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Complement Component-4

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Complement Component-4*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C70618.

Complement component-4 (1744 aa, ~193 kDa) is part of the complement cascade, which mediates the innate immune response to infection. The full length protein is a precursor that is secreted as a trimeric molecule containing an alpha, beta and gamma chain. When the complement cascade is initiated, the protein is cleaved. This proteolysis releases both the alpha chain, C4 anaphylatoxin, which stimulates inflammation, and a dimer of the beta and gamma chains, which mediates the interaction between the antigen-antibody complex and other complement components.