



## **PicoKine® Quick ELISA Kit**

**Catalog number: FEK0909**

For the quantitation of **Human ACAN** concentrations in cell culture supernatants, serum and urine.

This package insert must be read in its entirety before using this product.  
For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

## Human Aggrecan/ACAN PicoKine® Quick ELISA Kit

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### Assay Principle

The Boster Picokine® Human ACAN Pre-Coated ELISA (Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) kit is a solid phase immunoassay specially designed to measure Human ACAN with a 96-well strip plate that is pre-coated with antibody specific for ACAN. The detection antibody is a biotinylated antibody specific for ACAN. The capture antibody is polyclonal antibody from goat and the detection antibody is polyclonal antibody from goat. The kit includes Human ACAN protein as standards.

To measure Human ACAN, add standards and samples to the wells, then add the biotinylated detection antibody. Wash the wells with PBS or TBS buffer, and add Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC-HRP). Wash away the unbounded ABC-HRP with PBS or TBS buffer and add TMB. TMB is substrate to HRP and will be catalyzed to produce a blue color product, which changes into yellow after adding acidic stop solution. The density of the yellow product is linearly proportional to Human ACAN in the sample. Read the density of the yellow product in each well using a plate reader, and benchmark the sample wells' readings against the standard curve to determine the concentration of Human ACAN in the sample. For more information on assay principle, protocols, and troubleshooting tips, see Boster's ELISA Resource Center at [/home/jetrails/bosterbio.com/html/pub/elisa-technical-resource-center](http://home/jetrails/bosterbio.com/html/pub/elisa-technical-resource-center).

### Overview

Product Name	Human Aggrecan/ACAN PicoKine® Quick ELISA Kit
Reactive Species	Human
Size	96 wells/kit, with removable strips.
Description	Human Aggrecan PicoKine® Quick ELISA Kit (120 minutes, 96 Tests). Quantitate Human ACAN in cell culture supernatants, serum and urine. Sensitivity: 50pg/ml. The brand Picokine indicates this is a premium quality ELISA kit. Each Picokine kit delivers precise quantification, high sensitivity, and excellent reproducibility. Only our most reliable and effective kits qualify as Picokine, guaranteeing top-tier results for your assays.
Sensitivity	<50 pg/ml *The sensitivity or the minimum detectable dose (MDD) is the lower limit of target protein that can be detected by the kit. It is determined by adding two standard deviations to the mean O.D. value of twenty (20) blank wells and calculating the corresponding concentration.
Detection Range	1.56 ng/ml - 100 ng/ml
Storage Instructions	Store at 4°C for 6 months, at -20°C for 12 months. Avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles (Ships with gel ice, can store for up to 3 days in room temperature. Freeze upon receiving.)
Uniprot ID	P16112

### Technical Details

Specificity	Natural and recombinant Human ACAN
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Standard Protein	Expression system for standard: NS0; Immunogen sequence: V20-R675
Cross Reactivity	There is no detectable cross-reactivity with other relevant proteins.

## Kit Components/Materials Provided

Description	Quantity	Volume
Anti-Human ACAN Pre-coated 96-well strip microplate	1	12 strips of 8 wells
Human ACAN Standard	2	100 ng/tube
Human ACAN Biotinylated antibody (50x)	1	100 µl
Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (30x)	1	400 µl
Sample Diluent	1	30 ml
Antibody Diluent	1	12 ml
Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Diluent	1	12 ml
Wash Buffer (25x)	1	20 ml
Color Developing Reagent (TMB)	1	10 ml
Stop Solution	1	10 ml
Plate Sealers	4	Piece

## Required Materials That Are Not Supplied

Microplate Reader capable of reading absorbance at 450nm.

Automated plate washer (optional)

Pipettes and pipette tips capable of precisely dispensing 0.5 µl through 1 ml volumes of aqueous solutions.

Multichannel pipettes are recommended for large amount of samples.

