#### **Human Recombinant Activin A**

**Cytokines** 

Activin A

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Catalog # 78001 10 μg 78001.1 100 μg 78001.3 500 μg 78001.2 1000 μg

# **Product Description**

Activin A is a member of the transforming growth factor beta (TGF-β) family of proteins, and is produced by many cell types throughout development (Gurdon et al.). It is a disulfide-linked homodimer (two beta-A chains) that binds to heteromeric complexes of a type I (Act RI-A and Act RI-B) and a type II (Act RII-A and Act RII-B) serine-threonine kinase receptor (Attisano et al.). Activins primarily signal through SMAD2/3 proteins to regulate a variety of functions, including cell proliferation, differentiation, wound healing, apoptosis, and metabolism (McDowell et al.). Activin A maintains the undifferentiated state of human embryonic stem cells (James et al.; Xiao et al.) and also facilitates differentiation of human embryonic stem cells into definitive endoderm (D'Amour et al.).

#### **Product Information**

Alternative Names: Activin beta-A chain, EDF, Erythroid differentiation protein, FRP, FSH-releasing protein, INHBA, Inhibin beta-

A chain, Inhibin beta-1

Accession Number: P08476

Amino Acid Sequence: MGLECDGKVN ICCKKQFFVS FKDIGWNDWI IAPSGYHANY CEGECPSHIA GTSGSSLSFH STVINHYRMR

GHSPFANLKS CCVPTKLRPM SMLYYDDGQN IIKKDIQNMI VEECGCS

Predicted Molecular Mass: 26.2 kDa

Species: Human

Cross Reactivity: Mouse, Rat

Formulation: Lyophilized from a sterile-filtered solution containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid.

Source: E. coli

### **Specifications**

Activity: The specific activity is  $\geq 1 \times 10^5$  units/mg (EC50  $\leq 10$  ng/mL) as determined by the ability to induce

cytoxicity using MPC-11 cells.

Purity:  $\geq 95\%$ 

Endotoxin Level: Measured by kinetic Limulus amebocyte lysate (LAL) analysis and is ≤ 1 EU/µg protein.

## Preparation and Storage

Storage: Store at -20°C to -80°C.

Stability: Stable as supplied for 12 months from date of receipt.

Preparation: Centrifuge vial before opening. Reconstitute the product in sterile water to at least 0.1 mg/mL by pipetting the

solution down the sides of the vial. Do not vortex.

OPTIONAL: After reconstitution, if product will not be used immediately, dilute with concentrated bovine serum albumin (BSA) to a final BSA concentration of 0.1%. The effect of storage of stock solution on product performance should be tested for each application. As a general guide, do not store at 2 - 8°C for more than

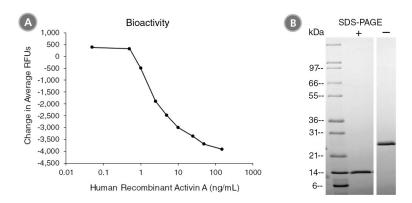
1 month or at -20°C to -80°C for more than 3 months. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

### Cytokines

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### Data



(A) The biological activity of Human Recombinant Activin A was tested by its ability to induce cytotoxicity of MPC-11 cells. Cytotoxicity was measured after 48 hours of culture using a fluorometric assay method. The EC50 is defined as the effective concentration of the growth factor at which cell death is at 50% of maximum. The EC50 in the above example is 1.9 - 2.9 ng/mL.

(B) 1 µg of Human Recombinant Activin A was resolved with SDS-PAGE under reducing (+) and non-reducing (-) conditions visualized by Coomassie Blue staining. Human Recombinant Activin A is a homodimer with a predicted molecular mass of 26.2 kDa.

### Related Products

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### References

Attisano L et al. (1996) Activation of signalling by the activin receptor complex. Mol Cell Biol 16(3): 1066-73.

D'Amour KA et al. (2005) Efficient differentiation of human embryonic stem cells to definitive endoderm. Nat Biotechnol 23(12): 1534–41. Gurdon JB et al. (1994) Activin signalling and response to a morphogen gradient. Nature 371(6497): 487–92.

James D et al. (2005) TGFbeta/activin/nodal signaling is necessary for the maintenance of pluripotency in human embryonic stem cells. Development 132(6): 1273–82.

McDowell N et al. (1997) Activin has direct long-range signalling activity and can form a concentration gradient by diffusion. Curr Biol 7(9): 671–81.

Xiao L et al. (2006) Activin A maintains self-renewal and regulates fibroblast growth factor, Wnt, and bone morphogenic protein pathways in human embryonic stem cells. Stem Cells 24(6): 1476–86.

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