



**PhosphoSolutions®**  
Antibodies that work™

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## Anti-GABA<sub>A</sub> Receptor, α<sub>6</sub>-Subunit

**Catalog Number:** 850-GA6

**Size:** 50 μl

**Product Description:** Rabbit polyclonal antibody

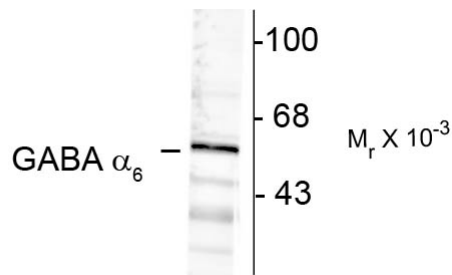
**Applications:** **WB:** 1:1000

**Antigen:** Peptide representing a sequence that is specific for the α<sub>6</sub>-subunit of rat GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor. Peptide antigen has no homology with any other GABA<sub>A</sub> R-subunit.

**Species reactivity:** The antibody has been directly tested for reactivity in Western blots in rat and mouse tissues.

**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). Lastly, phosphorylation of β-subunits of the receptor has been shown to modulate GABA<sub>A</sub>-R function (Brandon et al., 2003).

### Anti-GABA<sub>A</sub>-Receptor, α<sub>6</sub>-Subunit



Western blot of rat cortex lysate showing immunolabeling of the ~57k α<sub>6</sub>-subunit of the GABA<sub>A</sub>-R.

**Purification Method:** Unpurified neat serum.

**Antibody Specificity:** Labels the ~57k  $\alpha_6$ -subunit of the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor in Western blots of rat brain extracts.

**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.

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

**Packaging:** 50  $\mu$ l neat serum. Adequate material to conduct 10 mini-Western blots.

**Storage and Stability:** For long term storage  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is recommended. Stable at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for at least 1 year.

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