

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Pro2-Ala115, with an N-terminal Met  
Accession # AAA36315

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met1 & Pro2

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 12.4 kDa & 12.3 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Bioassay data are not available.

**Endotoxin Level** <0.10 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.

**Purity** >97%, by SDS-PAGE visualized with Silver Staining and quantitative densitometry by Coomassie® Blue Staining.

**Formulation** Supplied as a 0.2 µm filtered solution in MES and NaCl. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

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

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

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

**BACKGROUND**

MIF (or macrophage migration inhibitory factor) was the first lymphokine/cytokine to be recognized in the pregenomics era (1, 2). Regardless, it is one of the least understood of all inflammatory mediators (1, 3). Human MIF is a 12.5 kDa, 115 amino acid (aa) nonglycosylated polypeptide that is synthesized without a signal sequence (4 - 7). Secretion occurs nonclassically via an ABCA1 transporter (8). The initiating Met is removed, leaving Pro as the first amino acid. The molecule consists of two  $\alpha$ -helices and six  $\beta$ -strands, four of which form a  $\beta$ -sheet. The two remaining  $\beta$ -strands interact with other MIF molecules, creating a trimer (2, 9, 10). Structure-function studies suggest MIF is bifunctional with segregated topology. The N- and C-termini mediate enzyme activity (in theory). Phenylpyruvate tautomerase activity (enol-to-keto) has been demonstrated and is dependent upon Pro at position #1 (11). Amino acids 50 - 65 have also been suggested to contain thiol-protein oxidoreductase activity (12). MIF has proinflammatory cytokine activity centered around amino acids 49 - 65. On fibroblasts, MIF induces, IL-1, IL-8 and MMP expression; on macrophages, MIF stimulates NO production and TNF- $\alpha$  release following IFN- $\gamma$  activation (13, 14). MIF apparently acts through CD74 and CD44, likely in some form of trimeric interaction (15, 16). Human MIF is active on mouse cells (14). Human MIF is 90%, 94%, 95%, and 90% aa identical to mouse, bovine, porcine and rat MIF, respectively.

**References:**

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