

# SignalSilence® Akt siRNA Kit

✓ 1 Kit  
(50 Transfections per siRNA)

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This product is for *in vitro* research use only and is not intended for use in humans or animals.  
This product is not intended for use as a therapeutic or in diagnostic procedures.

Products Included	Product #	Quantity	Isotype	Assay
SignalSilence® Akt siRNA I	6211	10 µM in 150 µl		50 Transfections
SignalSilence® Akt siRNA II	6510	10 µM in 150 µl		50 Transfections
Akt (pan) (C67E7) Rabbit mAb	4691	40 µl	Rabbit IgG	4 Western mini blots

**Species Cross-Reactivity: H**

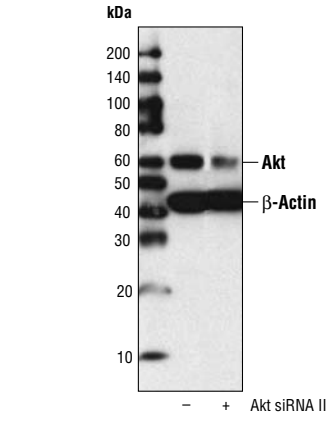
**Molecular Weight of Protein: 60 kDa**

**Description:** SignalSilence® Akt siRNA Kit from Cell Signaling Technology (CST) allows the researcher to specifically inhibit Akt expression. The kit utilizes RNA interference, a method whereby gene expression can be selectively silenced through the delivery of double stranded RNA molecules into the cell. All SignalSilence® siRNA kits are rigorously tested in-house and have been shown to reduce protein expression. SignalSilence® Akt siRNA Kit includes Akt siRNA I and II and a target-specific Akt antibody to confirm the silencing of Akt expression by western analysis.

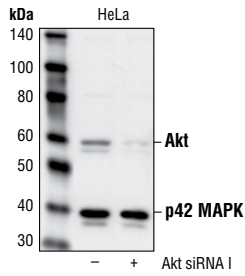
**Background:** Akt, also referred to as PKB or Rac, plays a critical role in controlling survival and apoptosis (1-3). This protein kinase is activated by insulin and various growth and survival factors to function in a wortmannin-sensitive pathway involving PI3 kinase (2,3). Akt is activated by phospholipid binding and activation loop phosphorylation at Thr308 by PDK1 (4) and by phosphorylation within the carboxy terminus at Ser473. The previously elusive PDK2 responsible for phosphorylation of Akt at Ser473 has been identified as mammalian target of rapamycin (mTor) in a rapamycin-insensitive complex with rictor and Sin1 (5,6). Akt promotes cell survival by inhibiting apoptosis by phosphorylating and inactivating several targets, including Bad (7), forkhead transcription factors (8), c-Raf (9) and caspase-9. PTEN phosphatase is a major negative regulator of the PI3 kinase/Akt signaling pathway (10). LY294002 is a specific PI3 kinase inhibitor (11).

Another essential Akt function is the regulation of glycogen synthesis through phosphorylation and inactivation of GSK-3α and β (12,13). Akt may also play a role in insulin stimulation of glucose transport (12).

In addition to its role in survival and glycogen synthesis, Akt is involved in cell cycle regulation by preventing GSK-3β mediated phosphorylation and degradation of cyclin D1 (14) and by negatively regulating the cyclin dependent kinase inhibitors p27 Kip (15) and p21 Waf1/CIP1 (16). Akt also plays a critical role in cell growth by directly phosphorylating mTOR in a rapamycin-sensitive complex containing raptor (17). More importantly, Akt phosphorylates and inactivates tuberlin (TSC2), an inhibitor of mTOR within the mTOR-raptor complex (18). Inhibition of mTOR stops the protein synthesis machinery by inactivating p70 S6 kinase



Western blot analysis of extracts from HeLa cells, transfected with 100 nM SignalSilence® Control siRNA (Fluorescein Conjugate) #6201 (-) or SignalSilence® Akt siRNA II (+), using Akt (pan) (C67E7) Rabbit mAb and β-Actin (13E5) Rabbit mAb #4970. Akt (pan) (C67E7) Rabbit mAb confirms silencing of Akt expression, while β-Actin (13E5) Rabbit mAb is used to control for loading and specificity of Akt siRNA.



