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## JOURNAL ARTICLE

# Relationship of human sperm acrosin and proacrosin to semen parameters. II. Correlations

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Previous results, simultaneously confirmed by others, suggest that a relationship exists between sperm acrosin levels and fertility in man. The assessment of sperm acrosin may therefore be a useful addition to the semen analysis, but only if the more standard semen parameter measurements cannot predict acrosin levels. Ejaculates from 102 men were analyzed and the relationship of the sperm acrosin system (acrosin, proacrosin, and acrosin inhibitor) to other seminal characteristics was determined. Very little correlation was observed between enzymatic and nonenzymatic parameters. Only five non-enzymatic parameters, all of which were morphologic, showed correlation coefficients of greater than or equal to 0.35 with acrosin and proacrosin, but none had an r-value above 0.48. The total acrosin and proacrosin levels were highly correlated to each other ( $r = 0.93$ ). It is concluded that sperm acrosin/proacrosin levels cannot be predicted by other seminal parameters; thus, measurement of sperm acrosin/proacrosin may be clinically useful as a diagnostic parameters.

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