

## DESCRIPTION

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
His25-Cys135, with an N-terminal Met  
Accession # P30367.2

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 12.7 kDa

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using TF-1 human erythroleukemic cells. Kitamura, T. *et al.* (1989) *J. Cell Physiol.* **140**:323. The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is typically 0.05-0.3 ng/mL.

**Endotoxin Level** <1.0 EU per 1 µg of the protein by the LAL method.

**Purity** >95%, by SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions and visualized by silver stain.

**Formulation** Lyophilized from a 0.2 µm filtered solution in PBS with BSA as a carrier protein. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

## PREPARATION AND STORAGE

**Reconstitution** Reconstitute at 100 µg/mL in sterile PBS containing at least 0.1% human or bovine serum albumin.

**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-4 (IL-4), also known as B cell-stimulatory factor-1, is a monomeric, approximately 13 kDa-18 kDa Th2 cytokine that shows pleiotropic effects during immune responses (1-3). It is a glycosylated polypeptide that contains three intrachain disulfide bridges and adopts a bundled four  $\alpha$ -helix structure (4). Bovine IL-4 is synthesized with a 24 amino acid (aa) signal sequence. Alternate splicing generates two additional isoforms with internal deletions (5). Mature bovine IL-4 shares 60%, 91%, 93%, 78%, 55%, 39%, and 41% aa sequence identity with equine, goat, ovine, porcine, human, mouse, and rat IL-4, respectively. IL-4 exerts its effects through two receptor complexes (6, 7). The type I receptor, which is expressed on hematopoietic cells, is a heterodimer of the ligand binding IL-4 R $\alpha$  and the common  $\gamma$  chain (a shared subunit of the receptors for IL-2, -7, -9, -15, and -21). The type II receptor on nonhematopoietic cells consists of IL-4 R $\alpha$  and IL-13 R $\alpha$ 1. The type II receptor also transduces IL-13 mediated signals. IL-4 is primarily expressed by Th2-biased CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells, mast cells, basophils, and eosinophils (1, 2). It promotes cell proliferation, survival, and immunoglobulin class switch to IgE in B cells, acquisition of the Th2 phenotype by naïve CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells, priming and chemotaxis of mast cells, eosinophils, and basophils, and the proliferation and activation of epithelial cells (8-11). IL-4 plays a dominant role in the development of allergic inflammation and asthma (10, 12).

## References:

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