

## ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF A NOVEL HYALURONIDASE INHIBITOR FROM A MARINE ACTINOMYCETES STRAIN

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### ABSTRACT

A novel hyaluronidase inhibitor (HI) was isolated from the culture extract of a marine-derived actinomycete strain. This strain MB-PO13 was isolated from ascidian (*Molgula manhattensis*) in Tokyo Bay. Out of about 1,000 isolates from various marine organisms, strain MB-PO13 had the strongest inhibitory activity and was selected for further study. The strain showed abundant-to-moderate growth on most media, forming a grayish mycelium. On the basis of the taxonomical characteristics, the strain was classified as belonging to the genus of *Streptomyces* and was named as *Streptomyces* sp. strain MB-PO13. The structure of HI was elucidated by interpretation of NMR data. HI displayed about 25-fold potent hyaluronidase inhibitory activity against hyaluronidase than glycyrrhizin.

Keywords: marine actinomycetes; *Streptomyces*; hyaluronidase inhibitor

### INTRODUCTION

Hyaluronidase (HAase), an endoglycosidase, hydrolyzes hyaluronic acid (HA), an only glycosaminoglycan, non-sulfated and not attached to a core protein, repeating unit of D-glucuronic acid and N-acetyl glucosamine. HA was synthesized by HA synthases which polymerize HA on intracellular membrane surface. The HA polymers are extruded onto the glycocalyx or into the extra cellular matrix (ECM). HA exists mainly in skin, primarily in dermis in mammalian and is degraded by some different HAases in somatic cells step by step. HAase is found in various organisms: mammals, bacteria (*Streptomyces* (Ohya et al. 1970), *Streptococcus* (Hamai et al. 1989)), bacteriophage (Baker et al. 2002), venom of terrestrial (bees (Kameny et al. 1984), hornets (Kolarich et al. 2005), scorpions (Pessini et al. 2001), snakes (Girish et al. 2006), lizards (Tu et al. 1983)) and marine (krill (Karlstam et al. 1983), lobster (Krishnapillai et al. 1999), fishes (Hopkins et al. 1998)) animals. HAase is the only acid-active enzyme in the mammalian circulation. There are three types of eukaryotic HAase; neutral-active endo- $\beta$ -N-glucosaminidase, acidic-active endo- $\beta$ -N-glucosaminidase and endo- $\beta$ -glucuronidase.

Various-sized HAs have several functions in inflammation (Noble et al. 1996; Termei et al. 2013), immunity and so on depending on the molecular size. Low molecular weight HA stimulates angiogenesis (Feinberg et al. 1983) and induction of chemokine (McKee et al. 1996) and cytokine (Kobayashi et al. 1996; Nakamura et al. 2004; Asari et al. 2010). In contrast,

high molecular weight HA suppresses these phenomena (Termei et al. 2013; McKee et al. 1996; Delmage et al. 1986). Recently, extremely high molecular weight HA (6–12 MDa) was found in naked mole-rat (*Heterocephalus glaber*) fibroblasts (Tian et al. 1996) which is over five times larger than human and mouse HA (0.5–3 MDa) (Holmes et al. 1988). Naked mole rat is known as an exceptionally long-life rat (40/86 were alive over 24 years) (Sherman et al. 2002), surprisingly, neoplasm has never been found in the rat (Sherman et al. 2002, Buffenstein et al. 2008). However, in the case of knocking down HA synthase or overexpression of HAase, tumors formation was observed (Holmes et al. 1988).

HAase is the molecular target of anti-inflammatory and anti-allergic drugs. For example, anti-allergic agents such as disodium cromoglycate (DSCG), tranilast and inflammatory agent such as glycyrrhizin show HAase inhibitory activity (Sakamoto et al. 1980; Kakegawa et al. 1983; Furuya et al. 1997). Furthermore, the compound 48/80, a histamine-releasing agent activates HAase (Kakegawa et al. 1985). Therefore, HAase inhibitors have the potential as the anti-inflammation drug.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Strain MB-PO13 was isolated from a sea squirt (*Molgula manhattensis*) collected at a harbor near Minato-ku, Tokyo. The strain was identified as a member of genus *Streptomyces* on the basis of 99.2% 16S rRNA gene sequence identity (1,429 nucleotides; DDBJ accession number AB840588) with *Streptomyces misawanensis* strain NBRC 13855 (accession number AB184533).

