**BACKGROUND**

Exendin 4 is a 39 amino acid peptide produced exclusively by the salivary glands of the Gila monster, *Heloderma suspectum*. It acts as an agonist of the glucagon-like peptide (GLP) receptor that has anorexigenic and fat-reducing properties. Plasma levels of Exendin 4 increase in response to feeding, as it is released from the salivary glands in response to mechanical stimulation. Exendin 4 possesses anti-apoptotic and β cell proliferative properties, and induces the phosphorylation of Raf-1 and extracellular-signal-regulated kinase (ERK) as well as the level of phosphorylated cAMP response element-binding protein (CREB) and the cyclin D1 gene. Exendin 4 has prolonged glucose-lowering action that may contribute to its antidiabetic effect in several animal models of type 2 diabetes.

**REFERENCES**


**SOURCE**

Exendin 4 (ABS 012-35) is a mouse monoclonal antibody raised against carrier coupled Exendin 4 of *Heloderma suspectum* origin.