



PhosphoSolutions®
Antibodies that work™

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Anti-GABA_A Receptor, α_1 -Subunit

Catalog Number: 811-GA1C

Size: 100 μ l

Product Description: Affinity purified rabbit polyclonal antibody

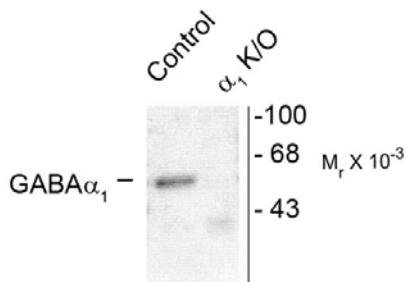
Applications: **WB:** 1:1000

Antigen: Fusion protein from the cytoplasmic loop of the α_1 -subunit of rat GABA_A receptor.

Species reactivity: The antibody has been directly tested for reactivity in Western blots with mouse and rat tissue. It is anticipated that the antibody will react with bovine, canine, human, and non-human primate based on the fact that these species have 100% homology with the amino acid sequence used as antigen.

Biological Significance: *Gamma*-aminobutyric acid (GABA) is the primary inhibitory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system, causing a hyperpolarization of the membrane through the opening of a Cl⁻ channel associated with the GABA_A receptor (GABA_A-R) subtype. GABA_A-Rs are important therapeutic targets for a range of sedative, anxiolytic, and hypnotic agents and are implicated in several diseases including epilepsy, anxiety, depression, and sub-stance abuse. The GABA_A-R is a multimeric subunit complex. To date six α s, four β s and four γ s, plus alternative splicing variants of some of these subunits, have been identified (Olsen and Tobin, 1990; Whiting et al., 1999; Ogris et al., 2004). Injection in oocytes or mammalian cell lines of cRNA coding for α - and β -subunits results in the expression of functional GABA_A-Rs sensitive to GABA. However, coexpression of a γ -subunit is required for benzodiazepine modulation. The various effects of the benzodiazepines in brain may also be mediated via different α -subunits of the receptor (McKernan et al., 2000; Mehta and Ticku, 1998; Ogris et al., 2004; Pörtl et al., 2003).

Anti-GABA_A-Receptor, α_1 -Subunit



Western blot of mouse forebrain lysates from wild type (Control) and α_1 -knockout (α_1 -K/O) animals showing specific immunolabeling of the ~51k α_1 -subunit of the GABA_A-R. The labeling was absent from a lysate prepared from α_1 -knockout animals.

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WB = Western Blot **IF** = Immunofluorescence **IHC** = Immunohistochemistry **IP** = Immunoprecipitation

Packaging: 100 μ l in 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 100 μ g per ml BSA and 50% glycerol. Adequate amount of material to conduct 10-mini Western Blots.

Storage and Stability. For long term storage -20°C is recommended. Stable at -20°C for at least 1 year.

Shipment: Domestic - Blue Ice; International - Blue Ice or Dry Ice.

Purification Method: Prepared from rabbit serum by affinity purification using a column to which the fusion protein immunogen was coupled.

Antibody Specificity: Specific for the ~51k α_1 -subunit of the GABA_A receptor in Western blots. Labeling is absent in α_1 -subunit knockout animals.

Quality Control Tests: Western blots performed on each lot.

References:

- McKernan RM, et al. (2000) Sedative but not anxiolytic properties of benzodiazepines are mediated by the GABA_A receptor α_1 -subtype. *Nature Neurosci* 3:587-592.
- Mehta AK, Ticku MK (1998) Prevalence of the GABA_A receptor assemblies containing α_1 -subunit in the rat cerebellum and cerebral cortex as determined by immunoprecipitation: Lack of modulation by chronic ethanol administration. *Mol Brain Res* 67:194-199.
- Ogris W, Pörtl A, Hauer B, Ernst M, Oberto A, Wulff P, Höger H, Wisden W, Sieghart W (2004) Affinity of various benzodiazepine site ligands in mice with a point mutation in the GABA_A receptor γ_2 -subunit. *Biochem Pharmacol* 68:1621-1629.
- Olsen RW, Tobin AJ (1990) Molecular biology of GABA_A receptors. *FASEB* 4:1469-1480.
- Pörtl A, Hauer B, Fuchs K, Tretter V, Sieghart W (2003) Subunit composition and quantitative importance of GABA_A receptor subtypes in the cerebellum of mouse and rat. *J Neurochem* 87:1444-1455.
- Whiting PJ, Bonnert TP, McKernan RM, Farrar S, Le Bourdellès B, Heavens RP, Smith DW, Hewson L, Rigby MR, Sirinathsinghji DJS, Thompson SA, Wafford KA (1999) Molecular and functional diversity of the expanding GABA_A receptor gene family. *Ann NY Acad Sci* 868:645-653
- .Mridula Rewal, Rachel Jurd, T. Michael Gill, Dao-Yao He, Dorit Ron, and Patricia H. Janak (2009) α_4 -Containing GABA_A Receptors in the Nucleus Accumbens Mediate Moderate Intake of Alcohol *J. Neurosci.*, 29: 543 - 549

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