

# $\alpha$ -2M (N-18): sc-8513

## BACKGROUND

$\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin ( $\alpha$ -2M) is a homotetrameric serum protein consisting of four identical subunits that form dimers through disulfide bonds. Initially,  $\alpha$ -2M was characterized as a pan-proteinase inhibitor that was able to "bait" proteinases into cleaving specific peptide sequences on  $\alpha$ -2M. This interaction induces a conformational change in  $\alpha$ -2M, thus enabling it to "trap" the proteinase and further inhibit its activity. Subsequently,  $\alpha$ -2M has been shown to function as a carrier protein and regulator of cytokines during inflammation. Circulating transforming growth factor  $\beta$  (TGF $\beta$ ) in serum is primarily bound to  $\alpha$ -2M, which renders TGF $\beta$  inactive.  $\alpha$ -2M also binds to IL-6 and, thereby, increases the concentration of IL-6 near lymphocytes, hepatocytes and stem cells involved in mediating the inflammatory cascade. Mutations and deletions in the gene encoding  $\alpha$ -2M are associated with an increased incidence of Alzheimer's disease (AD), which is consistent with the role of  $\alpha$ -2M in mediating the clearance and degradation of A  $\beta$ , the major component of  $\beta$ -Amyloid deposits accumulated during AD.

## REFERENCES

- Barrett, A.J., et al. 1973. The interaction of  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin with proteinases. Characteristics and specificity of the reaction, and a hypothesis concerning its molecular mechanism. *Biochem. J.* 133: 709-724.
- Tsuchiya, Y., et al. 1987. Sequence analysis of the putative regulatory region of rat  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin gene. *Gene* 57: 73-80.
- Borth, W., et al. 1990. Binding of IL-1 $\beta$  to  $\alpha$ -Macroglobulins and release by Thioredoxin. *J. Immunol.* 145: 3747-3754.
- Poller, W., et al. 1992. Cloning of the human  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin gene and detection of mutations in two functional domains: the bait region and the thiolester site. *Hum. Genet.* 88: 313-319.
- Webb, D.J., et al. 1998. Localization of the binding site for transforming growth factor  $\beta$  in human  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin to a 20 kDa peptide that also contains the bait region. *J. Biol. Chem.* 273: 13339-13346.
- Blacker, D., et al. 1998.  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin is genetically associated with Alzheimer's disease. *Nat. Genet.* 19: 357-360.

## CHROMOSOMAL LOCATION

Genetic locus: A2M (human) mapping to 12p13.3-p12.3.

## SOURCE

$\alpha$ -2M (N-18) is an affinity purified goat polyclonal antibody raised against a peptide mapping near the N-terminus of  $\alpha$ -2M of human origin.

## PRODUCT

Each vial contains 200  $\mu$ g IgG in 1.0 ml of PBS with < 0.1% sodium azide and 0.1% gelatin.

Blocking peptide available for competition studies, sc-8513 P, (100  $\mu$ g peptide in 0.5 ml PBS containing < 0.1% sodium azide and 0.2% BSA).

## RESEARCH USE

For research use only, not for use in diagnostic procedures.

## APPLICATIONS

$\alpha$ -2M (N-18) is recommended for detection of  $\alpha$ -2M of human origin by Western Blotting (starting dilution 1:200, dilution range 1:100-1:1000), immunoprecipitation [1–2  $\mu$ g per 100–500  $\mu$ g of total protein (1 ml of cell lysate)], immunofluorescence (starting dilution 1:50, dilution range 1:50-1:500) and solid phase ELISA (starting dilution 1:30, dilution range 1:30-1:3000).

$\alpha$ -2M (N-18) is also recommended for detection of  $\alpha$ -2M in additional species, including porcine.

Suitable for use as control antibody for  $\alpha$ -2M siRNA (h): sc-40297,  $\alpha$ -2M shRNA Plasmid (h): sc-40297-SH and  $\alpha$ -2M shRNA (h) Lentiviral Particles: sc-40297-V.

Molecular Weight of  $\alpha$ -2M tetrameric protein: 718 kDa.

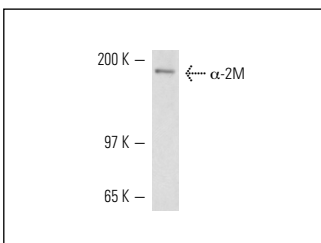
Molecular Weight of  $\alpha$ -2M subunits: 185 kDa.

Positive Controls: HeLa whole cell lysate: sc-2200 or Jurkat whole cell lysate: sc-2204.

## RECOMMENDED SECONDARY REAGENTS

To ensure optimal results, the following support (secondary) reagents are recommended: 1) Western Blotting: use donkey anti-goat IgG-HRP: sc-2020 (dilution range: 1:2000-1:100,000) or Cruz Marker<sup>™</sup> compatible donkey anti-goat IgG-HRP: sc-2033 (dilution range: 1:2000-1:5000), Cruz Marker<sup>™</sup> Molecular Weight Standards: sc-2035, TBS Blotto A Blocking Reagent: sc-2333 and Western Blotting Luminol Reagent: sc-2048. 2) Immunoprecipitation: use Protein A/G PLUS-Agarose: sc-2003 (0.5 ml agarose/2.0 ml). 3) Immunofluorescence: use donkey anti-goat IgG-FITC: sc-2024 (dilution range: 1:100-1:400) or donkey anti-goat IgG-TR: sc-2783 (dilution range: 1:100-1:400) with UltraCruz<sup>™</sup> Mounting Medium: sc-24941.

## DATA



$\alpha$ -2M (N-18): sc-8513. Western blot analysis of human recombinant  $\alpha$ -2-Macroglobulin.

## STORAGE

Store at 4° C, \*\*DO NOT FREEZE\*\*. Stable for one year from the date of shipment. Non-hazardous. No MSDS required.

## PROTOCOLS

See our web site at [www.scbt.com](http://www.scbt.com) or our catalog for detailed protocols and support products.