

## **Publication of medicinal chemistry research on SCO-792, an enteropeptidase inhibitor**

Kanagawa, Japan, June 17, 2022 – In a new study published by *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, research teams at SCOHIA PHARMA, Inc. and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited reported research on medicinal chemistry leading up to the discovery of SCO-792.

### Article title

**Design, Synthesis, and Biological Evaluation of a Novel Series of 4-Guanidinobenzoate Derivatives as Enteropeptidase Inhibitors with Low Systemic Exposure for the Treatment of Obesity**

<https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.2c00463>

Enteropeptidase is a gut-localized enzyme that activates protein digestion events in mammals. We identified SCO-792, an orally available enteropeptidase inhibitor with first-in-class potential, that can inhibit the absorption of gut amino acids into the blood in humans; SCO-792 is currently under evaluation for its clinical potential. In this publication, the medicinal chemistry research that led to the discovery of SCO-792 is reported. The introduction of multiple polar groups in the lead compound using docking model studies resulted in the identification of SCO-792, which showed novel interactions with enteropeptidase. This modification also reduced the membrane permeability and gut absorption of SCO-792, resulting in its lower systemic exposure, which likely mitigates the safety concerns. SCOHIA is actively seeking a partner worldwide for further development and commercialization of SCO-792.

### **About SCOHIA PHARMA, Inc.:**

SCOHIA PHARMA, Inc. is a drug discovery bioventure focusing on the field of lifestyle-related diseases such as cardiovascular, metabolic, and renal diseases where high unmet medical needs still remain. Our R&D team has a rich pipeline and track record in each stage of drug development, including compound discovery, drug evaluation, and clinical development, which makes us special. For detailed information about SCOHIA PHARMA, Inc., please visit <https://www.scohia.com/eng/>.

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Corporate Communication

[info@scohia.com](mailto:info@scohia.com)