Western blot analysis of extracts from HeLa cells, transfected with 100 nM SignalSilence® Control siRNA (Fluorescein Conjugate) #6201 (-) or SignalSilence® Akt siRNA I (+), using Akt Antibody #9272 and p42 MAP Kinase (Erk2) Antibody #9108. Akt Antibody confirms silencing of Akt expression, while p42 MAP Kinase (Erk2) Antibody is used to control for loading and specificity of Akt siRNA.

and activating the eukaryotic initiation factor 4E binding protein 1 (4E-BP1), an inhibitor of translation (18,19).

**Entrez-Gene ID #207**  
**Swiss-Prot Acc. #P31749**

**Storage:** Akt siRNA I and II are supplied in RNase-free water. Aliquot and store at -20°C. Antibody is supplied in 10 mM sodium HEPES (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 100 µg/ml BSA and 50% glycerol. Store at -20°C. Do not aliquot the antibody.

**Recommended Antibody Dilutions:**  
Western blotting 1:1000

**Directions for Use:** CST recommends transfection with 100 nM SignalSilence® Akt siRNA 48 to 72 hours prior to cell lysis. For transfection procedure, follow protocol provided by the transfection reagent manufacturer. Please feel free to contact CST with any questions on use.

**Companion Products:**  
SignalSilence® Control siRNA (Fluorescein Conjugate) #6201  
SignalSilence® Control siRNA (Unconjugated) #6568  
Phospho-Akt (Ser473) (D9E) Rabbit mAb #4060  
SignalSilence® Akt2 siRNA #6396  
PathScan® Phospho-Akt1 (Ser473) Sandwich ELISA Kit #7160  
Anti-rabbit IgG, HRP-linked Antibody #7074

**Background References:**

- (1) Franke, T.F. et al. (1997) *Cell* 88, 435-7.
- (2) Burgering, B.M. and Coffey, P.J. (1995) *Nature* 376, 599-602.
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- (6) Jacinto, E. et al. (2006) *Cell* 127, 125-37.
- (7) Cardone, M.H. et al. (1998) *Science* 282, 1318-21.
- (8) Brunet, A. et al. (1999) *Cell* 96, 857-68.
- (9) Zimmermann, S. and Moelling, K. (1999) *Science* 286, 1741-4.
- (10) Cantley, L.C. and Neel, B.G. (1999) *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 96, 4240-5.
- (11) Vlahos, C.J. et al. (1994) *J Biol Chem* 269, 5241-8.
- (12) Hajdich, E. et al. (2001) *FEBS Lett* 492, 199-203.
- (13) Cross, D.A. et al. (1995) *Nature* 378, 785-9.
- (14) Diehl, J.A. et al. (1998) *Genes Dev* 12, 3499-511.
- (15) Gesbert, F. et al. (2000) *J Biol Chem* 275, 39223-30.
- (16) Zhou, B.P. et al. (2001) *Nat Cell Biol* 3, 245-52.
- (17) Navé, B.T. et al. (1999) *Biochem J* 344 Pt 2, 427-31.
- (18) Inoki, K. et al. (2002) *Nat Cell Biol* 4, 648-57.
- (19) Manning, B.D. et al. (2002) *Mol Cell* 10, 151-62.

## Western Immunoblotting Protocol (Primary Antibody Incubation in BSA)

For Western blots, incubate membrane with diluted antibody in 5% w/v BSA, 1X TBS, 0.1% Tween-20 at 4°C with gentle shaking, overnight.

