

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived human IL-7 protein  
Asp26-His177, with an N-terminal Met  
Accession # P13232

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 17 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using PHA-activated human peripheral blood lymphocytes (PBL). Yokota, T. *et al.* (1986) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA **83**:5894.  
The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is 0.1-0.5 ng/mL.  
The specific activity of Recombinant Human IL-7 is approximately 4.4 x 10<sup>5</sup> IU/μg, which is calibrated against human IL-7 WHO International Standard (NIBSC code: 90/530).

**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 PBS. \*1 mg pack size (01M) is supplied as a 0.2 μm filtered solution in PBS. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Reconstitution** Reconstitute 5 μg vials at 50 μg/mL in sterile PBS. Reconstitute 25 μg or larger vials at 100 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.

**BACKGROUND**

IL-7 (interleukin-7) is a 25 kDa cytokine of the hemopoietin family that plays important roles in lymphocyte differentiation, proliferation, and survival (1-4). Human IL-7 cDNA encodes 177 amino acids (aa) that include a 25 aa signal peptide (3). Human IL-7 shares approximately 60-63% aa sequence identity with mouse, rat, canine and feline IL-7, and 72-76% with equine, bovine, ovine, porcine, feline and canine IL-7. Human and mouse IL-7 exhibit cross-species activity (2, 3). IL-7 is produced by a wide variety of cells in primary and secondary lymphoid tissues, including stromal epithelial cells of the thymus, bone marrow, and intestines (1, 2, 5). Circulating IL-7 is limiting in healthy animals, but increases during lymphopenia (1, 6). IL-7 signals through a complex of the IL-7 Receptor alpha subunit (IL-7 R $\alpha$ , also known as CD127) with the common  $\gamma$  chain ( $\gamma_c$ ) (1). The  $\gamma_c$  is also a subunit of the receptors for IL-2, -4, -9, -15, and -21 (1). IL-7 R $\alpha$  is expressed on double negative (CD4<sup>-</sup>CD8<sup>-</sup>) and CD4<sup>+</sup> or CD8<sup>+</sup> single positive naïve and memory T cells, but undergoes IL-7-mediated down-regulation and shedding during antigen-driven T cell proliferation, and is absent on regulatory T cells (1, 2, 6-11). IL-7 contributes to the maintenance of all naïve and memory T cells, mainly by promoting expression of the anti-apoptotic protein Bcl-2 (9-11). It is required for optimal T cell-dendritic cell interaction (6). IL-7 is expressed early in B cell development prior to the appearance of surface IgM (1, 5, 9). In mouse, IL-7 activation of IL-7 R $\alpha$  is critical for both T cell and B cell lineage development, while in humans, it is required for T cell but not for B cell development (4, 9, 12, 13). However, IL-7 functions in both mouse and human pro-B cells to suppress premature Ig light chain recombination during proliferative growth (14, 15).

**References:**

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