

**Supplemental Table 1. Primers for Has and Hyal genes.**

Primer sequences, melting temperature ( $T_m$ ), cycle numbers and predicted product sizes for analysis of rat *Has* and *Hyal* gene expression by semi-quantitative RT-PCR. Similar information is also given for the expression of the housekeeping gene  $\beta$ -actin, which was measured for control purposes.

Gene	Sense Strand Primer	Antisense Strand Primer	$T_m$ (°C)	No. of Cycles	Product Size (bp)
Has1	GAGGTGGAGGCTGAGGAC	AGCTGACCCAAGAGTCCAGA	60	30	283
Has2	CTGGAAGAACAACTTCCATGA	ATAAGACTGGCAGGCGGTTT	60	30	379
Has3	CTTCTTGTCGGCGTAGCA	GCACTTGCTGCCTACGAAC	60	30	496
Hyal1	CCGTTGGCTTAGTTCCA	AGCTTCGCTGCACAAAAGAG	60	35	274
Hyal2	ACAGCCGCAACTTGTCA	GTACTGGCGCTGGGATTG	65	40	367
Hyal3	TGGGGCTTTATCGATAACC	CAGCCTGGTCACGTTGAT	65	30	469
$\beta$ -actin	TTCTACAATGAGCTGCGTGTG	ATCACAAATGCCAGTGGTACG	60	20	191