ProZyme currently doesn't have N-Linked Oligosaccharide Preparative Gel listed as a product. Is there an alternative? Can I use an N-Linked FACE® Oligosaccharide Profiling Gel (GK60000) for preparative purposes?

A FACE N-linked Profiling Gel may be used as a preparative gel (previous Glyko product code 60050). The main difference between the two is the thickness. Preparative gels are thicker to hold more samples, but both have similar resolution. Use a profiling gel for preparative work by simply loading more lanes instead of loading more sample in each single lane.

First prepare your sample and label with ANTS following the instructions in the GK90000 FACE Oligosaccharide Profiling Kit. Instead of loading the normal 4 µl of your labeled sample per lane, load up to 8 µl of sample. In terms of molar quantities, we recommend that you load ~100 pmol per well. Each well can physically hold around 10 to 15 µl of sample if loaded carefully. However do not load significantly more than 100 pmol to prevent overloading of the gel, which may cause smearing and other problems that could lead to poor resolution.

Because the gel has slightly higher resolution when samples are run across several adjacent lanes, load up to 8 µl of ANTS labeled samples across 4 adjacent lanes. Four lanes span about the width of a disposable razor blade. The lanes can be easily cut out of the gel without the need to slice completely across the fragile gel and risk damaging the sample portion of the gel.

After electrophoresis, remove the yellow tape holding the glass cassette together and pry the glass plates apart using a razor blade; use care to prevent tearing the gel. Leave the gel on one of the glass plates and use a UV source with 370 nm emission to shine directly on the gel (or trans-illuminator to shine through the gel). The ANTS-labeled bands emit at 500 nm (bluish glow). Use a razor blade and cut straight down around the bands of interest and remove them to a suitable container.

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