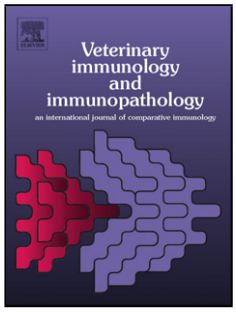

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PII: S0165-2427(17)30075-2
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.vetimm.2017.07.011
Reference: VETIMM 9656

To appear in: *VETIMM*

Received date: 13-2-2017
Revised date: 26-7-2017
Accepted date: 30-7-2017

Please cite this article as: Freer, Heather, Hillegas, Julia M., Wimer, Christine, Baldwin, Cynthia, LaBresh, Joanna, Wagner, Bettina, A monoclonal antibody for detection of intracellular and secreted interleukin-2 in horses.Veterinary Immunology and Immunopathology http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.vetimm.2017.07.011

A monoclonal antibody for detection of intracellular and secreted interleukin-2 in horses

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Highlights:

- A mAb against equine IL-2 was developed
- IL-2 is mainly produced by equine $CD4^+$ and also few $CD8^+$ equine lymphocytes
- A sensitive fluorescent bead assay was generated for quantification of equine IL-2
- PMA and ionomycin most effectively induce IL-2 production in equine PBMC

Abstract

Interleukin-2 (IL-2) is a T cell growth factor and major modulator of T helper (Th) cell differentiation. Here, we have developed and characterized a monoclonal antibody to equine IL-2 (anti-IL-2 mAb, clone 158-1). The IL-2 mAb detected *r*IL-2 by ELISA, intracellular staining and flow cytometry analysis and Western blotting. The IL-2 mAb was also paired with a polyclonal