



**GeneQuery™ Human Skeletal Muscle Contraction and Muscular Dystrophies  
qPCR Array Kit  
(GQH-SKC)  
Catalog #GK065**

**Product Description**

ScienCell's GeneQuery™ Human Skeletal Muscle Contraction and Muscular Dystrophies qPCR Array (GQH-SKC) profiles 88 key genes involved in the contraction of skeletal muscle. There are three major muscle types in the human body: skeletal, cardiac, and smooth. Skeletal muscle is a striated muscle that relaxes and contracts to generate movement and force in the body. Of the three main muscle types, it is the only one under voluntary control. Neuromuscular diseases involving skeletal muscle dysfunction are very diverse and range from myopathies to muscular dystrophies. Below are brief examples of how included genes may be grouped according to their function in skeletal muscle biology:

- **Myogenesis:** MYOD1, MYOG, PAX3, UTRN, MYF6, MDTN
- **Contractility:** MYH2, SLC2A4, LMNA, DYSF, APT2A1
- **Sarcomere Assembly :** NEB, TRIM63, TTN, CAPN3, ACTA1
- **Muscle Atrophy:** NOS2, TRIM63, FOXO1, MAPK8, AKT1
- **Muscular Dystrophy Development:** POMT2, FKRP, ANO5, FRG1, SGCB

**Note:** all gene names follow their official symbols by the Human Genome Organization Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC).

GeneQuery™ qPCR array kits are qPCR ready in a 96-well plate format, with each well containing one primer set that can specifically recognize and efficiently amplify a target gene's cDNA. The carefully designed primers ensure that: (i) the optimal annealing temperature in qPCR analysis is 65°C (with 2 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>, and no DMSO); (ii) the primer set recognizes all known transcript variants of target gene, unless otherwise indicated; and (iii) only one gene is amplified. Each primer set has been validated by qPCR with melt curve analysis, and gel electrophoresis.

**GeneQuery™ qPCR Array Kit Controls**

Each GeneQuery™ plate contains eight controls (Figure 1).

- Five target housekeeping genes ( $\beta$ -actin, GAPDH, LDHA, NONO, and PPIH), which enable normalization of data.
- The Genomic DNA (gDNA) Control (GDC) detects possible gDNA contamination in the cDNA samples. It contains a primer set targeting a non-transcribed region of the genome.
- Positive PCR Control (PPC) tests whether samples contain inhibitors or other factors that may negatively affect gene expression results. The PPC consists of a predisposed synthetic DNA template and a primer set that can amplify it. The sequence of the DNA template is not present in the human genome, and thus tests the efficiency of the polymerase chain reaction itself.

- The No Template Control (NTC) is strongly recommended, and can be used to monitor the DNA contamination introduced during the workflow such as reagents, tips, and the lab bench.

### Kit Components

Component	Quantity	Storage
GeneQuery™ array plate with lyophilized primers	1	4°C or -20°C
Optical PCR plate seal	1	RT
Nuclease-free H <sub>2</sub> O	2 mL	4°C

### Additional Materials Required (Materials Not Included in Kit)

Component	Recommended
Reverse transcriptase	MultiScribe Reverse Transcriptase (Life Tech, Cat. #4311235)
cDNA template	Customers' samples
qPCR master mix	FastStart Essential DNA Green Master (Roche, Cat. #06402712001)

### Quality Control

All the primer sets are validated by qPCR with melt curve analysis. The PCR products are analyzed by gel electrophoresis. Single band amplification is confirmed for each set of primers.

### Product Use

GQH-SKC is for research use only. It is not approved for human or animal use, or for application in clinical or *in vitro* diagnostic procedures.

### Shipping and Storage

The product is shipped at ambient temperature. Upon receipt, the plate should be stored at 4°C and is good for up to 12 months. For long-term storage (>1 year), store the plate at -20°C in a manual defrost freezer.

## Procedures

---

**Note:** The primers in each well are lyophilized.

1. Prior to use, allow plates to warm to room temperature.
2. Briefly centrifuge at 1,500x g for 1 minute before slowly peeling off the seal.
3. Prepare 20  $\mu$ l PCR reactions for one well as shown in Table 1.

Table 1

<b>cDNA template</b>	<b>0.2 – 250 ng</b>
2x qPCR master mix	10 $\mu$ l
Nuclease-free H <sub>2</sub> O	variable
<i>Total volume</i>	<i>20 <math>\mu</math>l</i>

**Important:** *Only use polymerases with hot-start capability to prevent possible primer-dimer formation. Only use nuclease-free reagents in PCR amplification.*

4. Add the mixture of 2x qPCR master mix, cDNA template, and nuclease-free H<sub>2</sub>O to each well containing the lyophilized primers. Seal the plate with the provided optical PCR plate seal.

