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Product Information

MONOCLONAL ANTI-PRION PROTEIN

Clone F89/160.1.5

Purified Mouse Immunoglobulin

Product Number **P 6488**

Product Description

Monoclonal Anti-Prion Protein (PrP) is derived from the hybridoma produced by the fusion of mouse myeloma cells and splenocytes from a BALB/c mouse immunized with a synthetic peptide corresponding to the amino acid residues 146-159 of bovine prion protein conjugated to keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH). The immunoglobulin is isolated from mouse ascites fluid by Protein A chromatography.

Monoclonal Anti-Prion Protein recognizes the amino acid sequence IHFG of PrP^C and PrP^{Sc} (33-35 kDa and 27-30 kDa, respectively) from a variety of species including human,¹ sheep, cattle, deer and elk.

Applications include ELISA, immunoblotting and immunohistochemistry on fixed or frozen tissue.

Prion-related diseases are fatal neurodegenerative disorders also known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). Such TSEs include Creutzfeld-Jacob disease (CJD), Gerstmann-Sträussler-Scheinker syndrome (GSS) and fatal familial insomnia (FFI) in humans, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and scrapie in sheep and chronic wasting disease in elk.² Histological characteristics of TSEs include spongiform change, astrocytosis, neuronal loss and progressive accumulation of amyloid plaques containing protease-resistant prion protein.

The endogenous prion protein (known as PrP^C for cellular prion protein), in a modified state (known as PrP^{Sc} for scrapie-associated prion protein), is the infectious agent and mutated PrP genes are responsible for the hereditary aspect of TSEs.³ The root cause of TSEs was thought to be nucleic acid in the form of viral DNA or RNA. However, after exhaustive research into the nature of scrapie infectivity, Prusiner and his colleagues presented the controversial hypotheses that the disease was spread by a "proteinaceous infectious particle" or prion.⁴

The prion protein is a natural protein synthesized within the secretory pathway and transported to the surface of the cell where it is tethered to the cell membrane by a glycosylphosphatidylinositol (GPI) anchor.^{5,6} PrP is constitutively expressed in brain and other tissues of healthy humans and animals and is present in high levels at the synapse.⁷ The activity of PrP is not well understood; it may be involved in copper utilization,⁸ serving to buffer copper at the synaptic cleft or to mediate re-uptake of copper into the presynapse. Alternatively, bound copper may influence PrP binding characteristics; the PrP-copper complex may be crucial for synaptic homeostasis as a result of its anti-oxidant activity.⁷

Aggregates of prion protein are often, but not always, found in the brains of individuals with a prion disease. Prion plaques occur in three types: unicentric (single, compact core), multicentric (two or more cores and definite border) and diffuse plaques without a definite central core.⁹

A tremendous amount of research remains to be done before the prion diseases are understood. An understanding of the mechanism underlying these diseases will not only lead to potential new therapies, but will also answer more fundamental questions concerning protein conformation and architecture in cell biology.

Reagent

Monoclonal Anti-Prion Protein is supplied as 200 µl of purified immunoglobulin in phosphate buffered saline with 1 mg/ml BSA with 0.05 % sodium azide as preservative.

Precautions and Disclaimer

Due to the sodium azide content, a material safety data sheet (MSDS) for this product has been sent to the attention of the safety officer of your institution. Consult the MSDS for information regarding hazardous and safe handling.

Storage/Stability

Store at -20 °C. For extended storage, freeze in working aliquots. Repeated freezing and thawing is not recommended. Storage in "frost-free" freezers is not recommended. If slight turbidity occurs upon prolonged storage, clarify the solution by centrifugation before use. Working dilution samples should be discarded if not used within 12 hours.

Product Profile

The recommended working dilution is 3 to 5 µg/ml for immunoblotting and 3-5 µg/ml for immunohistochemistry.

Note: In order to obtain best results and assay sensitivities of different techniques and preparations, we recommend determining optimal working dilutions by titration test.

References

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