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Supporting Information

## Modelling the Inhibition of Selenoproteins by Small Molecules Using Cysteine and Selenocysteine Derivatives

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## **Table of Contents**

S. No	Contents	Page/ Page range
1	Synthetic scheme for the intermediates <b>1</b> , <b>2</b> and <b>3</b>	S2-S3
2	<sup>1</sup> H NMR and HPLC analysis of formation of Dha from the compounds <b>17</b> and <b>18</b>	S3
3	<sup>1</sup> H NMR and HPLC analysis of formation of Dha from the compounds <b>2</b>	S4
4	<sup>77</sup> Se spectra of <b>17</b> after incubating with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	S5
5	<sup>77</sup> Se spectra of <b>19</b> after incubating with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	S5
6	<sup>77</sup> Se spectra of <b>17</b> after incubating with H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> and GSH	S6
7	Spectroscopic characterization ( <sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C and <sup>77</sup> Se spectra)	S7-S18
8	ESI-MS data of selected compounds	S19-S20
9	References	S20



**Scheme S1**. Synthetic route to starting materials **1** and **2** used for the synthesis of aryl cysteine and selenocysteine derivatives. a) SOCl<sub>2</sub>, MeOH, reflux, 4 h, b) Boc anhydride, aqu., NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Dioxane, 27 °C, c) TsCl, Pyridine, 27 °C, d) i) SOCl<sub>2</sub>, pyridine, dry ACN, -40 °C, 3 h, ii) NalO<sub>4</sub>, RuCl<sub>3</sub>. 3H<sub>2</sub>O, ACN, H<sub>2</sub>O, 0 °C, 2 h.

Compound **1**<sup>[1]</sup>: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (ppm): 1.55 (s, 9H), 3.86 (s, 1H), 4.68-4.71 (d, 1H), 4.77-4.83 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (ppm): 28.15, 53.91, 58.00, 68.18, 86.49, 148.45, 168.01.

Compound **2**<sup>[2]</sup>: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 1.42 (s, 9H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s,3H),4.29 (dd, 1H), 4.40 (dd, 1H), 4.51 (dt, 1H),5.32 (d, 1H),7.36 (d, 2H),7.76 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.6, 28.2, 52.85, 52.90, 69.5, 80.4, 128.0, 129.9, 132.3, 145.1, 154.9, 168.9.



**Scheme S2**. Synthetic route to protected selenocystine(**3**) starting from pMob diselenide and o-tosyl serine (**2**). a) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, DMF, b) compound **2** in DMF, c) I<sub>2</sub> in MeOH & H<sub>2</sub>O.

Compound **3**<sup>[3]</sup>.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 1.43 (s, 9H), 3.35-3.39 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 4.58-4.63 (m, 1H), 5.38-5.40 (bd, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 28.77, 32.81, 53.05, 54.14, 80.72, 155.48, 171.73; <sup>77</sup>Se NMR (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 295.8.



All these values are matching with literature values.

**Figure S1.** A) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **21** after incubating with  $H_2O_2$  and its comparison with authentic sample of **23**. B) HPLC chromatogram obtained for the reaction of **21** with 4 equiv. of  $H_2O_2$ . C) HPLC chromatogram obtained for the reaction of **21** with 10 equiv., of  $H_2O_2$ .



**Figure S2.** A) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **17** after incubating with  $H_2O_2$  and HPLC chromatogram obtained for the reaction of **17** with 4 equiv. of  $H_2O_2$  indicating the formation of Dha. B) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **18** after incubating with  $H_2O_2$  and HPLC chromatogram obtained for the reaction of **18** with 4 equiv., of  $H_2O_2$ , indicating the formation of Dha.



**Figure S3.** <sup>77</sup>Se spectrum obtained for the reaction of **18** with  $H_2O_2$ , indicating the generation of selenenic acid **31** and seleninic acid **43**.



**Figure S4.** <sup>77</sup>Se spectrum obtained for the reaction of **19** with  $H_2O_2$ , indicating the generation of selenenic acid **32**, seleninic acid **44** and selenonic acid **50**.



**Figure S5.** (A) Effect of hydrogen peroxide concentration on the initial rate for compound **20**. Phosphate buffer, 2mM GSH, 0.4 mM of NADPH, 1.74 U GR, 0.1 mM of compound and 0.1 mM to 1.5 mM of  $H_2O_2$ . (B) Effect of GSH concentration on the initial rate for compound **20**. Phosphate buffer, 0.2 mM to 2 mM GSH, 0.4 mM of NADPH, 1.74 U GR, 0.1 mM of compound and 1.5 mM of  $H_2O_2$ .



**Figure S6.** <sup>77</sup>Se spectrum obtained for the reaction of **18** with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, indicating the generation of selenenic acid **31** and seleninic acid **43**. The subsequent reaction with GSH to produces the selenenyl sulphide **54**.



**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **7**.



Figure S8. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 7.



**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **22**.



Figure S10. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 22.



**Figure S11.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **8**.



Figure S12. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 8.



Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **17**.





Figure S14. <sup>13</sup>H NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 17.



**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **9**.



Figure S16. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 9.



Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **18**.



Figure S18. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 18.



Figure S19. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **11**.



Figure S20. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 11.



Figure S21. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **19**.



Figure S22. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 19.



Figure S23. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 20.



Figure S24. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 20.



Figure S25. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **21**.



Figure S26. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100.56 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 21.



Figure S27. <sup>77</sup>Se NMR spectrum (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 22.



Figure S28. <sup>77</sup>Se NMR spectrum (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 17.



Figure S29. <sup>77</sup>Se NMR spectrum (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 18.



Figure S30. <sup>77</sup>Se NMR spectrum (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 21.



Figure S31. <sup>77</sup>Se NMR spectrum (76.29 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 20.



Figure S32. ESI-MS data of compound 8.



Figure S33. ESI-MS data of compound 9.



Figure S34. ESI-MS data of compound 11 [BocNH-Cys(DNB)-OMe]



Figure S35. ESI-MS data of compound 17.



Figure S36. ESI-MS data of compound 18.



Figure S37. ESI-MS data of compound 20.

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