**Important:** *In NTC control well, do NOT add cDNA template. Add 2x qPCR master mix and nuclease-free H<sub>2</sub>O only.*

5. Briefly centrifuge the plates at 1,500x g for 1 minute at room temperature. For maximum reliability, replicates are strongly recommended (minimum of 3).
6. For PCR program setup, please refer to the instructions of the master mix of the user's choice. We recommend a typical 3-step qPCR protocol for a 200nt amplicon:

### Three-step cycling protocol

Step	Temperature	Time	Number of cycles
Initial denaturation	95°C	10 min	1
Denaturation	95°C	20 sec	40
Annealing	65°C	20 sec	
Extension	72°C	20 sec	
Data acquisition	Plate read		
<i>Recommended</i>	<i>Melting curve analysis</i>		1
Hold	4°C	Indefinite	1

7. (Optional) Load the PCR products on 1.5% agarose gel and perform electrophoresis to confirm the single band amplification in each well.

Figure 1. Layout of GeneQuery™ qPCR array kit controls.

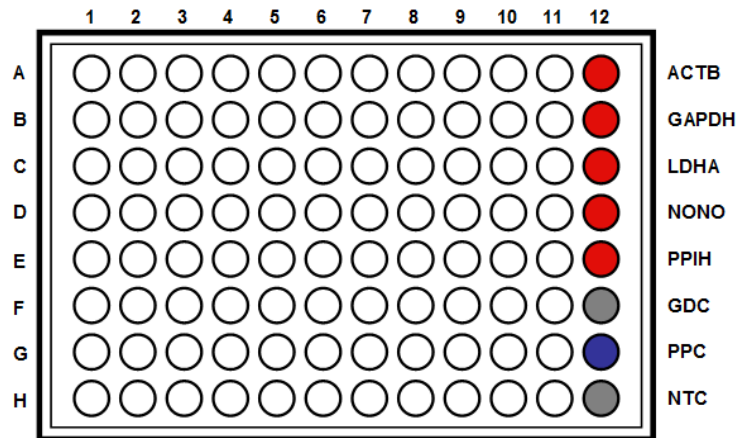


Table 2. Interpretation of control results:

<i>Controls</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Suggestions</i>
Housekeeping gene controls	Variability of a housekeeping gene's Cq value	The expression of the housekeeping gene is variable in samples; cycling program is incorrect	Choose a constantly expressed target, or analyze expression levels of multiple housekeeping genes; use correct cycling program and make sure that all cycle parameters have been correctly entered
gDNA Control (GDC)	Cq $\geq$ 35	No gDNA detected	N/A
	Cq < 35	The sample is contaminated with gDNA	Perform DNase digestion during RNA purification step
Positive PCR Control (PPC)	Cq > 30; or The Cq variations > 2 between qPCR Arrays.	Poor PCR performance; possible PCR inhibitor in reactions; cycling program incorrect	Eliminate inhibitor by purifying samples; use correct cycling program and make sure that all cycle parameters have been correctly entered
No Template Control (NTC)	Positive	DNA contamination in workflow	Eliminate sources of DNA contamination (reagents, plastics, etc.)

Figure 2. A typical amplification curve showing the amplification of a qPCR product.

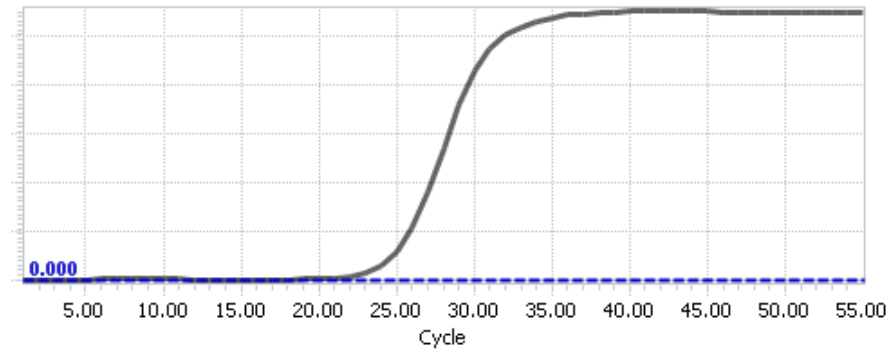
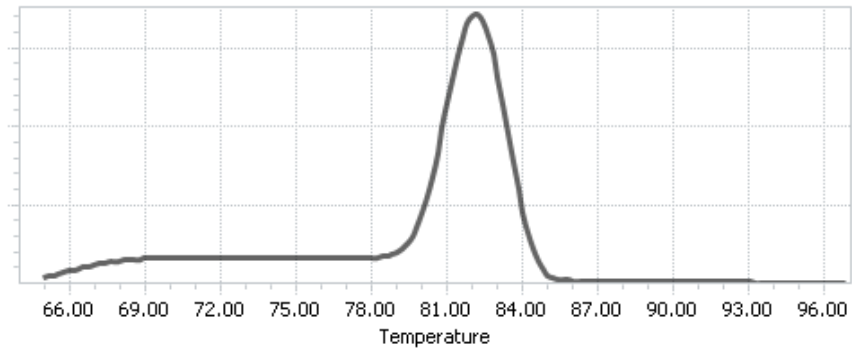


