



**PhosphoSolutions®**  
Antibodies that work™

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## Anti-GABA<sub>A</sub> Receptor, α<sub>4</sub>-Subunit

**Catalog Number:** 845-GA4C

**Size:** 100 μl

**Product Description:** Affinity purified rabbit polyclonal antibody

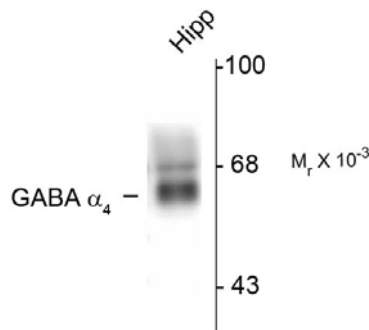
**Applications:** **WB:** 1:1000

**Antigen:** Fusion protein from the cytoplasmic loop of the α<sub>4</sub>-subunit of rat GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor.

**Species reactivity:** The antibody has been directly tested for reactivity in Western blots with rat tissue.

**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<sup>-</sup> channel associated with the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor (GABA<sub>A</sub>-R) subtype. GABA<sub>A</sub>-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 substance abuse. The GABA<sub>A</sub>-R is a multimeric subunit complex. To date six αs, four βs and four γs, 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<sub>A</sub>-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<sub>A</sub>-Receptor, α<sub>4</sub>-Subunit



Western blot of rat hippocampal (Hipp) lysate showing specific immunolabeling of the ~64k α<sub>4</sub>-subunit of the GABA<sub>A</sub>-R.

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

**Packaging:** 100 μl in 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 100 μg 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 ~64k  $\alpha_4$ -subunit of the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor in Western blots.

**Quality Control Tests:** Western blots performed on each lot.

**References:**

- Brandon NJ, Jovanovic JN, Colledge M, Kittler JT, Brandon JM, Scott JD, Moss SJ (2003) A kinase anchoring protein 79/150 facilitates the phosphorylation of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors by cAMP-dependent protein kinase via selective interaction with receptor  $\beta$ -subunits. *Mol Cell Neurosci* 22:87-97.
- McKernan RM, et al. (2000) Sedative but not anxiolytic properties of benzodiazepines are mediated by the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor  $\alpha_1$ -subtype. *Nature Neurosci* 3:587-592.
- Mehta AK, Ticku MK (1998) Prevalence of the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor assemblies containing  $\alpha_1$ -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<sub>A</sub> receptor  $\gamma_2$ -subunit. *Biochem Pharmacol* 68:1621-1629.
- Olsen RW, Tobin AJ (1990) Molecular biology of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors. *FASEB* 4:1469-1480.
- Pörtl A, Hauer B, Fuchs K, Tretter V, Sieghart W (2003) Subunit composition and quantitative importance of GABA<sub>A</sub> 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<sub>A</sub> receptor gene family. *Ann NY Acad Sci* 868:645-653.

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