

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Ser83-Thr132  
Accession # O00253

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Ser83

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 5.6 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**Activity** Measured by its ability to antagonize  $\alpha$ -MSH-induced cAMP accumulation in HEK293 human embryonic kidney cells transfected with human Melanocortin-4 Receptor. Ollmann, M.M. *et al.* (1997) *Science* **278**:135.  
The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is typically 0.03-0.15  $\mu$ g/mL in the presence of 10 ng/mL of  $\alpha$ -MSH.

**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**

Agouti-Related Protein (AgRP), the protein product of the Agouti-Related Transcript (ART), is a neuropeptide that regulates energy metabolism and the development of obesity by antagonizing  $\alpha$ -melanocyte stimulating hormone ( $\alpha$ -MSH) on MC-3 and MC-4 receptors (1 - 4). AgRP is predominantly expressed in the hypothalamus and adrenal medulla (5). Mature human AgRP is a 112 amino acid (aa) peptide; its C-terminal portion contains ten conserved cysteines that form five disulfide bonds (5, 6). Within the C-terminal region, human AgRP shares 80% and 72% aa sequence identity with mouse and rat AgRP, respectively. It shares 44% aa sequence identity with Agouti. As in the case of Agouti, the C-terminal cysteine-rich region is sufficient for biological activity (7). AgRP is 100 times more potent than Agouti in antagonizing MC-3 and MC-4 receptors (8). AgRP also induces the  $\beta$ -arrestin dependent endocytosis of MC-3 and MC-4 (9). Hypothalamic expression of AgRP is upregulated in obesity and diabetes (5, 10), and chronic AgRP administration increases food intake and weight gain in rats (11). Genetically-linked polymorphisms of AgRP in humans are associated with susceptibility to anorexia nervosa (12, 13). In addition, AgRP inhibits the ACTH-induced synthesis of steroid hormones in a mechanism that does not involve melanocortin receptors (14).

**References:**

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