

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** Mouse myeloma cell line, NS0-derived  
His18-Phe339, with a C-terminal 10-His tag  
Accession # P10605

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** His18

**Structure / Form** Pro and mature forms

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 37 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**SDS-PAGE** 43 kDa, reducing conditions

**Activity** Measured by its ability to cleave the fluorogenic peptide substrate Z-LR-AMC (Catalog # ES008).  
The specific activity is >2,000 pmol/min/μg, as measured under the described conditions. See Activity Assay Protocol on [www.RnDSystems.com](http://www.RnDSystems.com)

**Endotoxin Level** <1.0 EU per 1 μg of the protein by the LAL method.

**Purity** >95%, by SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions and visualized by silver stain.

**Formulation** Supplied as a 0.2 μm filtered solution in Tris and NaCl. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**Activity Assay Protocol**

**Materials**

- Activation Buffer: 25 mM MES, 5 mM DTT, pH 5.0
- Assay Buffer: 25 mM MES, pH 5.0
- Recombinant Mouse Cathepsin B (rmCathepsin B) (Catalog # 965-CY)
- Substrate: Z-Leu-Arg-AMC (Catalog # ES008), 10 mM stock in DMSO
- F16 Black Maxisorp Plate (Nunc, Catalog # 475515)
- Fluorescent Plate Reader (Model: SpectraMax Gemini EM by Molecular Devices) or equivalent

**Assay**

1. Dilute rmCathepsin B to 10 μg/mL in Activation Buffer.
2. Incubate at room temperature for 15 minutes (activation step).
3. Dilute activated rmCathepsin B to 0.2 ng/μL in Assay Buffer.
4. Dilute Substrate 20 μM in Assay Buffer.
5. In a plate load 50 μL of 0.2 ng/μL rmCathepsin B to wells, and start the reaction by adding 50 μL of 20 μM Substrate. Include a Substrate Blank of 50 μL Assay Buffer and 50 μL of 20 μM Substrate.
6. Read at excitation and emission wavelengths of 380 nm and 460 nm (top read), respectively, in kinetic mode for 5 minutes.
7. Calculate specific activity:

$$\text{Specific Activity (pmol/min/}\mu\text{g)} = \frac{\text{Adjusted } V_{\text{max}}^* \text{ (RFU/min)} \times \text{Conversion Factor}^{**} \text{ (pmol/RFU)}}{\text{amount of enzyme (}\mu\text{g)}}$$

\*Adjusted for Substrate Blank

\*\*Derived using calibration standard 7-Amino, 4-Methyl Coumarin (AMC) (Sigma, Catalog # A-9891).

**Final Assay Conditions**

Per Well:

- rmCathepsin B: 0.01 μg
- Substrate: 10 μM

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Shipping** The product is shipped with polar packs. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below.

**Stability & Storage** Use a manual defrost freezer and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

- 6 months from date of receipt, -20 to -70 °C as supplied.
- 3 months, -20 to -70 °C under sterile conditions after opening.

**BACKGROUND**

Cathepsin B is the first described member of the family of lysosomal cysteine proteases (1). Cathepsin B possesses both endopeptidase and exopeptidase activities, in the latter case acting as a peptidyl-dipeptidase. It is known to process a number of proteins, including pro and active caspases, prorenin and secretory leucoprotease inhibitor (SLPI) (2-4). Therefore, Cathepsin B may play a role in activation and inactivation of caspases, activation of renin and inactivation of SLPI, the key steps in apoptosis, angiotensin production, and progression of emphysema, respectively. Because of its increased levels and redistribution in human and animal tumors, Cathepsin B may also have a role in invasion and metastasis (5). In addition to the lysosome, Cathepsin B can be secreted or associated with plasma membrane, cytoplasm, and nucleus. It is synthesized as a proenzyme. Following removal of the signal peptide, the inactive proenzyme undergoes further modifications including removal of the pro region to result in the active enzyme (5).

**References:**

1. Mort, J.S. (2004) in *Handbook of Proteolytic Enzymes* (Barrett, A.J. et al. eds.) p. 1079, Academic Press, San Diego.
2. Vancompernelle, K. et al. (1998) FEBS Lett. **438**:150.
3. Jutras, I. and T.L. Reudelhuber (1998) FEBS Lett. **443**:48.
4. Taggart, C.C. et al. (2001) J. Biol. Chem. **276**:33345.
5. Berquin, I.M. and B.F. Sloane (1996) Adv. Exp. Med. Biol. **389**:281.