Recombinant Human Latent Activin A

Catalog Number: 9129-LA

DESCRIPTION

Source	Chinese Hamster Ovary cell line, CHO-derived human Activin A protein Ser21-Ser426 Accession # P08476
N-terminal Sequence Analysis	Ser21 (pro) & Gly311 (mature)
Structure / Form	Noncovalently-linked complex between disulfide-linked homodimer of the mature domain and noncovalently-linked homodimer of the prodomain
Predicted Molecular Mass	32 kDa (pro) & 13 kDa (mature)

SPECIFICATIONS

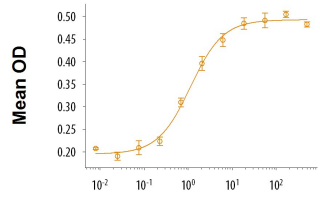
SDS-PAGE	13-16 kDa (mature) and 39 - 46 kDa (pro), reducing conditions
Activity	Measured by its ability to induce hemoglobin expression in K562 human chronic myelogenous leukemia cells. Schwall, R.H. *et al.* (1991) Method Enzymol. **198**:340. The ED_{50} for this effect is 0.600-3.60 ng/mL.
Endotoxin Level	<0.10 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.
Purity	>90%, 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.

DATA

Bioactivity



Recombinant Human Latent Activin A Protein Bioactivity
Recombinant Human Latent Activin A (Catalog # 9129-LA) induces hemoglobin expression in K562 human chronic myelogenous leukemia cells. The ED_{50} is 0.600-3.60 ng/mL.

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BACKGROUND

Activin and Inhibin are members of the TGF-β superfamily of cytokines and are involved in a wide range of biological processes including tissue morphogenesis and repair, fibrosis, inflammation, neural development, hematopoiesis, reproductive system function, and carcinogenesis (1-7). Activin and Inhibin are produced as precursor proteins. Their amino terminal propeptides are proteolytically cleaved and facilitate formation of disulfide-linked dimers of the bioactive proteins (8, 9). Activins are nonglycosylated homodimers or heterodimers of various β subunits (βA, βB, βC, and βE in mammals), while Inhibins are heterodimers of a unique α subunit and one of the β subunits. Activin A is a widely expressed homodimer of two βA chains. The βA subunit can also heterodimerize with a βB or βC subunit to form Activin AB and Activin AC, respectively (10). The 14 kDa mature human βA chain shares 100% amino acid sequence identity with bovine, feline, mouse, porcine, and rat βA.

Activin A exerts its biological activities by binding to the type 2 serine/threonine kinase Activin RIIA which then noncovalently associates with the type 1 serine/threonine kinase Activin RIB/ALK-4 (7, 11). Signaling through this receptor complex leads to Smad activation and regulation of activin-responsive gene transcription (7, 11). The bioactivity of Activin A is regulated by a variety of mechanisms (11). BAMBI, Betaglycan, and Cripto are cell-associated molecules that function as decoy receptors or limit the ability of Activin A to induce receptor complex assembly (12-14). The intracellular formation of Activin A can be prevented by the incorporation of the βA subunit into Activin AC or Inhibin A (3, 10). And the bioavailability of Activin A is restricted by its incorporation into inactive complexes with α2-Macroglobulin, Follistatin, and FLRG (15, 16).

Activin A is involved in the differentiation of various cell and tissue types. The induction of definitive endoderm by Activin A is required in differentiation protocols of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) (17, 18). In vitro models of human gametogenesis use prolonged Activin A supplementation to human embryonic stem cells for differentiation into human primordial germ cell-like cells (19). Activin A can also be used to maintain cells in vitro, as is the case for iPSC-derived nephron cells that can then be used in disease modeling, drug screening and in regenerative medicine (20).

Activin A is an important factor for tumor cells to evade the immune system as Activin A can act on surrounding immune cells to decrease their antitumor activity (21). Activin A also promotes migration and growth of tumors, making it a target for cancer therapies (22). Specifically, research has shown that interfering with Activin A activity can assist in overcoming CD8 T-cell exclusion and immunotherapy resistance (23). In bone marrow-derived stem cell transplants for treatment of diabetes, Activin A enhances migration and homing of stem cells towards pancreatic lineage (24).

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