

# Discovery of Selective Butyrylcholinesterase (BChE) Inhibitors through a Combination of Computational Studies and Biological Evaluations

You Zhou <sup>1,\*</sup>, Xin Lu <sup>2</sup>, Hongyu Yang <sup>2</sup>, Yao Chen <sup>3</sup>, Feng Wang <sup>1</sup>, Jifu Li <sup>1</sup>, Zhiran Tang <sup>4</sup>, Xifei Cheng <sup>1</sup>, Yingbin Yang <sup>4</sup>, Li Xu <sup>1</sup> and Qingyou Xia <sup>1,\*</sup>

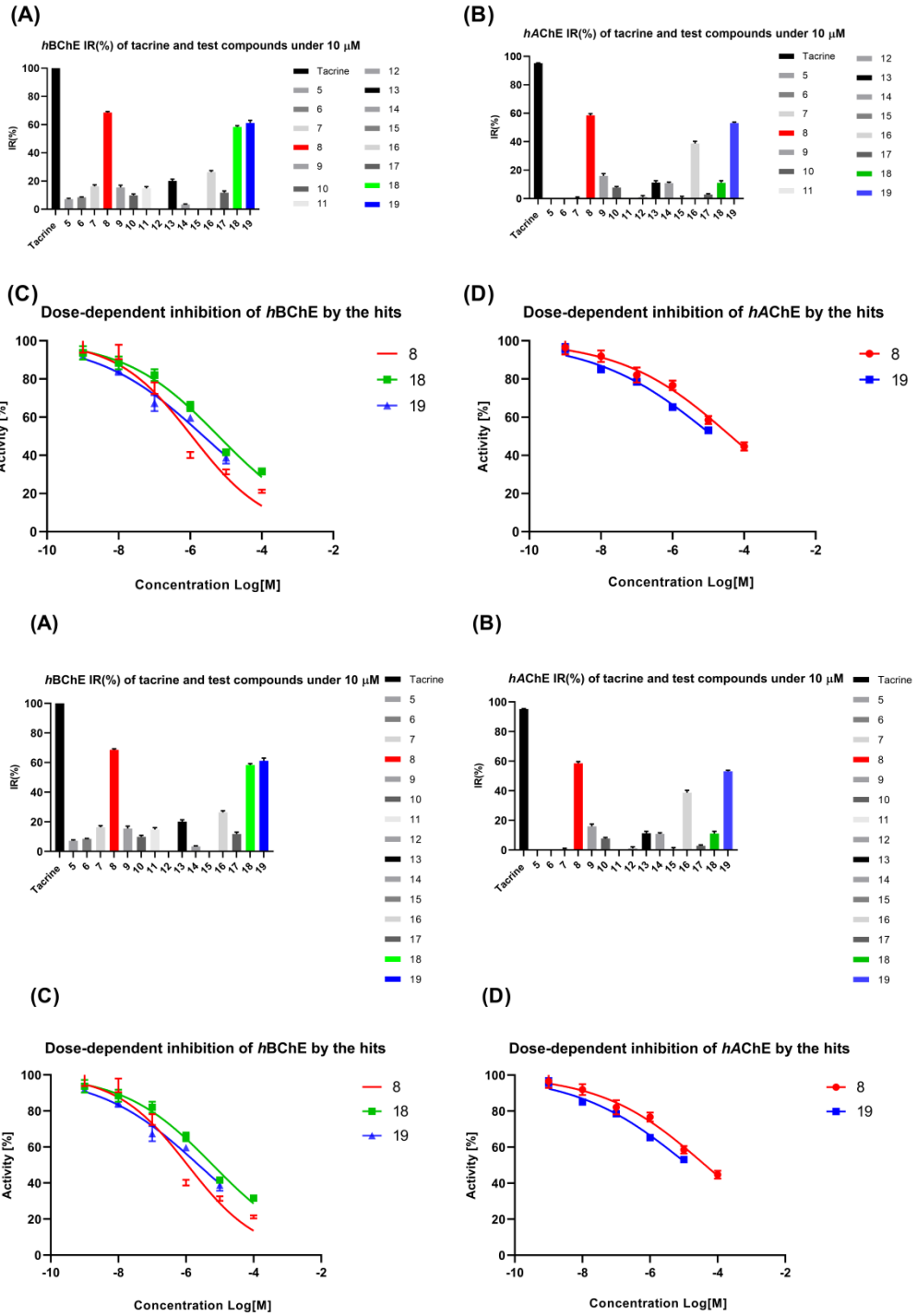
<sup>1</sup> State Key Laboratory of Silkworm Genome Biology, College of Biotechnology, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China; zhouy701005@swu.edu.cn (Y.Z.); wangf1986@swu.edu.cn (F.W.); lijifu0103@163.com (J.L.); chengxifei123456@126.com (X.C.); mulberry@swu.edu.cn (L.X.); xiaqy@swu.edu.cn (Q. X.)