Deionized or distilled water.

500ml graduated cylinders.

Test tubes for dilution.

## Notice Before Application

Please read the following instructions before starting the experiment.

1. To inspect the validity of experiment operation and the appropriateness of sample dilution proportion, pilot experiment using standards and a small number of samples is recommended.
2. Before using the Kit, spin tubes and bring down all components to the bottom of tubes.

3. Don't let 96-well plate dry, for dry plate will inactivate active components on plate.
4. Don't reuse tips and tubes to avoid cross contamination.
5. Avoid using the reagents from different batches together.

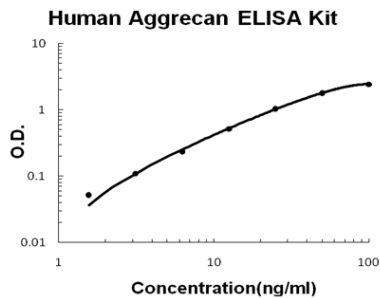
## Human Aggrecan/ACAN PicoKine® Quick ELISA Kit (FEK0909) Standard Curve Example

Highest O.D. value might be higher or lower than in the example. The experiment result is statistically significant if the highest O.D. value is no less than 1.0.

Concentration0 (ng/ml)	1.56	3.12	6.25	12.5	25	50	100
O.D.	0.001	0.052	0.109	0.235	0.512	1.033	1.787

### Human Aggrecan PicoKine ELISA Kit standard curve

A standard curve is provided for demonstration only. A standard curve should be generated for each set of samples assayed.



## Intra/Inter Assay Variability

Boster spend great efforts in documenting lot to lot variability and make sure our assay kits produce robust data that are reproducible.

**Intra-Assay Precision (Precision within an assay):** Three samples of known concentration were tested on one plate to assess intra-assay precision.

**Inter-Assay Precision (Precision accross assays):** Three samples of known concentration were tested in separate assays to assess inter-assay precision.

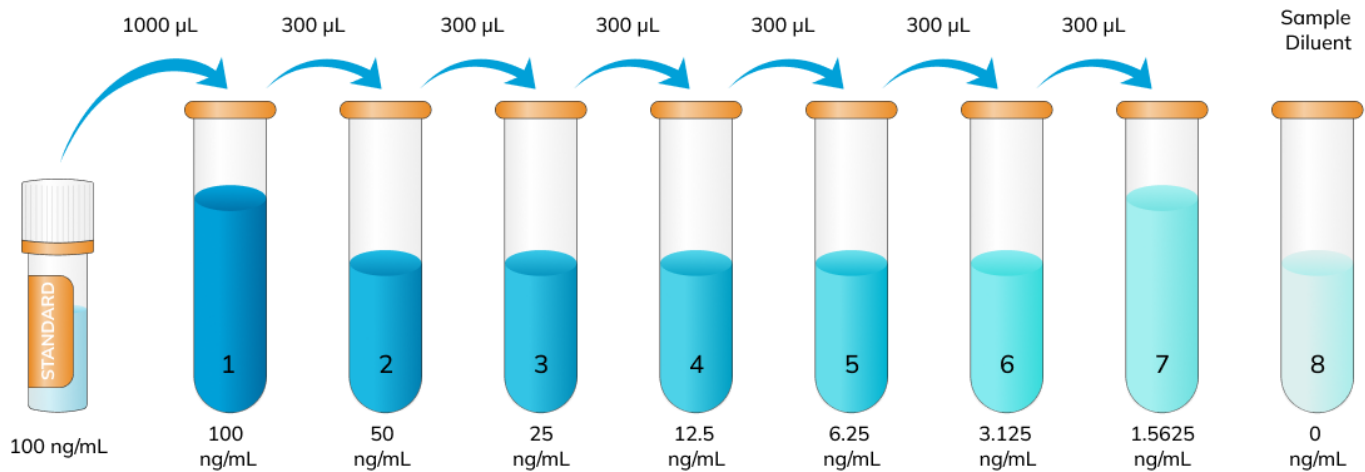
Sample	Intra-Assay Precision			Inter-Assay Precision		
	1	2	3	1	2	3
n	16	16	16	24	24	24
Mean (pg/ml)	3084	13064	43102	3322	13982	40208
Standard deviation	240.55	679.32	1939.59	275.72	908.83	1809.36
CV (%)	7.8%	5.2%	4.5%	8.3%	6.5%	4.5%

