

Product No.C-7082
Lot 016H4843

Monoclonal Anti- β -Catenin
Mouse Ascites Fluid
Clone 6F9

Monoclonal Anti- β -Catenin (mouse IgG1 isotype) is derived from the 6F9 hybridoma produced by the fusion of mouse myeloma cells and splenocytes from BALB/c mice. Recombinant chicken β -catenin was used as the immunogen.¹ The isotype is determined using Sigma ImmunoType[™] Kit (Sigma ISO-1) and by a double diffusion immunoassay using Mouse Monoclonal Antibody Isotyping Reagents (Sigma ISO-2). The product is provided as ascites fluid with 0.1% sodium azide (see MSDS)* as a preservative.

Specificity

Monoclonal Anti- β -Catenin recognizes the β -catenin molecule (94 kD) in immunoblotting. The product also reacts in immunocytochemical staining of cultured cells (e.g., Madin-Darby bovine kidney (MDBK) cells) and immunohistochemistry of frozen sections. It does not cross-react with plakoglobin. Cross-reactivity has been observed with β -catenin of human, dog and bovine.

Titers

1. A titer of 1:1,000 was determined by indirect immunofluorescence using cultured MDBK cells.
2. A titer of 1:1,000 was determined by indirect immunoblotting using cultured MDBK cells extract.

In order to obtain best results, it is recommended that each user determine the optimal working dilution for individual applications by titration assay.

Description

Cell adhesion is vitally important during development and in the adult organism for sorting cells, induction of cellular morphogenesis and maintenance of tissue integrity.^{2,3} Many cancer cells show aberrant adhesion properties that contribute to tumorigenesis, invasion, and metastasis. Ca^{2+} -dependent cell adhesion is mediated by a multifunctional family of transmembrane

glycoproteins termed cadherins.³ Cadherins are concentrated in cell-cell adherens junctions, where cells come into close contact with one another. Cadherins, self-associate specifically via their extracellular domains. Studies supporting a role for cadherins in morphogenesis have led to the hypothesis that cadherins are crucial for segregation and sorting of different cells expressing different cadherin types. During recognition and adhesion between cells, cadherins regulate homophilic, Ca^{2+} -dependent interactions in cells. This initiates a cascade of events that leads to the structural and functional reorganization of cells, including formation of junctional complexes (tight junction, *zonula adherens*, desmosomes), organization of the actin cytoskeleton at the apical junctional complex, assembly of the membrane cytoskeleton, and development of membrane domains. The mechanism of cadherin function involves both specific binding of extracellular domains at the cell surface and interactions with components of the cytoplasm. Studies have identified three cytoplasmic proteins, known as catenins, that bind noncovalently to the cytoplasmic domain of cadherins.⁴ Formation of the cadherin/catenin complex is required for cadherin functions in cell-cell adhesion, signal transduction, as well as the initiation and maintenance of structural and functional organization of cells and tissues. Catenins mediate the connection of cadherins to actin filaments and are part of a higher order submembranous network by which cadherins are linked to other transmembrane and peripheral cytoplasmic proteins. Other cytoplasmic proteins, including fodrin, as well as *src* and *yes* kinases, also interact with the cadherin/catenin complex⁵. These interactions may link the cadherin/catenin complex with the cytoskeleton and intracellular signaling pathways. Three catenins with molecular weights of approximately 102-105kD (α -catenin), 92-97 kD (β -catenin), and 82-86 kD (γ -catenin) have been identified. α -Catenin (also known as CAP-102) is a vinculin-like protein, whereas β -catenin shares 70% sequence identity to a protein

encoded by *Drosophila armadillo*, a segment polarity gene. Both *armadillo* and β -catenin share considerable homology with plakoglobin, which has been proposed to be γ -catenin. The homology between β -catenin and *armadillo* raised the possibility that β -catenin has a developmental signaling role in vertebrates. For instance, β -catenin mediates the interaction of the cadherin-catenin complex with the epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor and β -catenin and plakoglobin are substrates for tyrosine phosphorylation following EGF stimulation of cells. β -catenin also associates directly with the tumor suppressor protein adenomatous polyposis coli (APC). Mutation of APC appears to be the first step in colon carcinogenesis, after which progression to carcinoma involves additional mutations in specific oncogenes and tumor suppressors.⁶ Monoclonal antibody reacting specifically with β -catenin is an essential tool in defining the interactions and distributions of β -catenin and its relationships with other catenins and cadherins in various cells and tissues.

Uses

Monoclonal Anti- β -Catenin may be used for the localization of β -catenin using various immunochemical assays such as immunoblotting, immunocytochemistry and immunohistochemistry.

Storage

For extended storage freeze in working aliquots. For continuous use, store at 2-8°C. 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.

* Due to the sodium azide content a material safety 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 practices.

References

1. Johnson, K., et al., Exp. Cell Res., **207**, 252 (1993).
2. Edelman, G., and Crossin, K., Ann. Rev. Biochem., **60**, 155 (1991).
3. Takeichi, M., Science, **251**, 1451 (1991).
4. Nagafuchi, A., and Takeichi, M., EMBO J., **7**, 3679 (1988).
5. Tsukita, S., et al., J. Cell Biol., **123**, 1049 (1993).
6. Reynolds, A., et al., Mol. Cell Biol., **14**, 8333 (1994).