<sup>2</sup> School of Pharmacy, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing 210009, China; 1621010068@stu.cpu.edu.cn (X.L.); 1721010040@stu.cpu.edu.cn (H.Y.); sunhaopeng@163.com (H.S.)

<sup>3</sup> School of Pharmacy, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Nanjing 210023, China; clarissa0710@163.com

<sup>4</sup> School of Life Science, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China; tangzhiran2007@foxmail.com (Z.T.); yybin@swu.edu.cn (Y.Y.)

\* Correspondence: zhouy701005@swu.edu.cn (Y.Z.); xiaqy@swu.edu.cn (Q. X.)

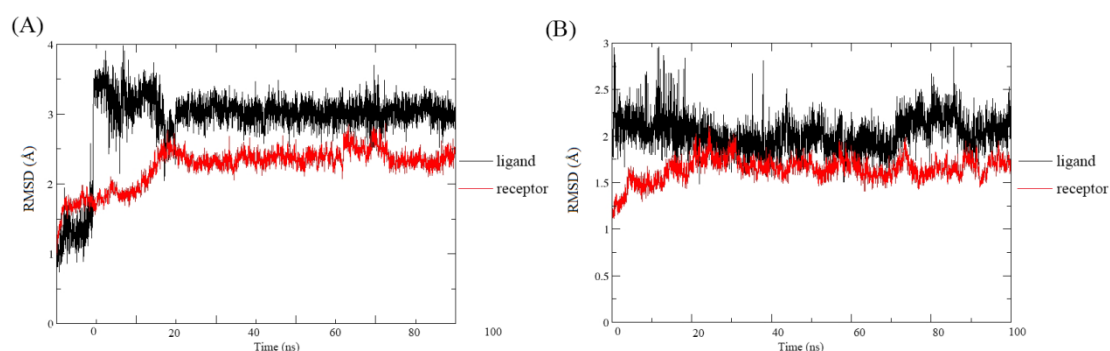


**Figure S1.** The primary human ChEs IR(%) screening of test compounds under 10 μM (A and B); The dose-dependent inhibition of hits against human BChE (C) and human AChE (D), respectively.

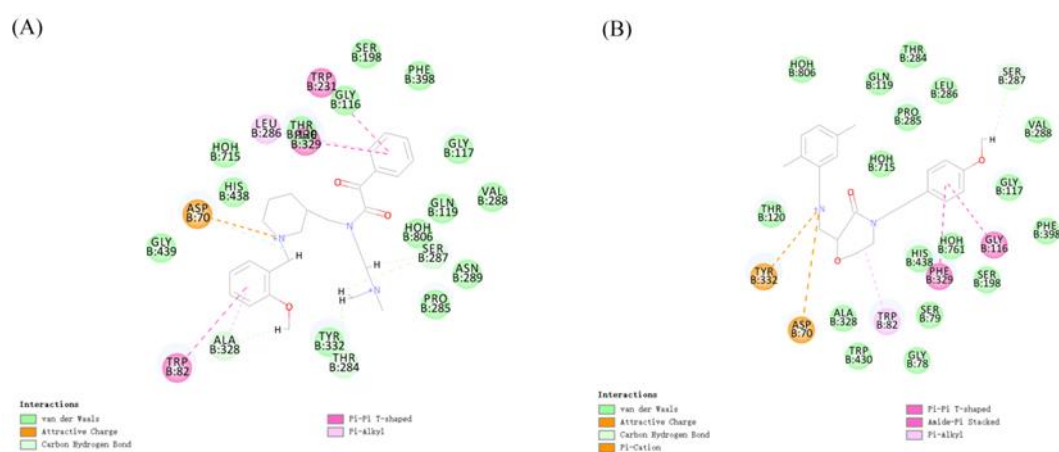
**Table S1.** The apparent  $V_{\max}$  and  $K_m$  values for compounds **8** and **18** in kinetic studies.

