

GlyTech, Inc. Signs Agreement on Clinical Development of Glycosylated Somatostatin with YungShin Pharmaceutical Industrial Co.

2020/01/29

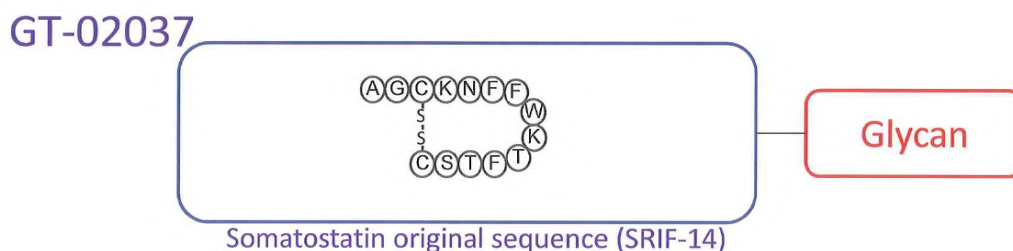
YungShin Pharmaceutical Industrial Co. (YSP; Taichung, Taiwan) and GlyTech, Inc. (Kyoto, Japan) have agreed to cooperate in the clinical development of glycosylated somatostatin (G-SRIF). G-SRIF was originally co-developed by GlyTech and a leading Japanese chemical company, Nippon Shokubai Co., beginning in 2015. YSP will participate in the Japanese phase 1 clinical trial of G-SRIF scheduled in early 2020.

Somatostatin is an endogenous peptide hormone that inhibits growth hormone secretion. There are 5 subtypes of somatostatin receptor in the human body. The first-generation somatostatin derivative (octreotide; trade name: Sandostatin®), which contains artificial amino acids and has a specific affinity to somatostatin receptor subtype 2, became a blockbuster drug with annual revenues reaching over JPY 150 billion.

G-SRIF, made by adding a human-type glycan to natural somatostatin (see Fig. 1), is expected to be the first somatostatin derivative that shows affinity to all 5 somatostatin receptor subtypes while also having an improved stability in the blood.

In order to accelerate the development of G-SRIF, YSP will partner with GlyTech to conduct the phase 1 clinical trial of G-SRIF for the treatment of acromegaly and preclinical studies for other indications. The phase I clinical trial is scheduled to take place in February 2020 in Japan.

Fig. 1: Illustration of G-SRIF



Glycan: Human-type glycan