Strain MB-PO13 growing on a yeast-starch agar medium consisting of soluble starch (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.) 1.0%, yeast extract (Difco Laboratories) 0.2%, and agar 1.5% (pH 7.2) was inoculated into 500 mL K-1 flasks each containing 100 mL of the V-22 seed medium consisting of soluble starch 1.0%, glucose 0.5% , NZ-case (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.) 0.3%, yeast extract (Difco Laboratories) 0.2%, tryptone (Difco Laboratories) 0.5%, K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 0.1%, MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O 0.05%, and CaCO<sub>3</sub> 0.3% (pH 7.0). The flasks were placed on a rotary shaker (200 rpm) at 30 °C for 4 days. Then, the seed culture (3 mL) was transferred into 500 mL K-1 flasks each containing 100 mL of the A-3 M production medium consisting of soluble starch 2.0%, glycerol 2.0%, glucose 0.5%, Pharmamedia 1.5%, yeast extract 0.3%, and Diaion HP-20 resin (Mitsubishi Chemical Co.) 1%. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 7.0 before sterilization. The inoculated flasks were placed on a rotary shaker (200 rpm) at 30 °C for 7 days.

After incubation, 100 mL of ethyl acetate was added to each flask, and the flasks were allowed to shake for one hour. The mixture was centrifuged at 6,000 rpm for 10 min and the organic layer was separated from the aqueous layer containing the mycelium. Evaporation of the solvent gave 450 mg of cluded extract from 1 L of culture. The extract (450 mg) was subjected to reversed-phase ODS column chromatography with a gradient of MeCN/0.1% HCO<sub>2</sub>H (2:8, 3:7, 4:6, 5:5, 6:4, 7:3, and 8:2 v/v). The fraction eluted with 70% MeCN was

pooled and evaporated in vacuo, and the remaining aqueous solution was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was then concentrated to give a red solid (46 mg). The final purification was achieved by preparative HPLC using a linear gradient of MeCN/0.1% HCO<sub>2</sub>H (MeCN concentration: 15–85% for 0–30 min) at 4 mL/min, yielding HI (20 mg) with a retention time of 22.5 min.

HAase inhibitory activity was measured by turbidimetric assay described by Ferrante (Ferrante 1956) with slight modifications. HAase (EC 3.2.1.35) from bovine testes type I-S (Sigma Chemical Co.) and HA sodium salt from rooster comb (Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.) were dissolved in acetate buffer (0.2 M sodium acetate, 0.15 M NaCl, pH 5.0). The mixtures contained the 100  $\mu$ L of 0.1% HAase and 20  $\mu$ L of samples in DMSO was incubated at 37 °C for 20 min. After incubation, 100  $\mu$ L of 1% HA was added and incubated at 37 °C for 60 min. After incubation, the enzymatic reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 mL of 2.5% cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) in 2% aqueous NaOH solution. The turbidity at 400 nm was measured after 30 min. All incubations were carried out in triplicate.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The producing strain MB-PO13 was cultured in A-3M medium at 30 °C for seven days, and the whole culture broth was extracted with EtOAc at pH 3. The extract was fractionated by reversed-phase column chromatography, followed by HPLC purification on a C18 column, to yield (1) as an optically active, red amorphous powder ( $[\alpha]_{25D} -168$ , DMSO). A molecular formula of C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>13</sub> was confirmed by high-resolution ESITOFMS data showing a pseudomolecular ion  $[M + H]^+$  at  $m/z$  604.1091. The IR spectrum indicated the presence of hydroxyl (3356  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) functionalities. UV spectrum showed absorption maxima at 307, 351, 368 and 506 nm similar to those of the rubromycin class of antibiotics (Echardt et al. 1978).

