

GAG incorporation ratio (mean + SD) of human, bovine, and CD canine CLC microaggregates treated with basal culture medium (control), supplemented with 10 ng/mL TGF- $\beta_1$  (positive control), 1 µg/mL or 10 ng/mL human or canine Link-N (LN) or 0.5 µg/mL or 5 ng/mL human or canine sLink-N (sLN). The CLC micro-aggregates were cultured for 28 days. GAG incorporation percentages were calculated as the GAG content of the micro-aggregate divided by the total amount of GAGs produced by that micro-aggregate (GAGs released in the culture medium + GAG content of the micro-aggregate). \*\*\*: significantly different from controls. Bars indicate significant differences between conditions (p<0.05). n = 3, (human) or 6 (bovine and canine), all in duplicates. ND: not determined, since GAG release was below the detection limit.