## SIGMA-ALDRICH®

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# **Product Information**

Shiga toxin B subunit, His-tagged recombinant, expressed in *E. coli* 

Catalog Number **SML0655** Storage Temperature –20 °C

Synonyms: STxB, STX1, SLT1

#### **Product Description**

The Shiga toxins are a family of related protein toxins secreted by certain types of bacteria. Shiga toxin (Stx) is produced by *Shigella dysenteriae*; whereas, the Shiga-like toxins, Stx1 and Stx2, with a few known isoforms, are secreted by specific strains of *Escherichia coli* named Shiga-toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC), such as *E. coli* O157:H7, which causes bloody diarrhea and hemorrhagic colitis in humans, sometimes resulting in fatal systemic complications.<sup>1</sup>

Stx1 is identical to Stx, while the Stx2 isoforms share less sequence similarity with Stx (~60%) and are immunologically distinct. In spite of the differences in their amino acid sequence, all Stx isoforms share the same overall toxin structure and mechanism of action.<sup>2</sup>

Shiga toxins consists of two polypeptides. An A chain<sup>2</sup> and a B chain<sup>3</sup> non-covalently associate with an apparent stoichiometry of one A and five B chains to form the holotoxin.<sup>4</sup> The catalytic A subunit has RNA N-glycosidase activity that inhibits eukaryotic protein synthesis.<sup>1</sup> The B subunits form a pentamer, which recognizes and binds to the functional cell-surface receptor globotriaosylceramide [Gb3; Gala(1-4)-Galb (1-4)-Glcb1-ceramide].<sup>1</sup> Gb3 is overexpressed in membranes of numerous tumor cells,<sup>5,6</sup> therefore STxB binding to Gb3 receptors may be useful for cell-specific vectorization, labeling, and imaging purposes.<sup>5-7</sup>

The recombinant product is Shiga toxin B subunit, which contains 69 amino acid residues and a His-tag at the C-terminus. It is lyophilized from 0.2  $\mu$ m filtered solution of phosphate buffer without any carrier protein.

Purity: ≥95% (SDS-PAGE)

Endotoxin:  $\leq 0.1 \text{ EU/}\mu g$  protein

Gb3 Binding activity: significant binding above background is achieved with 1  $\mu$ g/mL of STxB. The activity of STxB is measured by its ability to bind to Gb3, which requires its pentameric form.<sup>8</sup>

### **Precautions and Disclaimer**

This product is for R&D use only, not for drug, household, or other uses. Please consult the Safety Data Sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling practices.

#### **Preparation Instructions**

Reconstitute the contents of the vial using water to a concentration of 0.1-1.0 mg/mL. This solution can then be further diluted into other aqueous buffers and stored at  $2-8 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for up to 4 months or at  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for extended use.

#### Storage/Stability

Prior to reconstitution, the lyophilized protein is best stored at -20 °C. After reconstitution and for extended storage, freeze in working aliquots at -20 °C. Repeated freezing and thawing is not recommended.

#### References

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