

#### DESCRIPTION

|                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Species Reactivity</b>                                                                                                                                                                               | Human/Mouse/Rat                                                                                  |
| <b>Specificity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      | Detects human, mouse, and rat GDF-8/Myostatin in direct ELISAs and Western blots.                |
| <b>Source</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           | Polyclonal Goat IgG                                                                              |
| <b>Purification</b>                                                                                                                                                                                     | Antigen Affinity-purified                                                                        |
| <b>Immunogen</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | <i>E. coli</i> -derived recombinant mouse GDF-8/Myostatin<br>Asp268-Ser376<br>Accession # O08689 |
| <b>Conjugate</b>                                                                                                                                                                                        | Alexa Fluor 350<br>Excitation Wavelength: 346 nm<br>Emission Wavelength: 442 nm                  |
| <b>Formulation</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      | Supplied 0.2mg/ml in 1X PBS with RDF1 and 0.09% Sodium Azide                                     |
| *Contains <0.1% Sodium Azide, which is not hazardous at this concentration according to GHS classifications. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional information and handling instructions. |                                                                                                  |

#### APPLICATIONS

**Please Note:** Optimal dilutions should be determined by each laboratory for each application. [General Protocols](#) are available in the Technical Information section on our website.

|                             |                                                                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Neutralization</b>       | Optimal dilution of this antibody should be experimentally determined. |
| <b>Western Blot</b>         | Optimal dilution of this antibody should be experimentally determined. |
| <b>Immunohistochemistry</b> | Optimal dilution of this antibody should be experimentally determined. |

#### PREPARATION AND STORAGE

|                                |                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Shipping</b>                | The product is shipped with polar packs. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below. |
| <b>Stability &amp; Storage</b> | Protect from light. Do not freeze. 12 months from date of receipt, 2 to 8 °C as supplied                          |

#### BACKGROUND

Growth Differentiation Factor 8 (GDF-8), also known as myostatin, is a member of the TGF-β superfamily that is expressed specifically in developing and adult skeletal muscle. GDF-8 cDNA encodes a 376 amino acid (aa) prepropeptide with a 24 aa residue signal peptide, a 223 aa residue amino-terminal propeptide, and a 109 aa residue carboxy-terminal mature protein. Mature GDF-8 contains the canonical 7-cysteine motif common to other TGF-β superfamily members. Similar to the TGF-βs, activins and BMP-11, GDF-8 also contains one extra pair of cysteine residues that is not found in other family members. The bioactive form of GDF-8 is a homodimer with an apparent molecular weight of approximately 25 kDa. GDF-8 is highly conserved across species. At the amino acid sequence level, mature human, mouse, rat and cow GDF-8 are 100% identical. Within the TGF-β superfamily, GDF-8 is most closely related to BMP-11, a mammalian protein that acts as a dorsal mesoderm and neural inducer in *Xenopus* explants. The two proteins share 90% amino acid sequence identity within their mature chain. A targeted disruption of GDF-8 in mouse results in large mice with a widespread increase in skeletal muscle mass, indicating that GDF-8 is a negative regulator of skeletal muscle growth. A mutation in the bovine GDF-8 gene has been shown to be responsible for the double-muscling phenotype in cattle breeds such as Belgian Blue cattle that is characterized by an increase in muscle mass. GDF-8 has also been shown to inhibit preadipocyte differentiation to adipocytes. Mature GDF-8 binds to activin type II receptors and the binding is antagonized by the activin-binding protein, follistatin. R&D Systems recombinant GDF-8 preparations have been shown to act similarly to Activin A in both the *Xenopus* animal cap and the K562 assays.

#### PRODUCT SPECIFIC NOTICES

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