

## DESCRIPTION

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Ile27-Cys169, with an N-terminal Met  
Accession # P97688

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 16.3 kDa

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using NFS-60 mouse myelogenous leukemia lymphoblast cells. Holmes, K.L. *et al.* (1985) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA **82**:6687.  
The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is typically 1–5 ng/mL.

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

**Purity** >97%, 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

Rat interleukin-3 (IL-3; also multi-CSF) is a 26 kDa, variably glycosylated monomeric polypeptide that belongs to the  $\alpha$ -helix family of hematopoietic cytokines (1, 2). IL-3 has pleiotrophic activities on a number of hematopoietic-related cells (1, 3). The rat molecule has two alternate splice forms. The first is termed IL-3 $\beta$  and is synthesized as a 169 amino acid (aa) precursor that contains a 27 aa signal sequence and a 142 aa mature segment (1, 2). The second is called IL-3 $\alpha$ , and is identical to IL-3 $\beta$ , save for a three amino acid (Tyr-Pro-Gln) deletion at positions 56 - 58 (1). The beta form is considered the most common form. Each form has an  $\alpha$ -helical structure with two intrachain disulfide bonds and two potential N-linked glycosylation sites. Rat IL-3 is generally considered to be species-specific in its activity. In the mature region, rat IL-3 is 55%, 30% and 24% aa identical to mouse, human and bovine IL-3, respectively. Cells known to express IL-3 include connective tissue mast cells, astrocytes, microglia, megakaryocytes, eosinophils, T cells, keratinocytes and thymic epithelium.

IL-3 exerts its biological activities by binding to a 70 kDa, low affinity, ligand-binding IL-3 R $\alpha$  subunit, (6) which then recruits a 120 kDa, common  $\beta$ -chain, signal transducing subunit (7) to form a functional IL-3 receptor (1, 6, 7). Receptors for IL-3 are present on bone marrow progenitors, macrophages, mast cells, eosinophils, megakaryocytes, basophils and various myeloid leukemic cells. IL-3 can stimulate the proliferation and differentiation of pluripotent hematopoietic stem cells as well as various lineage committed progenitors including those for neutrophils, macrophages, megakaryocytes, and erythroid cells. IL-3 can stimulate the growth of early B cells and mature macrophages, mast cells, eosinophils, basophils, and megakaryocytes. IL-3 augments the function activity of basophils, mast cells, eosinophils, and macrophages (1, 8). In combination with other molecules such as CD40L and or IL-4, IL-3 can stimulate production of dendritic cells (1, 2, 9, 10).

## References:

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10. Buelens C. *et al.* (2002) Blood **99**:993.