

3B Pharmaceuticals and Sovicell introduce a novel service offering for plasma protein binding analysis

First technology specifically developed for peptides, oligonucleotides and other medium-sized organic molecules

Berlin (Germany), 22 March, 2017 - 3B Pharmaceuticals GmbH (3B Pharmaceuticals), a German peptide drug discovery company, and Sovicell GmbH (Sovicell), a manufacturer of research kits for ADMET applications today announced the launch of a novel service to reliably quantify the plasma protein binding capacity of drug candidates. The companies have developed *EScalate*, a mass-spectrometry assay based on Sovicell's proprietary equilibrium shift technology. 3B Pharmaceuticals will be the exclusive global service provider under a license from Sovicell which will supply 3B Pharmaceuticals with *EScalate* reagents.

Dr. Ulrich Reineke, managing director of 3B Pharmaceuticals explained: "Sovicell's technology has proven highly valuable in our discovery programs for optimizing the plasma half-life of peptides. The *EScalate* assay can be employed to guide decision making for subsequent PK studies in various animal model species. It has become a very useful element of 3B Pharmaceuticals' collaborative R&D offering." Dr. Hinnerk Boriss, CEO of Sovicell added: "We are very impressed by 3B Pharmaceuticals' mass-spec analytics capabilities and expect the novel *EScalate* service format to make our technology more easily accessible for scientists in lead optimization and in the ADMET field." Both companies will jointly promote the new service.

About *EScalate*

Plasma protein binding of drug candidates has routinely been analyzed by equilibrium dialysis in so-called two-chamber RED devices. This method works very well for small molecules but most medium-sized molecules cannot be analyzed as they tend to adhere to surfaces or refuse to pass the device's semi-permeable membrane within an acceptable timespan. The membrane-less single-compartment assay format of *EScalate* is by-design unsusceptible to adherence and diffusion issues. In combination with 3BP's quality-controlled sample preparation and sophisticated mass-spec analytics capabilities the free fraction even for strong serum binders can now for the first time be reliably quantified.

About 3B Pharmaceuticals

3B Pharmaceuticals is a privately-held German life sciences company developing targeted radiopharmaceutical drugs and diagnostics for oncology indications with a high unmet medical need. As a leader in peptide discovery and optimization, 3B Pharmaceuticals has built a technology platform extending from hit identification to early clinical development. Its collaborative R&D unit is running contract peptide drug discovery programs and providing services for pharmaceutical clients.

About Sovicell

Sovicell is a privately-held German manufacturer of ready-to-use test kits for tissue distribution and plasma protein binding of drugs with a state of the art assay development platform. With over 20 years of experience in pharmaceutical research Sovicell provides its customers tailored assay kits for automation and robust analysis.

For more information**3B Pharmaceuticals**

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