**DESCRIPTION**

**Source**
Human embryonic kidney cell, HEK293-derived
Met1-Met212

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis**
Ala28 & Val30

**Predicted Molecular Mass**
20.8 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**SDS-PAGE**
22 kDa, reducing conditions

**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_{50} for this effect is 0.1-0.6 ng/mL.

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

**Purity**
>95%, by SDS-PAGE visualized with Silver Staining and quantitative densitometry by Coomassie® Blue Staining.

**Formulation**
Lyophilized from a 0.2 μm filtered solution in PBS. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Reconstitution**
Reconstitute at 100 μg/mL in 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**

Interleukin-6 (IL-6) is a pleiotropic, α-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 Rα, triggering IL-6 Rα association with gp130 and gp130 dimerization (11). gp130 is also a component of the receptors for LIF, CNTF, CT-1, IL-11, IL-27, LIF, and OSM (12). Soluble forms of IL-6 Rα 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 Rα elicit responses from gp130-expressing cells that lack cell surface IL-6 Rα (6). 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 Rα is predominantly restricted to hepatocytes, monocytes, and resting lymphocytes (2,5). Soluble splice forms of gp130 block trans-signaling from IL-6/IL-6 Rα but not from other cytokines that use gp130 as a co-receptor (5,13). IL-6, along with TNFα 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 (1,4).

**References:**

**Recombinant Human IL-6**
Catalog Number: 7270-IL/CF

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