



Product Information

Charybdotoxin

Product Number **C 7802**

Storage Temperature -0 °C

Product Description

Molecular Formula: C₁₇₆H₂₇₇N₅₇O₅₅S₇

Molecular Weight: 4,295

CAS Number: 95751-30-7

Synonym: CbTX

The single chain peptide charybdotoxin is an inhibitor of K⁺ channels. It has been isolated from the venom of the scorpion *Leiurus quinquestriatus var. hebraeus*. In particular, CbTX is a potent, reversible, and selective inhibitor of Ca²⁺-activated K⁺ channels in GH3 anterior pituitary cells and primary bovine aortic smooth muscle cells, at an apparent K_D of 2.1 nM.² Reviews of the use of CbTX and other peptides to probe K⁺ channel activity have been published.^{3,4}

In cultured wild-type mouse proximal convoluted tubule (PCT) epithelial cells, CbTX has been utilized at 10 nM to inhibit K⁺ currents, using a whole-cell clamp method.⁵ CbTX and other K⁺ channel antagonists have been used to probe proliferation, differentiation, and apoptosis in cultured porcine granulosa cells.⁶

Several solid-phase synthesis procedures for CbTX have been reported.^{7,8} A solution phase synthesis procedure for CbTX has been described.⁹ The amino acid sequence for charybdotoxin is:

pGlu-Phe-Thr-Asn-Val-Ser-Cys-Thr-Thr-Ser-Lys¹¹-Glu-Cys-Trp-Ser-Val-Cys-Gln-Arg-Leu-His²¹-Asn-Thr-Ser-Arg-Gly-Lys-Cys-Met-Asn-Lys³¹-Lys-Cys-Arg-Cys-Try-Ser-OH

There are disulfide bonds present between Cys⁷-Cys²⁸, Cys¹³-Cys³³, and Cys¹⁷-Cys³⁵. The counterion used during synthesis is trifluoroacetate.

Precautions and Disclaimer

For Laboratory Use Only. Not for drug, household or other uses.

Preparation Instructions

This product is soluble in water (1 mg/ml), yielding a clear, colorless solution. It is also soluble in most aqueous buffers.

Storage/Stability

Solutions of this product should be prepared in a solvent which has been deaerated and purged with an inert gas. Solutions of this product should be stored in single use aliquots at -20 °C. Repeated freeze/thaw cycles should be avoided.

References

1. The Merck Index, 12th ed., Entry# 2087.
2. Gimenez-Gallego, G., et al., Purification, sequence, and model structure of charybdotoxin, a potent selective inhibitor of calcium-activated potassium channels. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **85(10)**, 3329-3333 (1988).
3. Garcia, M. L., et al., Charybdotoxin and its effects on potassium channels. *Am. J. Physiol.*, **269(1 Pt 1)**, C1-10 (1995).
4. Moczydlowski, E., et al., An emerging pharmacology of peptide toxins targeted against potassium channels. *J. Membr. Biol.*, **105(2)**, 95-111 (1988).
5. Barriere, H., et al., Swelling-activated chloride and potassium conductance in primary cultures of mouse proximal tubules. Implication of KCNE1 protein. *J. Membr. Biol.*, **193(3)**, 153-170 (2003).
6. Manikkam, M., et al., Potassium channel antagonists influence porcine granulosa cell proliferation, differentiation, and apoptosis. *Biol. Reprod.*, **67(1)**, 88-98 (2002).
7. Sugg, E. E., et al., Synthesis and structural characterization of charybdotoxin, a potent peptidyl inhibitor of the high conductance Ca²⁺-activated K⁺ channel. *J. Biol. Chem.*, **265(31)**, 18745-18748 (1990).

8. Vita, C., et al., Synthesis of charybdotoxin and of two N-terminal truncated analogues. Structural and functional characterisation. *Eur. J. Biochem.*, **217(1)**, 157-169 (1993).
9. Lambert, P., et al., Solution synthesis of charybdotoxin (ChTX), a K⁺ channel blocker. *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, **170(2)**, 684-690 (1990).

GCY/NSB 12/03

Sigma brand products are sold through Sigma-Aldrich, Inc.

Sigma-Aldrich, Inc. warrants that its products conform to the information contained in this and other Sigma-Aldrich publications. Purchaser must determine the suitability of the product(s) for their particular use. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Please see reverse side of the invoice or packing slip.