3050 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63103 USA Tel: (800) 521-8956 (314) 771-5765 Fax: (800) 325-5052 (314) 771-5757 email: techservice@sial.com sigma-aldrich.com

# **Product Information**

Interferon β from mouse recombinant, expressed in *E. coli* 

Catalog Number **I9032** Storage Temperature –70 °C

Synonym: IFN B

## **Product Description**

Type I Interferons are a closely related family of proteins that induce a variety of effects on target cells including antiviral, antiproliferative and immunomodulatory activities. They are divided into subtypes according to their cell type specific activities:  $\alpha$  subtypes (leukocytes),  $\beta$  subtypes (fibroblasts),  $\omega$  subtypes (lymphocytes), and  $\tau$  subtypes (ruminant embryos).  $^1$ 

Interferon  $\beta$  (IFN  $\beta$ ) is known to affect many important cell mediated immune responses, including enhanced expression of MHC molecules,  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin, tumor associated antigens, and cytokine receptors for tumor necrosis factor, interleukin-1, interleukin-2, and colony stimulating factors.  $^2$ 

The recombinant Interferon  $\beta$  from mouse is obtained from mouse DNA expressed in *E. coli*. Its molecular mass is ~20 kDa.

The product is supplied as a solution in 20 mM HEPES, pH 6.0, 0.5 M NaCl, 6% glycerol, and 0.1% bovine serum albumin.

Purity: ≥95%

Interferon  $\beta$  activity is measured in a bioassay system against the NIH International Standard Reference for mouse interferon  $\beta$  by the inhibition of cytopathic effect in mouse L929 cells with encephalomyocarditis virus (EMCV).  $^{3\text{-}5}$  In this antiviral assay for interferon,

~1 unit/ml of interferon is the quantity necessary to produce a cytopathic effect of 50%.

## **Precautions and Disclaimer**

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

#### **Preparation Instructions**

The contents of the vial may be further diluted in a buffer solution (phosphate buffered saline) containing a protein such as 0.1% bovine serum albumin.

### Storage/Stability

The product ships on dry ice and storage at –70 °C or below is recommended for retention of full activity.

After thawing, freeze in working aliquots at –70 °C. Repeated freezing and thawing is **not** recommended and may cause significant loss of activity.

#### References

- 1. The Cytokine Facts Books, Callard, R., and Gearing, A., eds., Academic Press, (New York, NY: 1994) p. 148.
- 2. Volz, M., and Kirkpatrick, C., Drugs, **43**, 285-294 (1992).
- 3. Rubinstein, S. et al., J. Virol., 37, 755-758 (1981).
- Familletti, P. et al., Meth. Enzymol., 78, 387-394 (1981).
- 5. Pestka, S., Meth. Enzymol., 119, 14-23 (1986).

RC,KAA,MAM 03/11-1