

## BACKGROUND

Interleukin-2 (IL-2) was identified based on its potent T-cell growth-factor activity and is traditionally implicated in the agonistic stimulation of immune responses. As IL-2 is mainly produced by activated T cells and, in particular, by activated CD4+ T-helper cells, at least part of their 'helper' function for CD8+ T cells was attributed to IL-2.<sup>1</sup> With respect to immune-enhancing functions, IL-2 has a role in supporting proliferation and survival of T cells, and differentiation of naive T cells into effector and memory cells. Evidence indicates that IL-2 is also an important factor that allows the generation of memory T cells, which are able to undergo secondary expansion when they re-encounter an antigen. Furthermore, IL-2 has the ability to overcome the proliferation block of anergic cells generated *in vitro* and, in certain situations, also *in vivo*.<sup>2</sup> In opposition to these immune-enhancing functions, IL-2 can promote activation-induced cell death (AICD) of T cells and was therefore implicated in downregulating antigen-specific T-cell numbers after the clonal expansion phase of an immune response.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, IL-2 also has anti-inflammatory properties, as do other pro-inflammatory cytokines, such as interferon- $\gamma$  (IFN $\gamma$ ). In a similar process to IFN $\gamma$ —which exerts anti-inflammatory properties by suppressing T-helper 17 cells—IL-2 can constrain IL-17 production, and exert its immunosuppressive function by stimulating the generation and homeostasis of CD4+ CD25+ Foxp3+ regulatory T cells (T<sub>REG</sub>). Indeed, IL-2 is a non-redundant factor for the *in vivo* homeostasis of TREG, which constitute a fundamental part of immunological self-tolerance and immune regulation.<sup>4</sup>

### References:

1. Malek, T.R.: Annu Rev Immunol. 26:453-79, 2008
2. Waldmann, T.A.: Nat Rev Immunol. 6:595-601, 2006
3. Bachmann, M.F. & Oxenius, A.: EMBO Rep. 8:1142-8, 2007
4. Turka, L.A. & Walsh, P.T.: Front Biosci. 13:1440-6, 2008

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### Source:

IL-2 antibody is a mouse monoclonal antibody raised against recombinant human IL-2 fragments expressed in *E. coli*.

### Specificity and Sensitivity:

This antibody detects endogenous IL-2 proteins without cross-reactivity with other family members.

**Storage Buffer:** PBS and 30% glycerol

### Storage:

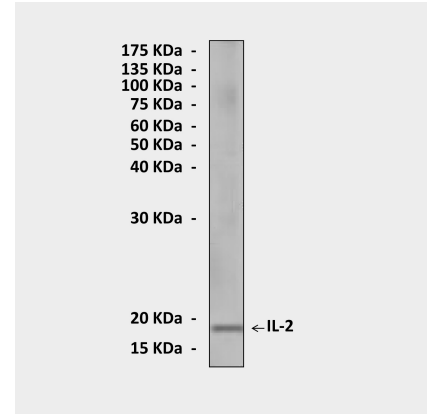
Store at -20°C for at least one year. Store at 4°C for frequent use. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

## APPLICATIONS

Application:	*Dilution:
WB	1:1000
IP	1:50
IHC	n/d
ICC	n/d
FACS	n/d

\*Optimal dilutions must be determined by end user.

## QUALITY CONTROL DATA



Western Blot detection of IL-2 proteins in *E. coli* cell lysate containing recombinant human IL-2 proteins using IL-2 Antibody.