Figure 3. A typical melting peak of a qPCR product.



## Quantification Method: Comparative $\Delta\Delta Cq$ (Quantification Cycle Value) Method

1. **Note:** Please refer to your qPCR instrument's data analysis software for data analysis. The method provided here serves as guidance for quick manual calculations.

You can use one or more housekeeping genes as a reference to normalize samples.

**Important:** We highly recommend using all 5 housekeeping genes included in this kit,  $\beta$ -actin, GAPDH, LDHA, NONO, and PPIH.

2. For a single housekeeping gene,  $\Delta Cq$  (ref) is the quantification cycle number change for that housekeeping gene (HKG) between an experimental sample and control sample.

$$\Delta Cq \text{ (ref)} = Cq \text{ (HKG, experimental sample)} - Cq \text{ (HKG, control sample)}$$

When using multiple housekeeping genes as a reference, we recommend normalizing using the geometric mean [1] of the expression level change, which is the same as normalizing using the arithmetic mean of  $\Delta Cq$  of the selected housekeeping genes.

$\Delta Cq$  (ref) = average ( $\Delta Cq$  (HKG1),  $\Delta Cq$  (HKG2),.....,  $\Delta Cq$  (HKG n)) (n is the number of housekeeping genes selected)

**If** using all 5 housekeeping genes included in this kit,  $\beta$ -actin, GAPDH, LDHA, NONO, and PPIH, use the following formula:

$$\Delta Cq \text{ (ref)} = (\Delta Cq(\beta\text{-actin}) + \Delta Cq(\text{GAPDH}) + \Delta Cq(\text{LDHA}) + \Delta Cq(\text{NONO}) + \Delta Cq(\text{PPIH})) / 5$$

**Note:**  $\Delta Cq$  (HKG) =  $Cq$  (HKG, experimental sample) -  $Cq$  (HKG, control sample), and  $\Delta Cq$  (HKG) value can be positive, 0, or negative.

3. For any of your genes of interest (GOI),

$$\Delta Cq \text{ (GOI)} = Cq \text{ (GOI, experimental sample)} - Cq \text{ (GOI, control sample)}$$

$$\Delta\Delta Cq = \Delta Cq \text{ (GOI)} - \Delta Cq \text{ (ref)}$$

$$\text{Normalized GOI expression level fold change} = 2^{-\Delta\Delta Cq}$$

## References

[1] Vandesompele J, De Preter K, Pattyn F, Poppe B, Van Roy N, De Paepe A, Speleman F. (2002) "Accurate normalization of real-time quantitative RT-PCR data by geometric averaging of multiple internal control genes." *Genome Biol.* 3(7): 1-12.

### Example: Comparative $\Delta\Delta Cq$ (Quantification Cycle Value) Method

---

Table 3. Cq (Quantification Cycle) values of 2 genes-of-interest and 5 housekeeping genes obtained for experimental and control samples.

Samples	Genes of Interest		Housekeeping Genes				
	GOI1	GOI2	<i><math>\beta</math>-actin</i>	<i>GAPDH</i>	<i>LDHA</i>	<i>NONO</i>	<i>PPIH</i>
Experimental	21.61	22.19	17.16	17.84	20.12	19.64	26.40
Control	33.13	26.47	18.20	18.48	20.57	19.50	26.55

