

# Interleukin-6

[Interleukin 6](#) (IL6), also referred to as [B cell](#) stimulatory factor-2 (BSF-2) and interferon beta-2.

It is a pleiotropic inflammatory [cytokine](#) of low molecular weight, approximately 26 kD, with a biological half-time of less than one hour <sup>1)</sup>, involved in a wide variety of biological functions.

Generally, IL-6 exerts proinflammatory effects including stimulation of the growth of mature B cells and promotion of the synthesis of C-reactive protein by the liver during tissue injury of infection <sup>2) 3)</sup>.

High circulating IL-6 levels are associated with various diseases, including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes mellitus, cancer growth, acute [cerebral ischemia](#), and acute brain injury <sup>4) 5) 6) 7) 8)</sup>.

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IL-6 and MMP9 may be involved in the acute process of pituitary apoplexy in Cushing's disease.

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The optimism surrounding the [Interleukin 6](#) inhibitor drugs should be tempered with caution, as further research is needed to completely understand its efficacy, side effects, and therapeutic potential <sup>9)</sup>.

## Classification

Family: IL-6 Cytokine Family

IL-6 belongs to the IL-6 family of cytokines, which share the common receptor subunit gp130 for signal transduction.

Other members of the IL-6 family include:

Leukemia Inhibitory Factor (LIF)

Cardiotrophin-1 ([CTF1](#))

Oncostatin M (OSM)

Ciliary Neurotrophic Factor (CNTF)

Interleukin-11 (IL-11)

Interleukin-27 (IL-27)

## Interlukin-6 receptor

# Interleukin 6 after aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage

see [Interleukin 6 after aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage](#).

1) , 2)

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