

# SignalStain® Apoptosis (Cleaved Caspase-3) IHC Detection Kit



#12692

✓ 1 Kit  
(120 slides)

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## For Research Use Only. Not For Use In Diagnostic Procedures.

The components in **13217** ship together at 4°C. Upon receipt and for long-term storage, please refer to the individual kit component storage temperatures.

Components Ship As: 13217	Item #	Kit Quantity	Storage Temp
Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb	9579	1 x 100 µl	-20°C
Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP® SignalStain® Isotype Control	12960	1 x 100 µl	-20°C
Components Ship As: 13217	Item #	Kit Quantity	Storage Temp
Tris Buffered Saline with Tween® 20 (TBST-10X)	9997	1 x 2.4 ml	Room Temp.
Components Ship As: 13217	Item #	Kit Quantity	Storage Temp
SignalStain® Boost IHC Detection Reagent (HRP, Rabbit)	8114	1 x 12 ml	4°C
SignalStain® DAB Diluent	11724	1 x 12 ml	4°C
SignalStain® DAB Chromogen Concentrate	11725	1 x 360 µl	4°C
Components Ship As: 8112S	Item #	Kit Quantity	Storage Temp
SignalStain® Antibody Diluent	8112	1 x 25 ml	4°C
Components Ship As: 5425P	Item #	Kit Quantity	Storage Temp
Normal Goat Serum	5425	1 X 2.4 ml	-20°C

**Description:** SignalStain® Apoptosis (Cleaved Caspase-3) IHC Detection Kit allows the detection of activated caspase-3 in formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded human and mouse tissue samples. Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb is detected by the polymer based, HRP-conjugated SignalStain® Boost IHC Detection Reagent in combination with SignalStain® DAB Diluent and Chromogen Concentrate. Also included is a concentration-matched rabbit monoclonal IgG control to verify the specificity of staining.

This combination of reagents provides a sensitive and specific means of detecting apoptotic events in tissue samples.

**Background:** Caspase-3 (CPP-32, Apoptain, Yama, SCA-1) is a critical executioner of apoptosis, as it is either partially or totally responsible for the proteolytic cleavage of many key proteins, such as the nuclear enzyme poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) (1). Activation of caspase-3 requires proteolytic processing of its inactive zymogen into activated p17 and p12 fragments. Cleavage of caspase-3 requires the aspartic acid residue at the P1 position (2).

**Specificity/Sensitivity:** SignalStain® Apoptosis (Cleaved Caspase-3) IHC Detection Kit detects endogenous levels of the activated caspase-3 large fragment (17/19 kDa) resulting from cleavage adjacent to Asp175. This antibody does not recognize full-length caspase-3 or other cleaved caspases. This kit was developed for and is recommended for immunohistochemistry only.

**Source/Purification:** Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb is produced by immunizing animals with a synthetic peptide corresponding to residues surrounding Asp175 of human caspase-3 protein. Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP® SignalStain® Isotype Control is not directed against any known antigen. It functions as an isotype control for rabbit IgG monoclonal antibodies.

### Background References:

- (1) Fernandes-Alnemri, T. et al. (1994) *J. Biol. Chem.* 269, 30761-30764.
- (2) Nicholson, D. W. et al. (1995) *Nature* 376, 37-43.

*Immunohistochemical analysis of paraffin-embedded Kelly xenograft using Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb #9579 (upper) or Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP® SignalStain® Isotype Control #12960 (lower).*

### Storage:

Tris Buffered Saline with Tween® 20 (TBST-10X) should be stored at room temperature. SignalStain® Boost IHC Detection Reagent (HRP, Rabbit), SignalStain® DAB Diluent, SignalStain® Antibody Diluent and SignalStain® DAB Chromogen Concentrate should be stored at 4°C. Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb, Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP® SignalStain® Isotype Control, and Normal Goat Serum should be stored at -20°C.

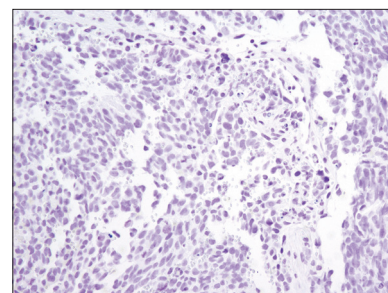
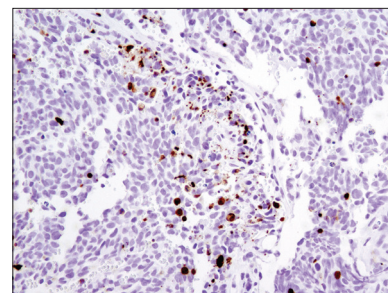
This kit is stable for 12 months.

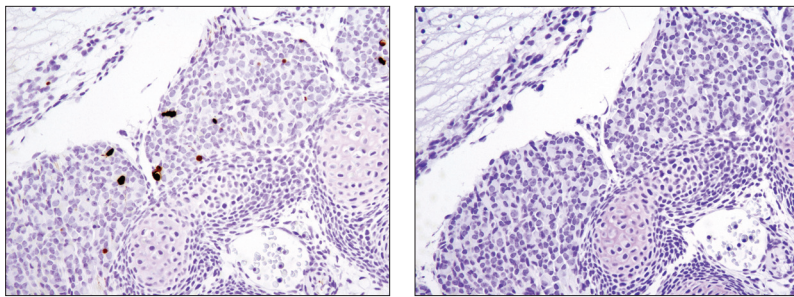
### Reagents Not Supplied:

