## Effective Theranostic Cyanine for Imaging of Amyloid Species in vivo and Cognitive Improvements in Mouse Model

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## **Experimental Section**



*Reagents and Conditions:* a, (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, NaH, DMF, 80 °C; b, NBS, DCM, 0 °C to r.t.; c, *n*-BuLi, DMF, THF, -78 °C to r.t.; d, TMSCl, DMF, 100 °C, sealed tube; e, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, r.t.

Scheme S1. Synthesis of SLM.

**Synthetic Procedure of SLM.** Compound **1**, **2** and **3** were prepared by the literature protocols.<sup>1</sup> A solution mixture of **4** (0.6 mmol) and CH<sub>3</sub>I (0.6 mmol) in ethanol (40 mL) was stirred at room temperature. After the reaction completed, the organic solvent was removed. The residue was purified by recrystallization from methanol to afford **SLM** as a red solid in 56% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.28 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.51 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (m, 3H), 8.28 (m, 2H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 4.52 (s, 3H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (m, 2H), 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  153.0, 147.0, 144.9, 142.1, 140.9, 138.8, 134.9, 129.0, 127.3, 126.7, 126.4, 126.1, 122.8, 122.2, 121.7, 120.4, 119.9, 119.3, 116.2, 115.1, 110.5, 110.4, 71.3, 69.8, 68.9, 58.1, 44.2, 42.9. HRMS (MALDI-TOF) *m/z* Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 437.2223 Found 437.2207 [M<sup>+</sup>].

**Table S1**. Physical properties of **SLM** and its dissociation constants ( $K_d$ ) with monomeric and fibrillar A $\beta_{(1-40)}$  and A $\beta_{(1-42)}$ .

Dye	$\lambda abs_{max} / \lambda abs_{max}$ (nm)	K <sub>d</sub> fibril(Aβ40) μM	K <sub>d</sub> mon(Aβ40) μM	K <sub>d</sub> fibril(Aβ42) μM	K <sub>d</sub> mon(Aβ42) μM	Log P
SLM	455/676	13.1	96.6	11.4	40.2	2.59
$ \begin{array}{c} 8 \times 10^{5} \\ 7 \times 10^{2} \\ 6 \times 10^{5} \\ 5 \times 10^{2} \\ 4 \times 10^{5} \\ 3 \times 10^{5} \\ 1 \times 10^{5} \\ 1 \times 10^{5} \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0$	SLM with Aβ40monom	er 0uM 5uM 10uM 20uM 40uM 60uM 80uM 100uM 120uM 140uM 160uM 180uM 200uM	$\begin{array}{c} 8.0 \times 10^{8} \\ 6.0 \times 10^{8} \\ \hline \\ 2.0 \times 10^{8} \\ \hline \\ 0.0 \\ \hline \\ 10^{8} \\ \hline 10^{8} \\ \hline \\ 10^{8} \\ \hline \\ 10^{8} \\ \hline 10^{8} \\ \hline \\ 10^{8} \\ \hline 10^{8}$	SLM with Aβ40fibril	0uM 5uM 20uM 40uM 60uM 80uM 100uM 120uM 140uM 180uM 200uM	
5x10 <sup>8</sup> 4x10 <sup>8</sup> 3x10 <sup>5</sup> 2x10 <sup>5</sup> 1x10 <sup>5</sup> 0 4x50	SLM with Aβ42monom	Pr 0uM 5uM 10uM 20uM 40uM 60uM 80uM 100uM 120uM 700 750 800 850	2.5x10 <sup>6</sup> 2.0x10 <sup>6</sup> 1.5x10 <sup>6</sup> 1.5x10 <sup>6</sup> 1.0x10 <sup>6</sup> 5.0x10 <sup>4</sup> 450 5	SLM with Aβ42 fib	ril 0uM 5uM 10uM 20uM 40uM 60uM 100uM 120uM 120uM 180uM 180uM 200uM	
	Wavelength	1 / nm		Wavelengt	h / nm	

**Figure S1** Fluorescence titrations of **SLM** with  $A\beta_{(1-40)}$  monomer and fibrils as well as  $A\beta_{(1-42)}$  monomer and fibrils.



**Figure S2** The oligomerization of  $A\beta_{(1-42)}$  was inhibited by **SLM**, as revealed by SDS-PAGE. The outside lane represents the molecular weight markers; Lane 1, HFIP treated 100  $\mu$ M monomeric  $A\beta_{(1-42)}$ ; Lane 2, 100  $\mu$ M oligomeric  $A\beta_{(1-42)}$  by incubating monomer at 4°C for 24 h; (c) Lane 3-4, in the addition of **SLM**; at 1:1 and 5:1 molar ratio of cyanine-to-peptide, respectively. The intensity of the band of the dimeric was weaker when higher concentration of **SLM** was applied, suggesting the inhibitory effect on  $A\beta_{(1-42)}$  oligomerization.



Figure S3. LC50 of SLM as assessed by the MTT assay.



**Figure S4.** The relative fluorescence signal [F(t)/F(pre)] in the brain regions of Tg (9-month old) and WT mice after IV injection of **SLM**. The [F(t)/F(pre)] of Tg mouse was significantly higher than that of WT mouse (p < 0.05).



Figure S5. The body weights of the control and SLM treated mice after IP injection were monitored once a week.



**Figure S6.** In the Morris Water Maze assessment, the swimming speed of the mice between the three groups was compared and it suggested that there was no significantly difference in the swimming ability.



**Figure S7.** Upon **SLM** treatment, the level of inactive phosphorylated glycogen synthase kinase-3 $\beta$  (p-GSK3 $\beta$ ) (c-d) was significantly higher in the **SLM**-treated Tg mice. Nonetheless, the level of APP (a, b) and Bace 1 (a-b), PP2A (c, e) were similar as compared to the un-treated Tg mice indicating the production of A $\beta$  was not disrupted by the **SLM** treatment.



**Figure S8.** Upon **SLM** treatment, there was a significantly reduced level of mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR)(a-b), a key gatekeeper of autophagy, which was down-regulated by the substantial decrease in an upstream effector, Akt(a-b); and an increase in the mammalian orthologue of yeast Atg6 (Beclin 1) level(a-b), a proautophagic protein. In addition, there was a markedly reduced level of microtubule-associated protein light chain 3-II (LC3-II) (a-b) and the LC3-associated protein p62 (sequestosome 1) (a-b), a marker of autophagic flux. The level of the lysosomal protease Cathepsin D (CatD) (a-b) that mediates the degradation in autophagolysosomes was found to be significantly increased.



Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) spectra of **SLM**.

**S**8

Reference:

1. Yang, W. G.; Wong, Y.; Ng, O. T. W.; Bai, L. P.; Kwong, D. W. J.; Ke, Y.; Jiang, Z. H.; Li, H. W.; Yung, K. K. L.; Wong, M. S. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 1804.