

NGAL - NEUTROPHIL GELATINASE ASSOCIATED LIPOCALIN

Source:	Human Kidney	Purity:	Partially Purified
Form:	Liquid	Storage:	-80°C

Neutrophil Gelatinase Associated Lipocalin is a 25 kDa protein and as its name suggests, the protein in neutrophils is often found bound to gelatinase-B (also known as matrix metalloproteinase-9). NGAL is also known as lipocalin-2. Lipocalins are proteins that bind and transport various substances. While the physiological role of NGAL is not fully understood, it is thought to play a role in the response to bacterial infection by sequestering iron and thus making it less available to invading pathogens.

Acute kidney injury (AKI) is a condition in which rapid decline of kidney function is observed. Although there is not a universally agreed upon definition of AKI, it is a very common problem, being reported in up to 0.5% of the general population, depending on the definition used. AKI is difficult to diagnose since symptoms and elevated levels of markers of renal function (eg: creatinine) generally do not occur until the injury is quite advanced. NGAL in both plasma and urine appears to be a marker that is very well suited for the early detection of AKI and could be instrumental in improving the diagnosis and prognosis of this condition.