

Product Information

Aggrecan from bovine articular cartilage

Catalog Number **A1960**

Storage Temperature -20°C

Product Description

Aggrecan is the major structural proteoglycan found in the extracellular matrix of cartilage. It has a molecular mass $>2,500$ kDa. The core protein (210–250 kDa) has 100–150 glycosaminoglycan (GAG) chains attached to it. The majority of the GAG chains are chondroitin/dermatan sulfate with the remainder being keratan sulfate. This structural molecule produces a rigid, reversibly deformable gel that resists compression. It combines with hyaluronic acid to form very large macromolecular complexes. Addition of small amounts (0.1–2% w/w) of hyaluronic acid to a solution of aggrecan (2 mg/ml) results in the formation of a complex with an increased hydrodynamic volume and in a significant increase (30–40%) in the relative viscosity of the solution.

Aggrecan is a critical component for cartilage structure and the function of joints. The synthesis and degradation of aggrecan are being investigated for their roles in cartilage deterioration during joint injury, disease, and aging. It contains three globular domains, G1, G2, and G3 that are involved in aggregation, hyaluronan binding, cell adhesion, and chondrocyte apoptosis.

This product is extracted from articular cartilage, chromatographically purified, dialyzed against water, and sterile-filtered prior to lyophilization. The lyophilized powder is essentially salt-free.

Precautions and Disclaimer

This product is for R&D use only, not for drug, household, or other uses. Please consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling practices.

Preparation Instructions

The product is soluble in water (2 mg/ml).

Storage/Stability

Store the product at -20°C . The product, as supplied, shows little decomposition in 3 years when stored properly.

References

1. Hardingham, T.E., and Muir, H., *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, **279**, 401-405 (1972).
2. Hedlund, H., et al., Association of the aggrecan keratan sulfate-rich region with collagen in bovine articular cartilage. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **274**, 5777-5781 (1999).
3. Cao, L., and Yang, B.B., Chondrocyte apoptosis induced by aggrecan G1 domain as a result of decreased cell adhesion. *Exp. Cell Res.*, **246**, 527-537 (1999).
4. Bolton, M.C., et al., Age-related changes in the synthesis of link protein and aggrecan in human articular cartilage: implications for aggregate stability. *Biochem. J.*, **337**, 77-82 (1999).
5. Arner, E.C., et al., Generation and Characterization of Aggrecanase. A soluble, cartilage-derived aggrecan-degrading activity. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **274**, 6594-6601 (1999).
6. Billington, C.J., et al., An aggrecan-degrading activity associated with chondrocyte membranes. *Biochem. J.*, **336**, 207-12 (1998).
7. Ishiguro, N., et al., Relationship of matrix metalloproteinases and their inhibitors to cartilage proteoglycan and collagen turnover: analyses of synovial fluid from patients with osteoarthritis. *Arthritis Rheum.*, **42**, 129-136 (1999).
8. Cao, L., et al., Expression of the G1 domain of aggrecan interferes with chondrocyte attachment and adhesion. *Matrix Biol.*, **17**, 379-392 (1998).
9. Hardingham, T.E., et al., The structure, function and turnover of aggrecan, the large aggregating proteoglycan from cartilage. *Eur. J. Clin. Chem. Clin. Biochem.*, **32**, 249-257 (1994).
10. Watanabe, H., et al., Identification of hyaluronan-binding domains of aggrecan. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **272**, 28057-28065 (1997).
11. Doege, K.J., et al., eds., *Guidebook to the Extracellular Matrix and Adhesion Proteins*, (Oxford, UK: 1993), pp 17-18.

EM,TA,GY,NDH,MAM 05/08-1

Sigma brand products are sold through Sigma-Aldrich, Inc.

Sigma-Aldrich, Inc. warrants that its products conform to the information contained in this and other Sigma-Aldrich publications. Purchaser must determine the suitability of the product(s) for their particular use. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Please see reverse side of the invoice or packing slip.