

NEWS RELEASE

The first result of assessment of small molecule protein-protein interaction (PPI) inhibitors identified by the collaborative research between RaQualia and Interprotein

September 2, 2013 – RaQualia Pharma Inc. (RaQualia) and Interprotein Corporation (Interprotein) today announced the first result of assessment of small molecule protein-protein interaction (PPI)* inhibitors that were identified by the collaborative research between RaQualia and Interprotein.

The present research was conducted under the collaborative research agreement that has been announced on February 1st, 2013. Interprotein designed hit candidates using the platform technology, INTENDD, and RaQualia assessed the compounds in a cell-based assay system originally established at its own laboratory. As a result, 49 of 273 (approximately 18%) compounds tested were identified as hit compounds that met the criteria.

Based on the present result, Interprotein will receive the first contingency payment from RaQualia, and both companies will collaborate to identify drug candidates for the disease domain of pain in succession under the agreement.

***About PPI:**

Protein-protein interaction (PPI) is the general term of biological responses that are produced by binding of two or more protein molecules. For instance, it indicates a binding of cytokine to its receptor followed by intracellular signal transduction from the receptor. Thus, PPI plays an important role in the pathophysiology of many diseases.

About RaQualia:

RaQualia Pharma Inc. is an innovative life science company engaging in the discovery, development and marketing of clinical and pre-clinical candidates for unmet medical needs worldwide. For additional information, please visit www.raqualia.com

About Interprotein:

Interprotein is focusing on research and development of small molecule medicines based on unique *in silico* molecular design strategy, INTENDD (INTerprotein's Engine for New Drug Design). INTENDD consists of identification of small molecule binding site with real 3D molecular models and *in silico* screening with SBSG (Structure-Based Scaffold Generation) method, and exercise its power over drug discovery research of not only PPI inhibitors but also non-PPI inhibitors.

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