1. Xylene
2. Ethanol, anhydrous denatured, histological grade (100% and 95%)
3. Deionized water (dH<sub>2</sub>O)
4. Tris Buffered Saline with Tween® 20 (TBST-10X) #9997 (sufficient for washes)
5. 10 mM Sodium Citrate Buffer, pH 6.0
6. Hydrogen Peroxide 3% solution
7. Hematoxylin (optional)

### Recommended Antibody Dilutions:

Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb 1:500  
Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP® SignalStain Isotype Control 1:500





*Immunohistochemical analysis of paraffin-embedded E14 mouse embryo using Cleaved Caspase-3 (Asp175) (D3E9) Rabbit mAb #9579 (left) or Rabbit (DA1E) mAb IgG XP<sup>®</sup> SignalStain<sup>®</sup> Isotype Control #12960 (right).*

## SignalStain® Apoptosis (Cleaved Caspase-3) IHC Detection Kit Protocol

### A Solutions and Reagents

1. Xylene
2. Ethanol, anhydrous denatured, histological grade (100% and 95%)
3. Deionized water (dH<sub>2</sub>O)
4. Hematoxylin (optional)
5. **Wash Buffer:**  
**NOTE:** Additional 10X TBST will be required for washes.  
 a. **Tris Buffered Saline with Tween® 20 (TBST-10X) #9997:**  
 To prepare wash buffer add 100 ml of Tris Buffered Saline with Tween® 20 (TBST-10X) #9997 to 900 ml of dH<sub>2</sub>O. OR  
 b. **10X Tris Buffered Saline (TBS):** To prepare 1 L, add 24.2 g Trizma® base (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>) and 80 g sodium chloride (NaCl) to 1 L dH<sub>2</sub>O. Adjust pH to 7.6 with concentrated HCl.  
**1X TBS/0.1% Tween® 20 (1X TBST):** To prepare 1 L, add 100 ml 10X TBS to 900 ml dH<sub>2</sub>O. Add 1 ml Tween® 20 and mix.
6. **Antibody Diluent:** SignalStain® Antibody Diluent #8112
7. **Antigen Unmasking:** 10 mM Sodium Citrate Buffer:  
 To prepare 1 L, add 2.94 g sodium citrate trisodium salt dihydrate (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Na<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O) to 1 L dH<sub>2</sub>O. Adjust pH to 6.0.
8. **3% Hydrogen Peroxide:** To prepare, add 10 ml 30% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> to 90 ml dH<sub>2</sub>O.
9. **Blocking Solution:** 1X TBST/5% normal goat serum:  
 Add 100 µl 10X TBST (#9997) and 50 µl normal goat serum (#5425) to 850 µl dH<sub>2</sub>O.
10. **Detection System:** SignalStain® Boost IHC Detection Reagent (HRP, Rabbit) (#8114).
11. **Substrate:** SignalStain® DAB Substrate Kit (#8059), which includes SignalStain® DAB Diluent (#11724) and SignalStain® DAB Chromogen Concentrate (#11725).

### B Deparaffinization/Rehydration

**NOTE:** Do not allow slides to dry at any time during this procedure.

1. **Deparaffinize/hydrate sections:**
  - a. Incubate sections in three washes of xylene for 5 min each.
  - b. Incubate sections in two washes of 100% ethanol for 10 min each.
  - c. Incubate sections in two washes of 95% ethanol for 10 min each.
2. Wash sections twice in dH<sub>2</sub>O for 5 min each.

### C Antigen Unmasking

1. Bring slides to a boil in 10 mM sodium citrate buffer pH 6.0, then maintain at a sub-boiling temperature for 10 min. Cool slides on bench top for 30 min.

### D Staining

1. Wash sections in dH<sub>2</sub>O three times for 5 min each.
2. Incubate sections in 3% hydrogen peroxide for 10 min.
3. Wash sections in dH<sub>2</sub>O twice for 5 min each.
4. Wash section in wash buffer for 5 min.
5. Block each section with 100-200 µl blocking solution for 1 hour at room temperature.
6. Remove blocking solution and add 100-200 µl primary antibody diluted at 1:500 in SignalStain® Antibody Diluent #8112 to each section. Incubate overnight at 4°C.
  - a. Rabbit (DA1E) mAb XP® SignalStain® Isotype Control is used as a negative control. Dilute at 1:500 in SignalStain® Antibody Diluent and apply 100-200 µl to each section.
7. Equilibrate SignalStain® Boost Detection Reagent to room temperature.
8. Remove antibody solution and wash sections in wash buffer three times for 5 min each.
9. Cover section with 1-3 drops SignalStain® Boost Detection Reagent as needed. Incubate in a humidified chamber for 30 min at room temperature.
10. Wash sections three times with wash buffer for 5 min each.
11. Add 30 µl SignalStain® DAB Chromogen Concentrate (#11725) to 1 ml SignalStain® DAB Diluent (#11724) and mix well before use.
12. Apply 100-400 µl SignalStain® DAB to each section and monitor closely. 1-10 minutes generally provides an acceptable staining intensity.
13. Immerse slides in dH<sub>2</sub>O.
14. If desired, counterstain sections in hematoxylin per manufacturer's instructions.
15. Wash sections in dH<sub>2</sub>O two times for 5 min each.
16. **Dehydrate sections:**
  - a. Incubate sections in 95% ethanol two times for 10 sec each.
  - b. Repeat in 100% ethanol, incubating sections two times for 10 sec each.
  - c. Repeat in xylene, incubating sections two times for 10 sec each.
17. Mount coverslips.

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