

# Ac-Tyr-Val-Ala-Asp-AFC (Ac-YVAD-AFC)

Cat. # G5400, G5401

- Also Known as:** Ac-YVAD-AFC; Caspase-1/4 substrate
- Cas#:** 219137-85-6
- MW (no tag):** 719.7 Da
- Formula:** C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>36</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>10</sub>
- Source:** Synthetic
- Tag:** N/A
- Stock Buffer:** Powder
- Solubility:** Soluble in DMSO
- Concentration:** N/A
- Quality Assurance:** > 95% by HPLC
- Description:** Ac-YVAD-AFC is a fluorogenic substrate of caspase-1/4. Working concentration of this substrate is 25-50  $\mu$ M. The released AFC (7-Amino-4-trifluoromethylcoumarin) fluorescence can be detected by a fluorimeter or plate reader using excitation/emission wavelengths at 400 nm/505 nm, respectively.
- Storage:** Eligible for room temperature shipping. Store at -20°C upon receiving; avoid multiple freeze-thaw cycles after dissolving in DMSO. Protect from light.
- Protocol:** **Users are strongly recommended to optimize conditions based on their needs.**
1. Briefly spin the product packing tube using a desktop centrifuge to pellet the powder before removing the cap.
  2. Make a 25 mM substrate stock in DMSO: add 0.278 mL DMSO to 5 mg Ac-YVAD-AFC powder or 1.39 mL DMSO to 25 mg Ac-YVAD-AFC powder.
  3. Make 2X Reaction Buffer: 40 mM Tris, pH 7.6 at 4 °C, 300 mM NaCl, 4 mM DTT.
  4. Prepare 2X substrate (100  $\mu$ M): add 20  $\mu$ l substrate stock prepared in step 3 to 5 ml warmed (37 °C) 2X reaction buffer. Briefly vortex to dissolve.
  5. Mix 50  $\mu$ l apoptotic cell/tissue lysates (using more or less depending on caspase amounts in your samples) or recombinant caspases with 50  $\mu$ l 2X substrate prepared in step 4. Incubate at 37 °C for 5-120 min (users should optimize incubation time).
  6. Record AFC fluorescence using a fluorometer or plate reader using excitation/emission wavelengths at 400 nm/505 nm, respectively. Alternatively, AFC fluorescence can be recorded continuously when the substrate is mixed with samples to initiate reactions.
  7. A control reaction can be included and the reading from a control reaction should be subtracted as the background signal. Appropriate control includes mixing non-apoptotic cell/tissue lysates + substrate or mixing apoptotic cell/tissue lysate + substrate + a caspase inhibitor (such as 25  $\mu$ M Z-VAD-FMK).
- References:** Poreba M., et al., Cold Spring Harb Perspect Bio. 2013, a008680.