### A Solutions and Reagents

**NOTE:** Prepare solutions with Milli-Q or equivalently purified water.

- 1X Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS)
- 1X SDS Sample Buffer:** 62.5 mM Tris-HCl (pH 6.8 at 25°C), 2% w/v SDS, 10% glycerol, 50 mM DTT, 0.01% w/v bromophenol blue or phenol red
- Transfer Buffer:** 25 mM Tris base, 0.2 M glycine, 20% methanol (pH 8.5)
- 10X Tris Buffered Saline (TBS):** To prepare 1 liter of 10X TBS: 24.2 g Tris base, 80 g NaCl; adjust pH to 7.6 with HCl (use at 1X).
- Nonfat Dry Milk (weight to volume [w/v])
- Blocking Buffer:** 1X TBS, 0.1% Tween-20 with 5% w/v nonfat dry milk; for 150 ml, add 15 ml 10X TBS to 135 ml water, mix. Add 7.5 g nonfat dry milk and mix well. While stirring, add 0.15 ml Tween-20 (100%).
- Wash Buffer:** 1X TBS, 0.1% Tween-20 (TBS/T)
- Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA)
- Primary Antibody Dilution Buffer:** 1X TBS, 0.1% Tween-20 with 5% BSA; for 20 ml, add 2 ml 10X TBS to 18 ml water, mix. Add 1.0 g BSA and mix well. While stirring, add 20 µl Tween-20 (100%).
- Phototope<sup>®</sup>-HRP Western Blot Detection System #7071:** Includes biotinylated protein ladder, secondary anti-rabbit (#7074) antibody conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (HRP), anti-biotin antibody conjugated to HRP, LumiGLO<sup>®</sup> chemiluminescent reagent and peroxide.
- Prestained Protein Marker, Broad Range (Premixed Format) #7720
- Biotinylated Protein Ladder Detection Pack #7727
- Blotting Membrane:** This protocol has been optimized for nitrocellulose membranes, which CST recommends. PVDF membranes may also be used.

### B Protein Blotting

A general protocol for sample preparation is described below.

- Treat cells by adding fresh media containing regulator for desired time.
- Aspirate media from cultures; wash cells with 1X PBS; aspirate.
- Lyse cells by adding 1X SDS sample buffer (100 µl per well of 6-well plate or 500 µl per plate of 10 cm diameter plate). Immediately scrape the cells off the plate and transfer the extract to a microcentrifuge tube. Keep on ice.
- Sonicate for 10–15 seconds to shear DNA and reduce sample viscosity.
- Heat a 20 µl sample to 95–100°C for 5 minutes; cool on ice.
- Microcentrifuge for 5 minutes.
- Load 20 µl onto SDS-PAGE gel (10 cm x 10 cm).

**NOTE:** CST recommends loading prestained molecular weight markers (#7720, 10 µl/lane) to verify electrotransfer and biotinylated protein ladder (#7727, 10 µl/lane) to determine molecular weights.

- Electrotransfer to nitrocellulose or PVDF membrane.

### C Membrane Blocking and Antibody Incubations

**NOTE:** Volumes are for 10 cm x 10 cm (100 cm<sup>2</sup>) of membrane; for different sized membranes, adjust volumes accordingly.

- (Optional) After transfer, wash nitrocellulose membrane with 25 ml TBS for 5 minutes at room temperature.
- Incubate membrane in 25 ml of blocking buffer for 1 hour at room temperature.
- Wash three times for 5 minutes each with 15 ml of TBS/T.
- Incubate membrane and primary antibody (at the appropriate dilution) in 10 ml primary antibody dilution buffer with gentle agitation overnight at 4°C.
- Wash three times for 5 minutes each with 15 ml of TBS/T.
- Incubate membrane with HRP-conjugated secondary antibody (1:2000) and HRP-conjugated anti-biotin antibody (1:1000) to detect biotinylated protein markers in 10 ml of blocking buffer with gentle agitation for 1 hour at room temperature.
- Wash three times for 5 minutes each with 15 ml of TBS/T.

### D Detection of Proteins

- Incubate membrane with 10 ml LumiGLO<sup>®</sup> (0.5 ml 20X LumiGLO<sup>®</sup>, 0.5 ml 20X Peroxide and 9.0 ml Milli-Q water) with gentle agitation for 1 minute at room temperature.

**NOTE:** LumiGLO<sup>®</sup> substrate can be further diluted if signal response is too fast.

- Drain membrane of excess developing solution (do not let dry), wrap in plastic wrap and expose to x-ray film. An initial 10-second exposure should indicate the proper exposure time.

**NOTE:** Due to the kinetics of the detection reaction, signal is most intense immediately following LumiGLO<sup>®</sup> incubation and declines over the following 2 hours.