

## DESCRIPTION

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Ala21-Thr155 (Cys147Ser), with and without an N-terminal Met  
Accession # Q29416

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met & Ala21

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 15.6 kDa

## SPECIFICATIONS

**Activity** Measured in a cell proliferation assay using CTLL-2 mouse cytotoxic T cells. Gearing, A.J.H. and C.B. Bird (1987) in *Lymphokines and Interferons, A Practical Approach*. Clemens, M.J. *et al.* (eds): IRL Press. 295.  
The ED<sub>50</sub> for this effect is typically 0.15–0.8 ng/mL.

**Endotoxin Level** <1.0 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

Interleukin 2 was initially identified as a T cell growth factor that is produced by T cells following activation by mitogens or antigens (1). Since then, it has been shown that IL-2 can also stimulate the growth and differentiation of B cells, natural killer (NK) cells, lymphocyte activated killer (LAK) cells, monocytes/macrophages, and oligodendrocytes (2). The biological activity of IL-2 is mediated by the binding to cell surface receptor complexes composed of three subunits designated as α, β, and γ subunits (3). IL-2 binds the α subunit with low affinity. The functional high affinity IL-2 receptor is a heterotrimeric complex of the α, β, and γ subunits. IL-2 binds with intermediate affinity to the complex containing the β and γ subunits, which is also capable of transducing IL-2 signals (4). In T cells, the β and γ subunits are shared with the IL-15 receptor complex (5). The γ subunit of the IL-2 receptor complex has also been shown to be a subunit of the receptor complexes of IL-4, IL-7, and IL-9 (6). At the amino acid sequence level, canine IL-2 shares 90%, 86%, 85%, 76%, and 75% sequence similarities to feline, human, equine, mouse, and bovine IL-2, respectively (7).

### References:

1. Morgan, D.A. *et al.* (1976) *Science* **193**:1007.
2. Smith, K.A. *et al.* (1988) *Science* **240**:1169.
3. Taniguchi, T. and Y. Minami (1993) *Cell* **73**:5.
4. Giri, J. *et al.* (1994) *EMBO J.* **13**:2822.
5. Waldmann, T. *et al.* (1998) *Int. Rev. Immunol.* **16**:205.
6. Nelson, B.H. and D.M. Willeford (1998) *Adv. Immunol.* **70**:1.
7. Dunham, S.P. *et al.* (1995) *DNA Seq.* **5**:177.