

## Small Molecules

U-0126

MAPK pathway inhibitor; MEK1, MEK2 inhibitor

Catalog # 73522  
73524

1 mg  
10 mg



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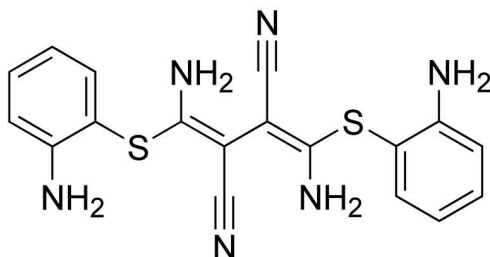
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## Product Description

U-0126 is a selective, non-ATP competitive inhibitor of mitogen activated protein kinase kinase (MEK), inhibiting MEK1 and MEK2 with  $IC_{50}$  values of 72 nM and 58 nM, respectively (Favata et al.; Scherle et al.). It shows little or no inhibition at micromolar levels of other kinases such as ERK, protein kinase C (PKC), c-Jun N-terminal kinases (JNK), other MAP kinase kinases (MKK3, MKK4, MKK6), cyclin-dependant kinases (CDK2, CDK4), ABL, and RAF (Favata et al. 1998). U-0126 also antagonizes AP-1 transcription and selectively inhibits promoters containing AP-1 response elements (Favata et al.).

**Molecular Name:** U-0126  
**Alternative Names:** Not applicable  
**CAS Number:** 109511-58-2  
**Chemical Formula:**  $C_{18}H_{16}N_6S_2$   
**Molecular Weight:** 380.5 g/mol  
**Purity:**  $\geq 98\%$   
**Chemical Name:** 2,3-bis[amino[(2-aminophenyl)thio]methylene]-butanedinitrile  
**Structure:**



## Properties

**Physical Appearance:** A crystalline solid  
**Storage:** Product stable at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  as supplied. Protect from prolonged exposure to light. For product expiry date, please contact techsupport@stemcell.com.

**Solubility:**

- DMSO  $\leq 65$  mM
- Absolute ethanol  $\leq 1$  mM

For example, to prepare a 10 mM stock solution in DMSO, resuspend 1 mg in 263  $\mu\text{L}$  of DMSO.

Prepare stock solution fresh before use. Information regarding stability of small molecules in solution has rarely been reported, however, as a general guide we recommend storage in DMSO at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Aliquot into working volumes to avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles. The effect of storage of stock solution on compound performance should be tested for each application.

Compound has low solubility in aqueous media. For use as a cell culture supplement, stock solution should be diluted into culture medium immediately before use. Avoid final DMSO concentration above 0.1% due to potential cell toxicity.

## Published Applications

### MAINTENANCE

- In combination with FGF2, Activin A, and a PKC inhibitor, U-0126 promotes maintenance of human pluripotent stem cells (Kinehara et al.)
- Used alone with MEF-conditioned medium, U-0126 inhibits self-renewal of human pluripotent stem cells, leading to differentiation, without affecting proliferation or survival (Li et al.).
- Inhibits glutamate-induced oxidative stress in mouse hippocampal HT22 cells and rat primary cortical cultures (Satoh et al.; Ong et al.).
- Neuroprotective in a gerbil ischemia model and in primary mouse neurons cultured under hypoxia (Namura et al.).

### IMMUNOLOGY

- Inhibits T-cell proliferation against certain antigenic stimuli by reducing IL-2 mRNA levels (DeSilva et al.).

### DISEASE MODELING

- Activates peroxisome proliferator activated receptor (PPAR) co-activator 1 $\alpha$  (PGC-1 $\alpha$ ) and prevents neurotoxicity and spatial memory impairment in rats challenged by amyloid beta (A $\beta$ ; Ashabi et al.).

## References

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- DeSilva DR et al. (1998) Inhibition of mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase blocks T cell proliferation but does not induce or prevent anergy. *J Immunol* 160(9): 4175–81.
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- Kinehara M et al. (2013) Protein kinase C regulates human pluripotent stem cell self-renewal. *PLoS One* 8(1): e54122.
- Li J et al. (2007) MEK/ERK signaling contributes to the maintenance of human embryonic stem cell self-renewal. *Differentiation* 75(4): 299–307.
- Namura S et al. (2001) Intravenous administration of MEK inhibitor U0126 affords brain protection against forebrain ischemia and focal cerebral ischemia. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 98(20): 11569–74.
- Ong Q et al. (2015) U0126 protects cells against oxidative stress independent of its function as a MEK inhibitor. *ACS Chem Neurosci* 6(1): 130–7.
- Satoh T et al. (2000) Neuroprotection by MAPK/ERK kinase inhibition with U0126 against oxidative stress in a mouse neuronal cell line and rat primary cultured cortical neurons. *Neurosci Lett* 288(2): 163–6.
- Scherle PA et al. (1998) Inhibition of MAP kinase kinase prevents cytokine and prostaglandin E2 production in lipopolysaccharide-stimulated monocytes. *J Immunol* 161(10): 5681–6.

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