

## 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 experimental 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 3B Pharmaceuticals' 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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