 as a co-receptor (5, 13). IL-6, along with TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-1, drives the acute inflammatory response and the transition from acute inflammation to either acquired immunity or chronic inflammatory disease (1-5). When dysregulated, it contributes to chronic inflammation in obesity, insulin resistance, inflammatory bowel disease, arthritis, sepsis, and atherosclerosis (1, 2, 5). IL-6 can also function as an anti-inflammatory molecule, as in skeletal muscle where it is secreted in response to exercise (2). In addition, it enhances hematopoietic stem cell proliferation and the differentiation of Th17 cells, memory B cells, and plasma cells (1, 14).

**References:**

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