

# Abstract

Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 1991 Aug 30;179(1):611-4.

## **Evidence for sulfite as an essential metabolite for human peripheral lymphocytes.**

Pettit FH, Lyon D, Brown JR, Shive W.

Clayton Foundation Biochemical Institute, Department of Chemistry, University of Texas, Austin 78712.

**BACKGROUND:** Sulfite has been identified as an essential metabolite by means of growth studies using a chemically-defined, protein-free medium for culture of human peripheral lymphocytes.

**FINDINGS:** Sulfite reduced the amount of cysteine required for optimum growth by at least four-fold.

**CONCLUSION:** In some subjects, sulfite stimulated growth even in the presence of optimal amounts of cysteine indicating that lymphocytes of some individuals are unable to convert cysteine to sulfite in adequate amounts.

PMID: 1883383