

DESCRIPTION

Species Reactivity	Human
Specificity	Detects human IL-21 in direct ELISAs.
Source	Monoclonal Mouse IgG _{2B} Clone # 1004603
Purification	Protein A or G purified from hybridoma culture supernatant
Immunogen	<i>E. coli</i> -derived human IL-21 Gln32-Ser162 Accession # Q9HBE4.3
Conjugate	Alexa Fluor 405 Excitation Wavelength: 405 nm Emission Wavelength: 421 nm
Formulation	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.

ELISA Optimal dilution of this antibody should be experimentally determined.

PREPARATION AND STORAGE

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

BACKGROUND

IL-21 (Interleukin-21) is a potent cytokine regulating many cell types of the immune system. IL-21 is produced by activated T follicular helper cells (Tfh), Th17 cells, and NKT cells (2-6). Tfh-derived IL-21 plays an important role in the development of humoral immunity through its autocrine effects on the Tfh cell and paracrine effects on immunoglobulin affinity maturation, plasma cell differentiation, and B cell memory responses (4, 8, 9). IL-21 protein regulates several aspects of T cell function. It co-stimulates the activation, proliferation, and survival of CD8+ T cells and NKT cells and promotes Th17 cell polarization (3, 5, 6, 11, 12). IL-21 blocks the generation of regulatory T cells and their suppressive effects on CD4+ T cells (13, 14). In addition to its role in T cell biology, IL-21 also plays a critical role in B cell activation, proliferation, differentiation, and apoptosis (2). It is also required for the migration of dendritic cells to draining lymph nodes (10). And IL-21 suppresses cutaneous hypersensitivity reactions by limiting allergen-specific IgE production and mast cell degranulation (16). In the autoimmune disease Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), a link between IL-21 and SLE disease susceptibility and progression was recently reported (19).

IL-21 protein exerts its biological effects through a heterodimeric receptor complex of gamma c and the IL-21-specific IL-21 R (2, 7). IL-21 is an approximately 14 kDa four-helix-bundle member of the family of cytokines that utilize the common gamma chain (gamma c) as a receptor subunit. gamma c is also a subunit of the receptors for IL-2, IL-4, IL-7, IL-9, and IL-15 (1). IL-21 R engagement enhances the cytolytic activity and IFN-gamma production of activated NK cells but limits the expansion of resting NK cells (15). Dysregulation of the IL-21/IL-21 R system contributes to the development of multiple immunological disorders (1, 17). The 133 amino acid (aa) mature human IL-21 protein shares 63% and 61% aa sequence identity with mouse and rat IL-21 protein, respectively. Alternative splicing generates an additional isoform with a substitution of the C-terminal 16 amino acids (18).

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