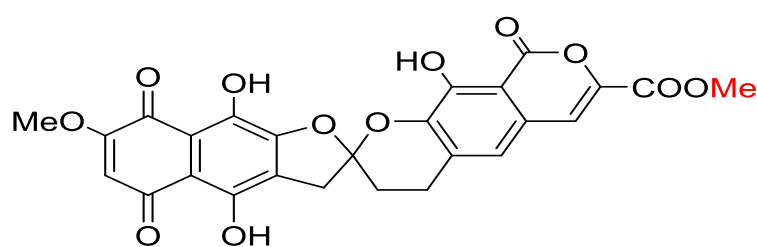


Figure 1.  $\gamma$ -Rubromycin structure

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1 measured in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> indicated the presence of a methoxy ( $\delta$ H 3.89), three methine ( $\delta$ H 6.41, 7.25 and 7.52) and four exchangeable ( $\delta$ H 9.44, 10.67, 11.90 and 13.14) protons. In the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, all the 25 carbons assignable to the  $\gamma$ -rubromycin core were detected. Comparison with MS data showed that 5 carbon atoms were lacking (Echardt et al. 1978). The <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum established only one spin system H-3/H-4. Further HSQC and HMBC analysis allowed the assignment of most of the <sup>13</sup>C signals except for C-9, C-8'a and C-9' (Figure 2). An exchangeable proton at  $\delta$ H 9.44 showed a correlation to C-11, suggesting that this proton could be an amide proton.

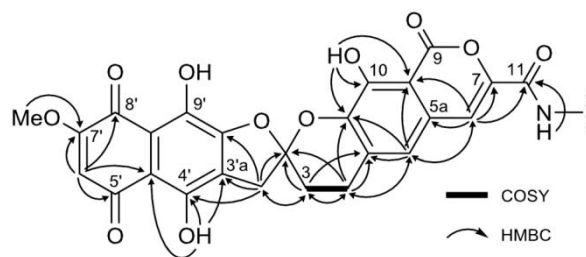


Figure 2.1H-1H COSY and HMBC correlations of compound 1

The NMR data and UV spectrum of 1 strongly indicated the presence of  $\gamma$ -rubromycin skeleton, but three carbons remained to be assigned. In addition, five more carbons were not detected in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum.

Table 1. NMR data for 1 in DMSO- $d_6$

Position	1		
	$\delta_{\text{C}}^{\text{a}}$ , type	$\delta_{\text{H}}$ , mult. (J in Hz) <sup>b</sup>	HMBC <sup>c</sup>
2 (2')	113.0, qC		
3	29.1, CH <sub>2</sub>	2.37, m; 2.56, m	2, 4a
4	22.7, CH <sub>2</sub>	3.06, m; 3.17, m	2, 3, 4a, 5, 10a,
4a	132.8, qC		
5	119.5, CH	7.25, s	4a, 5a, 6, 9a, 10a
5a	128.9, qC		
6	110.9, CH	7.52, s	5, 5a, 7, 9a, 11
7	144.7, qC		
9	164.4, qC		
9a	107.0, qC		
10	150.0, qC		
10a	141.1, qC		
11	158.8, qC		
2' (2)	113.0, qC		
3'	39.4, CH <sub>2</sub>	3.55, d (18.0) 3.48, d (18.0)	3, 2', 3'a, 4', 9'a
3'a	123.6, qC		
4'	157.8, qC		
4'a	107.2, qC		
5'	185.9, qC		
6'	110.9, CH	6.41, s	4'a, 5', 7', 8'
7'	161.2, qC		
8'	180.2, qC		
8'a	114.0, qC		
9'	148.3, qC		
9'a	153.7, qC		
7'-OMe	58.0, CH <sub>3</sub>	3.89, s	7'
10-OH		10.67, s	9a, 10, 10a
4'-OH		13.14, s	3'a, 4', 4'a
9'-OH		11.90, s	
11-NH		9.44, s	11

The compound 1 displayed 25-fold more potent inhibitory activity against HAase from bovine testis with an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 14  $\mu$ M than glycyrrhizin (IC<sub>50</sub>=340  $\mu$ M), a well-known plant terpenoid.

## CONCLUSION

A novel hyaluronidase inhibitor (HI) was isolated from the culture extract of a marine-derived actinomycete strain. This strain MB-PO13 was isolated from ascidian (*Molgula manhattensis*) in Tokyo Bay. Out of about 1,000 isolates from various marine organisms, strain MB-PO13 had the strongest inhibitory activity and was selected for further study. The strain showed abundant-to-moderate growth on most media, forming a grayish mycelium. On the basis of the taxonomical characteristics, the strain was classified as belonging to the genus of *Streptomyces* and was named as *Streptomyces* sp. strain MB-PO13. The structure of HI was elucidated by interpretation of NMR data. HI (1), a new member of rubromycin family antibiotics, was isolated from marine-derived actinomycete strain *Streptomyces* sp. as a HAase inhibitor. HI (1) displayed 25-fold more potent inhibitory activity against HAase than glycyrrhizin, a well-known plant terpenoid. This finding may provide valuable information for developing a drug design for anti-inflammation agents.

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