Concentration ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	$V_{\max}$ ( $\mu\text{M min}^{-1}$ )	$K_m$ ( $\mu\text{M}$ )
<b>8 against BChE</b>		
0	$0.35 \pm 0.01$	$160.8 \pm 7.9$
0.5	$0.34 \pm 0.01$	$254.3 \pm 10.9$
1	$0.27 \pm 0.01$	$262.6 \pm 19.3$
1.5	$0.25 \pm 0.01$	$304.4 \pm 23.1$
2	$0.24 \pm 0.01$	$359.8 \pm 30.0$
<b>18 against BChE</b>		
0	$0.57 \pm 0.01$	$224.1 \pm 12.6$
0.5	$0.49 \pm 0.01$	$257.9 \pm 14.0$
1	$0.42 \pm 0.02$	$291.3 \pm 33.2$
1.5	$0.39 \pm 0.01$	$481.5 \pm 27.9$
2	$0.28 \pm 0.02$	$381.3 \pm 76.1$

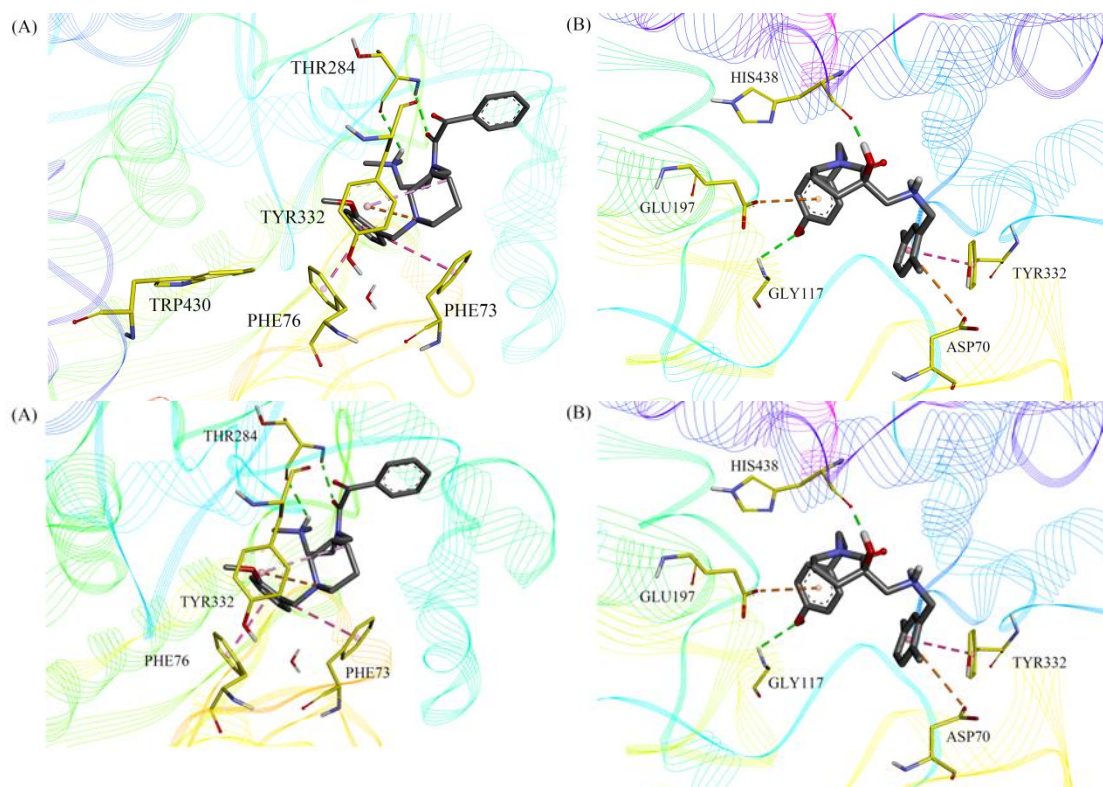
Data are shown as the mean  $\pm$  SD of three experiments.



**Figure S2.** Time dependencies of RMSDs for the heavy atoms ( $C\alpha$ , C and N) of proteins and ligands. (A) **8-hBChE**; (B) **18-hBChE**.



**Figure S3.** Schematic representation of interaction between ligands (compounds **8** and **18**) and BChE before the MD simulation. HOH806, HOH765, HOH749, HOH761, and HOH715 were conserved as structural water molecules. (A) **8**; (B) **18**.



**Figure S4.** The binding modes of ligands (compounds **8** and **18**) with BChE (PDB ID: 5DYW). Protein models were taken from the last frame of the MD simulation. (A) **8**; (B) **18**. Compounds are shown in grey stick mode; key residues are shown in yellow line modes;  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking is depicted in pink dot line; H-bond is in green dot;  $\pi$ -anion is in orange dot line.