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta Cq(\text{ref}) &= (\Delta Cq(\beta\text{-actin}) + \Delta Cq(\text{GAPDH}) + \Delta Cq(\text{LDHA}) + \Delta Cq(\text{NONO}) + \Delta Cq(\text{PPIH})) / 5 \\ &= ((17.16 - 18.20) + (17.84 - 18.48) + (20.12 - 20.57) + (19.64 - 19.50) + (26.40 - 26.55)) / 5 \\ &= -0.43\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta Cq(\text{GOI1}) &= 21.61 - 33.13 \\ &= -11.52\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta Cq(\text{GOI2}) &= 22.19 - 26.47 \\ &= -4.28\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\Delta Cq(\text{GOI1}) &= \Delta Cq(\text{GOI1}) - \Delta Cq(\text{ref}) \\ &= -11.52 - (-0.43) \\ &= -11.09\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\Delta Cq(\text{GOI2}) &= \Delta Cq(\text{GOI2}) - \Delta Cq(\text{ref}) \\ &= -4.28 - (-0.43) \\ &= -3.85\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Normalized GOI1 expression level fold change} &= 2^{-\Delta\Delta Cq(\text{GOI1})} \\ &= 2^{11.09} \\ &= 2180\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Normalized GOI2 expression level fold change} &= 2^{-\Delta\Delta Cq(\text{GOI2})} \\ &= 2^{3.85} \\ &= 14.4\end{aligned}$$

**Conclusion:** Upon treatment, expression level of GOI1 increased 2,180 fold, and expression level of GOI2 increased 14.4 fold.



**GeneQuery™ Human Skeletal Muscle Contraction and Muscular Dystrophies qPCR Array Kit  
(GQH-SKC)  
Catalog #GK065**

GeneQuery™ Human Skeletal Muscle Contraction and Muscular Dystrophies qPCR Array Plate Layout\*  
(8 controls in Bold and Italic)

**Note:** all gene names follow their official symbols by HGNC

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>A</b>	ACTA1	ANO5	CAST	DES	FRG1	LARGE1	MMP9	MYL5	POMGNT2	SEPN1	TNNT2	<b><i>ACTB</i></b>
<b>B</b>	ACTA2	ATP2A1	CAV1	DNAJB6	HDAC5	LMNA	MSTN	MYOD1	POMT1	SGCA	TNPO3	<b><i>GAPDH</i></b>
<b>C</b>	ACTN3	BCL2	CAV3	DUX4	IGF1	LMOD1	MUSK	MYOG	POMT2	SGCB	TPM1	<b><i>LDHA</i></b>
<b>D</b>	ACVR2B	BMP4	COL6A1	DYSF	IGFBP3	MAPK1	MYBPC2	NEB	PPARGC1A	SGCD	TPM3	<b><i>NONO</i></b>
<b>E</b>	ADRB2	CAMK2G	COL6A2	EMD	IGFBP5	MAPK14	MYF5	NOS2	PPARGC1B	SLC2A4	TRIM32	<b><i>PPIH</i></b>
<b>F</b>	AGRN	CAPN2	COL6A3	FKRP	IKBKB	MAPK8	MYF6	PAX3	PPP3CA	TCAP	TRIM63	<b><i>GDC</i></b>
<b>G</b>	AKT1	CAPN3	CRYAB	FKTN	ISPD	MB	MYH2	PAX7	RHOA	TNF	TTN	<b><i>PPC</i></b>
<b>H</b>	AKT2	CASP3	DAG1	FOXO1	LAMA2	MEF2C	MYL1	POMGNT1	RPS6KB1	TNNI1	UTRN	<b><i>NTC</i></b>

\* gene selection may be updated based on new research and development



## Appendix. Plate type choice chart.

---

### Plate type A

<b>Brand</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>kit catalog #</b>
ABI / Life Tech	ABI 5700	GK065-A
	ABI 7000	GK065-A
	ABI 7300	GK065-A
	ABI 7500	GK065-A
	ABI 7700	GK065-A
	ABI 7900 HT	GK065-A
	QuantStudio	GK065-A
	ViiA 7	GK065-A
Bio-Rad	Chromo4	GK065-A
	iCycler	GK065-A
	iQ5	GK065-A
	MyiQ	GK065-A
	MyiQ2	GK065-A
Eppendorf / Life Tech	Matercycler ep realplex 2	GK065-A
	Matercycler ep realplex 4	GK065-A
Stratagene	MX3000P	GK065-A
	MX3005P	GK065-A

### Plate type B

<b>Brand</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>kit catalog #</b>
ABI / Life Tech	ABI 7500 Fast	GK065-B
	ABI 7900 HT Fast	GK065-B
	QuantStudio Fast	GK065-B
	StepOnePlus	GK065-B
	ViiA 7 Fast	GK065-B
Bio-Rad	CFX Connect	GK065-B
	CFX96	GK065-B
	DNA Engine Opticon 2	GK065-B
Stratagene	MX4000	GK065-B

### Plate type C

<b>Brand</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>kit catalog #</b>
Roche	Lightcycler 96	GK065-C
	Lightcycler 480 (96-well)	GK065-C