

**DESCRIPTION**

**Source** *E. coli*-derived  
Ala28-Val392  
Accession # O15382-1  
with an N-terminal Met and 6-His tag

**N-terminal Sequence Analysis** Met

**Predicted Molecular Mass** 42 kDa

**SPECIFICATIONS**

**SDS-PAGE** 37-42 kDa, reducing conditions

**Activity** Measured by its ability to convert leucine and alpha-ketoglutarate to alpha-ketoisocaproate and glutamate. The specific activity is >3,500 pmol/min/μg, as measured under the described conditions.

**Endotoxin Level** <0.10 EU per 1 μg of the protein by the LAL method.

**Purity** >95%, by SDS-PAGE visualized with Silver Staining and quantitative densitometry by Coomassie® Blue Staining.

**Formulation** Supplied as a 0.2 μm filtered solution in Tris, NaCl, DTT and Glycerol. See Certificate of Analysis for details.

**Activity Assay Protocol**

- Materials**
- Assay Buffer: 50 mM Tris, 0.05% Tween-20, pH 8.0
  - Recombinant Human BCAT2 (rhBCAT2) (Catalog # 9537-BA)
  - Recombinant Human NQO-1 (rhNQO-1) (Catalog # 7567-DH)
  - Glutamate dehydrogenase (GIDH) (Sigma, Catalog # G7882), 200 U/mL stock in 50 mM Tris, 0.05% Tween-20, pH 8.0
  - Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (β-NAD) (Sigma, Catalog # N6522), 100 mM stock in deionized water
  - Resazurin (Catalog # AR002)
  - α-Ketoglutaric Acid (Sigma, Catalog # K2010), 1 M stock in deionized water
  - L-Leucine (EMD Biosciences, Inc., Catalog # 4330), 100 mM stock in deionized water
  - F16 Black Maxisorp Plate (Nunc, Catalog # 475515)
  - Fluorescent Plate Reader (Model: SpectraMax Gemini EM by Molecular Devices) or equivalent

- Assay**
1. Dilute rhBCAT2 to 0.1 μg/mL in Assay Buffer.
  2. Dilute α-Ketoglutaric Acid to 100 mM in Assay Buffer.
  3. Prepare Substrate Mixture containing 100 U/mL GIDH, 2 mM β-NAD, 40 μM Resazurin, 1 mM α-Ketoglutaric Acid, 4 mM L-Leucine, and 4 μg/mL rhNQO-1 in Assay Buffer.
  4. Load 50 μL of 0.1 μg/mL rhBCAT2 in a plate, and start the reaction by adding 50 μL of Substrate Mixture. Include a Substrate Blank containing 50 μL Assay Buffer and 50 μL of Substrate Mixture.
  5. Read at excitation and emission wavelengths of 540 nm and 585 nm (top read), respectively, in kinetic mode for 8 minutes with a three minute lag time in kinetic mode.
  6. Calculate specific activity:

$$\text{Specific Activity (pmol/min/}\mu\text{g)} = \frac{\text{Adjusted } V_{\max}^* \text{ (RFU/min)} \times \text{Conversion Factor}^{**} \text{ (pmol/RFU)}}{\text{amount of enzyme (}\mu\text{g)}}$$

\*Adjusted for Substrate Blank.

\*\*Derived using calibration standard Resorufin (Sigma, Catalog # R3257).

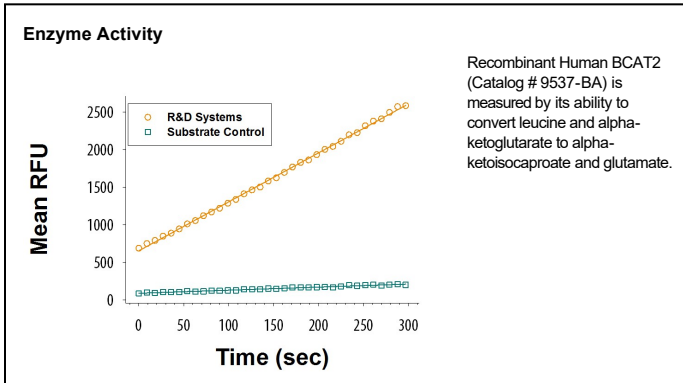
- Final Assay Conditions**
- Per Well:
- rhBCAT2: 0.005 μg
  - GIDH: 5 U
  - β-NAD: 1 mM
  - rhNQO-1: 0.2 μg
  - Resazurin: 0.02 mM
  - α-Ketoglutaric Acid: 0.5 mM
  - L-Leucine: 2 mM

**PREPARATION AND STORAGE**

**Shipping** The product is shipped with polar packs. Upon receipt, store it immediately at the temperature recommended below.

- Stability & Storage** Use a manual defrost freezer and avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.
- 6 months from date of receipt, -20 to -70 °C as supplied.
  - 3 months, -20 to -70 °C under sterile conditions after opening.

**DATA**



#### BACKGROUND

Branched-chain-amino-acid aminotransferases (BCATs) are enzymes that catalyze the first reaction in the catabolism of the essential branched-chain amino acids leucine, isoleucine, and valine to their respective keto-acids while concurrently producing glutamate. BCATs belong to the class-IV pyridoxal-phosphate-dependent (PLP-dependent) aminotransferase family of enzymes (1). There are two BCAT isozymes in humans and mammals, a mitochondrial form known as BCATm or BCAT2 and a cytosolic form known as BCATc or BCAT1 that share 55% sequence identity. In humans and rodents, BCATc is almost exclusively present in the nervous system (2,3) while BCATm is constitutively expressed in most tissues and is generally thought to be important in body nitrogen metabolism (1,2). The 41 kDa human BCATm exists as an active homodimer and has a unique CXXC active site near the dimerization domain (4). Knockouts display decreased adiposity and obesity through alterations of leucine-dependent mTOR signaling making it a potential therapeutic target for obesity (5). BCATm can be regulated by oxidative stress, interfering with its ability to interact with protein disulfide isomerase (6). BCATm overexpression in the brain is detectable in Alzheimers disease and dementia (7,8) suggesting it plays an important role in glutamate toxicity, a key pathogenic feature of these diseases.

#### References:

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5. She, P. *et al.* (2007) *Cell Metab.* **6**:181.
6. El Hindy, M. *et al.* (2014) *Antioxid. Redox Signal* **20**:2497.
7. Ashby, E.L. *et al.* (2017) *Neurochem. Res.* **42**:306.
8. Hull, J. *et al.* (2015) *J. Alzheimers Dis.* **45**:891.