## Preparation Before The Experiment

Item	Preparation
All reagents	Bring all reagents to 37°C prior to use. Also the TMB incubation time estimate (20-25min) is based on 37°C.
Wash buffer	Prepare 500 ml of Working Wash Buffer by diluting the supplied 20 ml of Wash Buffer (25 x) with 480 ml of deionized or distilled water. If crystals have formed in the concentrate, warm to room temperature and mix it gently until crystals have completely dissolved.
Biotinylated Anti-Human ACAN antibody	It is recommended to prepare this reagent immediately prior to use by diluting the Human ACAN Biotinylated antibody (50x) 1:50 with Antibody Diluent. Prepare 50 µl by adding 1 µl of Biotinylated antibody (50x) to 49 µl of Antibody Diluent. Mix gently and thoroughly and use within 2 hours of generation.
Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex	It is recommended to prepare this reagent immediately prior to use by diluting the Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (30x) 1:30 with Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Diluent. Prepare 400 µl by adding 10 µl of Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (30x) to 390 µl of Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Diluent. Mix gently and thoroughly and use within 2 hours of generation.
Human ACAN Standard	It is recommended that the standards be prepared no more than 2 hours prior to performing the experiment. Use one 100 ng of lyophilized Human ACAN standard for each experiment. Gently spin the vial prior to use. Reconstitute the standard to a stock concentration of 100 ng/ml using 1ml of sample diluent. Allow the standard to sit for a minimum of 10 minutes with gentle agitation prior to making dilutions.
Microplate	The included microplate is coated with capture antibodies and ready-to-use. It does not require additional washing or blocking. The unused well strips should be sealed and stored in the original packaging.

## Dilution of Human ACAN Standard

1. Number tubes 1-8. Final Concentrations to be Tube # 1: 100,000.00 pg/ml, # 2: 50,000.00 pg/ml, # 3: 25,000.00 pg/ml, # 4: 12,500.00 pg/ml, # 5: 6,250.00 pg/ml, # 6: 3,125.00 pg/ml, # 7: 1,562.50 pg/ml, # 8: Sample Diluent serves as the zero standard (0 pg/ml).
2. For standard #1, add 1000  $\mu$ l of undiluted standard stock solution to tube #1.
3. Add 300  $\mu$ l of sample diluent to tubes # 2-7.
4. To generate standard # 2, add 300  $\mu$ l of standard # 1 from tube # 1 to tube # 2 for a final volume of 600  $\mu$ l. Mix thoroughly.
5. To generate standard # 3, add 300  $\mu$ l of standard # 2 from tube # 2 to tube # 3 for a final volume of 600  $\mu$ l. Mix thoroughly.
6. Continue the serial dilution for tube # 4-7.



## Sample Preparation and Storage

These sample collection instructions and storage conditions are intended as a general guideline and the sample stability has not been evaluated.

Sample Type	Procedure
Cell culture supernatants	Clear sample of particulates by centrifugation, assay immediately, or store samples at -20°C.
Serum	Use a serum separator tube (SST) and allow serum to clot at room temperature for about four hours. Then, centrifuge for 15 min at approximately 1,000 x g. assay immediately or store samples at -20°C.
Urine	Collect the first urine of the day, micturate directly into a sterile container. Remove impurities by centrifugation, assay immediately or aliquot and store samples at -20°C.

