

Background

Epidermal growth factor (EGF) is the founding member of the EGF family that also includes TGF- α , amphiregulin (AR), betacellulin (BTC), epiregulin (EPR), heparin-binding EGF-like growth factor (HB-EGF), epigen, and the neuregulins (NRG)-1 through -6 (1). Members of the EGF family share a structural motif, the EGF-like domain, which is characterized by three intramolecular disulfide bonds that are formed by six similarly spaced conserved cysteine residues (2). All EGF family members are synthesized as type I transmembrane precursor proteins that may contain several EGF domains in the extracellular region. The mature proteins are released from the cell surface by regulated proteolysis (1). The 1207 amino acid (aa) human EGF precursor contains nine EGF domains and nine LDLR class B repeats. The mature protein consists of 53 aa and is generated by proteolytic excision of the EGF domain proximal to the transmembrane region (3). Mature human EGF shares 70% aa sequence identity with mature mouse and rat EGF. EGF is present in various body fluids, including blood, milk, urine, saliva, seminal fluid, pancreatic juice, cerebrospinal fluid, and amniotic fluid (4). Four ErbB (HER) family receptor tyrosine kinases including EGFR/ErbB1, ErbB2, ErbB3 and ErbB4, mediate responses to EGF family members (5). These receptors undergo a complex pattern of ligand induced homo- or hetero-dimerization to transduce EGF family signals (6, 7). EGF binds ErbB1 and depending on the context, induces the formation of homodimers or heterodimers containing ErbB2. Dimerization results in autophosphorylation of the receptor at specific tyrosine residues to create docking sites for a variety of signaling molecules (5, 8). Biological activities ascribed to EGF include epithelial development, angiogenesis, inhibition of gastric acid secretion, fibroblast proliferation, and colony formation of epidermal cells in culture.

References:

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- Gamett, D.C. *et al.* (1997) *J. Biol. Chem.* **272**:12052.
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Description

Source	<i>E. coli</i> -derived Asn971 - Arg1023, with an N-terminal Met Accession # P01133
N-terminal Sequence Analysis	Met
Predicted Molecular Mass	6 kDa

Specifications

Activity	Measured in a cell proliferation assay using Balb/3T3 mouse embryonic fibroblasts. Rubin, J.S. <i>et al.</i> (1991) <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> 88 :415. The ED ₅₀ for this effect is typically 20 - 100 pg/mL.
Endotoxin Level	<1.0 EU per 1 μ g 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 μ m filtered solution in PBS. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

Preparation and Storage

Reconstitution	Reconstitute at 500 μ g/mL in sterile 10 mM Acetic Acid.
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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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.

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NOT FOR USE IN HUMANS