

Isolation of cDNA coding for the placental protein 15 (PP15)

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A cDNA library prepared from human placenta (1) was screened for sequences coding for the placental protein 15 (PP15). This protein is composed of two subunits each with a molecular weight of 15 000 and shows a very poor antigenicity (2,3). This was demonstrated by a significant inhibitory activity on lymphocyte transformation in the mixed leucocyte culture test *in vitro*.

We used partial amino acid sequence information from PP15 to design oligonucleotide probes for screening one million independent recombinants. Two recombinants with full length cDNA inserts were identified coding for a protein of 127 amino acids and a molecular weight of 14 478. The nucleotide sequence (894 bp) and the deduced amino acid sequence are shown. A putative ribosome binding site is marked by an open circle and the poly(A)-addition site by a closed circle. Peptide sequences determined from cyanogen bromide fragments are underlined. The amino-terminal residue of PP15 is blocked. The amino acid composition described by Bohn is in good agreement with the composition deduced from the cDNA sequence (2).

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References:

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