

Biotin

Cat.No. 291 002; Polyclonal rabbit antibody, 200 µl antiserum (lyophilized)

Data Sheet

Reconstitution/ Storage	200 µl antiserum, lyophilized. For reconstitution add 200 µl H ₂ O, then aliquot and store at -20°C until use. Antibodies should be stored at +4°C when still lyophilized. Do not freeze! For detailed information, see back of the data sheet.
Applications	WB: 1 : 1000 (AP staining) IP: yes ICC: 1 : 500 up to 1 : 1000 (see remarks) IHC: not tested yet IHC-P (FFPE): not tested yet
Immunogen	Biotin coupled to BSA.
Reactivity	Reacts with: rat, mouse. Other species not tested yet.
Specificity	This antibody recognizes biotin and desthiobiotin; BSA-specific antibodies have been removed.
Remarks	ICC: Can be used to visualize endogenous biotinylated proteins

TO BE USED IN VITRO / FOR RESEARCH ONLY
NOT TOXIC, NOT HAZARDOUS, NOT INFECTIOUS, NOT CONTAGIOUS

Background

Biotin is a water soluble vitamin also called **vitamin B7** or **vitamin H**. It is essential for almost all organisms except bacteria, yeasts, molds, algae, and some plant species. Biotin is frequently conjugated to proteins and antibodies to generate suitable probes compatible with the avidin/streptavidin based detection systems.

Exemples for endogenous biotinylated proteins are biotin dependent carboxylases that mainly localize to the mitochondrial matrix. Biotin is covalently attached to these proteins and can be employed for the visualization of mitochondria.

Selected General References

Anti-biotin antibodies offer superior organelle-specific labeling of mitochondria over avidin or streptavidin.
Hollinshead M et al. J. Histochem. Cytochem. (1997) PubMed:9267466

Dissociation rate constant of the biotin-streptavidin complex.
Piran U et al. J. Immunol. Methods (1990) PubMed:2212686

Avidin-HRP conjugates in biotin-avidin immunoenzyme cytochemistry.
Boorsma DM et al. Histochemistry (1986) PubMed:3013808

Utilization of the biotin/avidin system to amplify the sensitivity of the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).
Kendall C et al. J. Immunol. Methods (1983) PubMed:6833765

Access the online factsheet including applicable protocols at <https://sysy.com/product/291002> or scan the QR-code.



FAQ - How should I store my antibody?

Shipping Conditions

- All SYSY antibodies and control proteins/peptides are shipped lyophilized (vacuum freeze-dried). In this form, they remain stable without loss of quality at ambient temperatures for several weeks.

Storage of Sealed Vials after Delivery

- **Unlabeled** and **biotin-labeled antibodies** and **control proteins** should be stored at **4°C** before reconstitution. **Do not freeze lyophilized antibodies.** Temperatures below 0°C may impair performance.
- **Fluorescence-labeled antibodies** should be reconstituted immediately upon receipt. Long-term storage of lyophilized fluorophore-conjugates may cause aggregation.
- **Control peptides** should be stored at -20°C before reconstitution.

Long Term Storage after Reconstitution (General Considerations)

- **Do not use frost-free (“no-frost”) freezers.** These units periodically warm to remove ice buildup, causing freeze–thaw cycles that can damage antibodies.
- Store vials in areas with minimal temperature fluctuation - preferably toward the back of the freezer, not on the door.
- Aliquot reconstituted antibodies and store at -20°C to -80°C.
- Avoid very small aliquots (<20 µL), as evaporation and adsorption to tube surfaces can reduce antibody concentration and activity.
- Use the smallest practical storage vial to minimize surface area.
- Adding glycerol to a final concentration of 50% prevents freezing at -20°C, allowing storage in liquid form and effectively avoiding freeze–thaw cycles.

Product Specific Hints for Storage

Control proteins / peptides

- Store at -20°C to -80°C

Monoclonal Antibodies

- **Ascites and hybridoma supernatant:** Store at -20°C to -80°C. Prolonged storage at 4°C is not recommended, as proteases present in ascites may degrade antibodies.
- **Purified IgG:** Store at -20°C to -80°C. Adding a carrier protein (e.g., BSA) enhances long-term stability. Many SYSY antibodies already contain carrier proteins - refer to the respective datasheet for details.

Polyclonal Antibodies

- **Crude antisera:** Can be stored at 4°C with antimicrobials added, but -20°C to -80°C is preferred
- **Affinity-purified antibodies:** Less stable than antisera; store at -20°C to -80°C. Adding a carrier protein such as BSA improves long-term stability. Most SYSY antibodies already contain carrier proteins - refer to the respective datasheet for details.

Fluorescence-labeled Antibodies

- Store as a liquid with 1:1 (v/v) glycerol at -20°C, and protect from light exposure

Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles for all antibodies!

FAQ - How should I reconstitute my antibody?

Reconstitution

- All purified SYSY antibodies are lyophilized from PBS. To reconstitute the antibody in PBS, add the volume of deionized water specified in the corresponding datasheet. If a larger final volume is desired, first add the recommended amount of water, then adjust with PBS and, if needed, add a stabilizing carrier protein (e.g., BSA) to a final concentration of 2%. Some SYSY antibodies already contain albumin; please take this into account before adding additional carrier protein.

For complete reconstitution, carefully remove the vial cap. After adding water, briefly vortex the solution. To collect the liquid at the bottom of the vial, place the vial inside a 50 ml centrifuge tube padded with paper and centrifuge briefly.

- If desired, small amounts of azide or thimerosal may be added to prevent microbial growth. This is particularly recommended when storing an aliquot at 4°C.
- After reconstitution of fluorescence-labeled antibodies, add glycerol 1:1 (v/v) to achieve a final concentration of 50%. This prevents freezing at -20°C and keeps the antibody in liquid form, effectively avoiding freeze–thaw cycles.
- Glycerol may also be added to unlabeled primary antibodies as a general measure to prevent freeze–thaw damage.
- For further guidance, please refer to our **storage tips** and recommendations for reconstituted antibodies, control peptides, and control proteins.