

Antigen	CD55 (DAF)
Clone	BRIC 216
Product Code	9404
Immunoglobulin Class	Mouse IgG1, kappa light chain

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Antigen Description and Distribution

CD55 is the complement regulatory protein decay accelerating factor (DAF)¹. It is a 70kDa (in erythrocytes) glycoprotein anchored in the membrane by a glycosylphosphatidylinositol tail. In other cells the apparent molecular weight is somewhat larger. It has a substantial content of O- glycans, and also one N- glycan. The amino acid sequence (derived from the cDNA) is known. DAF binds to activated C4b or C3b complement fragments on the cell surface, preventing the assembly and accelerating the decay of both classical and alternative pathways. DAF carries the Cromer related blood group antigens². CD55 was first described on erythrocytes, but is also found on other circulating blood cells^{3,4}. DAF also has a wide distribution on cells in non-haemopoietic tissues, particularly epithelium and endothelium⁵. CD55 is found specifically at the foetal-maternal interface in placenta⁶. Soluble forms of DAF are found, for example, in plasma, saliva, urine etc. There are approximately 10,000 CD55 molecules per erythrocyte. CD55 has reduced expression on cells from individuals with paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria. Individuals with the rare Inab phenotype have an inherited deficiency of CD55². CD55 is also Echo virus⁷ and Coxackie virus receptor and is a ligand for CD97.

Clone

BRIC 216 was made in response to a human fibroblast cell line. It has a functional binding affinity to erythrocytes of $8.7 \times 10^7 M^{-1}$. BRIC 216 reacts by immunoblotting with a component of 70kDa in non-reduced erythrocyte membranes. The erythrocyte antigen is sialidase and trypsin resistant and pronase, chymotrypsin and AET sensitive. BRIC 216 was used to study the defect which causes absence of DAF from the peripheral blood cells of an individual with the Inab phenotype⁸. BRIC 216 recognises an epitope on the third short consensus repeat (SCR3) of CD55⁹ and is effective in inhibiting CD55 functional activity. These results were confirmed in the fifth leucocyte workshop¹⁰. BRIC 216 stains both frozen and fixed tissue sections. BRIC 216 can be used in the monoclonal-antibody-specific immobilisation of erythrocyte antigens (MAIEA) technique when identifying DAF (CD55)¹¹.

References

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