## Sample Dilution

The target protein concentration should be estimated and appropriate sample dilutions should be selected such that the final protein concentration lies near the middle of the linear dynamic range of the assay.

It is recommended to prepare 150 µl of sample for each replicate to be assayed. The samples should be diluted with sample diluent and mixed gently.

## Assay protocol

It is recommended that all reagents and materials be equilibrated to 37°C/room temperature prior to the experiment (see Preparation Before The Experiment if you have missed this information).

1. Prepare all reagents and working standards as directed previously.
2. Remove excess microplate strips from the plate frame and seal and store them in the original packaging.
3. Add 50 µl of the standard, samples, or control per well. And add 50µl of the prepared 1x Biotinylated Anti-Human ACAN antibody per well. Add 50 µl of the sample diluent buffer and 50µl of the prepared 1x Biotinylated Anti-Human ACAN antibody into the control well (Zero well). At least two replicates of each standard, sample, or control is recommended.
4. Cover with the plate sealer provided and incubate for 60 minutes at RT.
5. Wash the plate 3 times with the 1x wash buffer.
  - a. Discard the liquid in the wells into an appropriate waste receptacle. Then, invert the plate on the benchtop onto a paper towel and tap the plate to gently blot any remaining liquid. It is recommended that the wells are not allowed to completely dry at any time.
  - b. Add 300 µl of the 1x wash buffer to each assay well. (For cleaner background incubate for 60 seconds between each wash).
  - c. Repeat steps a-b 2 additional times.
6. Add 100 µl of the prepared 1x Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex into each well. Cover with plate sealer provided and incubate for 15 minutes at RT.
7. Wash the plate 5 times with the 1x wash buffer.
  - a. Discard the liquid in the wells into an appropriate waste receptacle. Then, invert the plate on the benchtop onto a paper towel and tap the plate to gently blot any remaining liquid. It is recommended that the wells are not allowed to completely dry at any time.
  - b. Add 300 µl of the 1x wash buffer to each assay well. (For cleaner background incubate for 60 seconds between each wash).
  - c. Repeat steps a-b 4 additional times.
8. Add 90 µl of Color Developing Reagent to each well and incubate in the dark for 30 minutes at RT (or 25-30 minutes at 37°C). (The optimal incubation time must be empirically determined. A guideline to look for is blue shading the top four standard wells, while the remaining standards

remain clear.)

9. Add 100  $\mu$ l of Stop Solution to each well. The color should immediately change to yellow.

10. Within 30 minutes of stopping the reaction, the O.D. absorbance should be read with a microplate reader at 450nm.

## Data Analysis

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Average the duplicate readings for each standard, sample, and control. Subtract the average zero standard O.D. reading.

It is recommended that a standard curve be created using computer software to generate a four parameter logistic (4-PL) curve-fit. A free program capable of generating a four parameter logistic (4-PL) curve-fit can be found online at: [www.myassays.com/four-parameter-logistic-curve.assay](http://www.myassays.com/four-parameter-logistic-curve.assay).

Alternatively, plot the mean absorbance for each standard against the concentration. The measured concentration in the sample can be interpolated by using linear regression of each average relative OD against the standard curve generated using curve fitting software. This will generate an adequate but less precise fit of the data.

For diluted samples, the concentration reading from the standard curve must be multiplied by the dilution factor.

## Background on ACAN

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Aggrecan, also known as cartilage-specific proteoglycan core protein (CSPCP) or chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan 1, is a protein that in humans is encoded by the ACAN gene. It is a critical component for cartilage structure and the function of joints. Aggrecan provides intervertebral disc and cartilage with the ability to resist compressive loads. The localized high concentrations of aggrecan provide the osmotic properties necessary for normal tissue function with the GAGs producing the swelling pressure that counters compressive loads on the tissue. This functional ability is dependent on a high GAG/aggrecan concentration being present in the tissue extracellular matrix. Also, Aggrecan plays an important role in the organization of the extracellular spaces between neurons in the brain.

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