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BROAD-SPECTRUM ANTIVIRAL DRUG FOR ENTEROVIRUS, AND APPLICATION

Abstract

One of the core sequences of a polypeptide inhibitor provided by the present invention is as shown in SEQ ID NO.1, and the sequence of a polypeptide comprising a cell-penetrating peptide is as shown in SEQ ID NO.2. The polypeptide provided by the present invention uses enterovirus 2C protein multimerization as a target. Compared with other inhibitors targeting an enterovirus 2C protein, the present invention has high inhibition efficiency, good safety, and provides a new policy for enterovirus prevention and control.

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Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] This application is a national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application No. PCT/CN2021/081723, filed Mar. 19, 2021, which claims the priority of Chinese Patent Application No. 202010735992.8, filed Jul. 28, 2020, each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

REFERENCE TO A SEQUENCE LISTING

[0002] Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.821 (c), a sequence listing is submitted herewith as an ASCII compliant text file named "UNITP0094US_Corrected_Sequence_Listing", created on Sep. 1, 2023, and having a size of ~10 kilobytes. The content of the aforementioned file is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

FIELD

[0003] The present invention relates to the technical field of biomedicine, and in particular to a broad-spectrum antiviral drug for enterovirus and an application thereof.

BACKGROUND

[0004] Enterovirus, as a positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus, belongs to the Enterovirus genus of the Picornaviridae family, and mainly includes human enterovirus (EV), coxsackie A virus (CVA), coxsackie B virus (CVB), echovirus, rhinovirus, poliovirus, etc. Enterovirus infections are widely distributed all over the world, and exhibit complex and diverse clinical manifestations, ranging from mild low-grade fever, fatigue and respiratory diseases, to herpetic angina, hand-footmouth disease, severe aseptic meningitis, myocarditis, encephalitis, poliomyelitis and the like. At present, there are no specific drugs for effectively treating or preventing against enterovirus infections.

[0005] Herpetic angina is mainly caused by coxsackie A virus type 2 (CVA2), CVA4, CVA6, CVA9, CVA16, CVA22, coxsackie B virus type 1 (CVB1), CVB2, CVB3, CVB4 or CVB5. Herpetic angina often presents with acute fever of mostly low or moderate degree and occasionally as high as 40° C. or above, and even causes convulsion. The course of the fever is about 2-4 days. Older children may complain of sore throat which can affect swallowing. Infants and young children present with salivation, refusal to eat, and restlessness, sometimes accompanied by headache, stomachache or myalgia. About 25% of children under 5 years old may be accompanied by vomiting. Typical symptoms appear in the pharynx, and manifest as hyperemia in the pharynx, and several (as few as 1-2, or as many as 10) small (1-2 mm in diameter) grey-white herpes surrounded by redness in the oral mucosa within 2 days of onset. After 2-3 days, the redness intensifies and expands, and the herpes break out to form yellow ulcers. Such mucosal herpes commonly appear in the tonsil anterior pillar, and can also appear in the soft palate, uvula and tonsils, but do not involve the gums and buccal mucosa. The course of the disease is generally 4-6 days, and occasionally extends to 2 weeks.

[0006] Hand-foot-mouth disease is mainly caused by enterovirus 71 (EV71), CVA6, CVA8, CVA10, CVA16, CVB3 and CVB5, and has common clinical manifestations of acute fever, mouth pain, anorexia, and scattered herpes or ulcers in the oral mucosa, which mostly appear in the

tongue, buccal mucosa, and hard palate, and can also appear in the soft palate, gums, tonsils, and pharynx. Maculopapular rashes appear on hands, feet, buttocks, arms, and legs, and then turn into herpes, which may be surrounded by inflammatory redness and have little liquid inside. There are more rashes on hands and feet, both on the dorsum and the vola from a few to dozens. After the rashes subside, no trace and no pigmentation are left. Some children with hand-foot-mouth disease present with herpetic angina as the first symptom, and then red rashes on palms, soles, and buttocks. When the disease develops rapidly, a small number of children can develop from hand-foot-and-mouth disease to severe aseptic meningitis and encephalitis, manifested as fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, and then meningeal irritation, as well as great fluctuation in body temperature, with low-grade fever in the most case and sometimes with fever up to 40° C. or above, often bimodal fever in the course of the disease. Other symptoms include such as sore throat, muscle aches, skin rash, photophobia, diarrhea, swollen lymph nodes, and sometimes mild paralysis.

[0007] Myocarditis is mainly caused by CVB1-61 and Echovirus. The clinical manifestations of patients with viral myocarditis depend on the extent and location of the lesion. Mild cases can be asymptomatic, while severe cases can present with heart failure, cardiogenic shock and sudden death. Patients often have a history of infection in upper respiratory tract or intestines 1-3 weeks before the onset, manifested as symptoms such as fever, body aches, sore throat, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, followed by palpitations, chest tightness, chest pain or precordial dull pain, dizziness, dyspnea, edema, and even Adams-Stokes syndrome. An extremely small number of patients develop heart failure or cardiogenic shock.

[0008] Enterovirus is a positive-sense single-stranded RNA virus with a genome of about 7.5 kb containing a large ORF that encodes a polyprotein. The polyprotein is further hydrolyzed into 4 structural proteins (VP1-VP4) and 7 non-structural proteins (2A-2C and 3A-3D). Protein 2C is a very conservative non-structural protein in enterovirus (including EV71, CVA, CVB, echovirus, etc.), and exists in the form of homopolymer. Enterovirus protein 2C has an activity of RNA helicase, and is a classical superfamily 3 (SF3) helicase. A large number of studies on EV71 and PV have proved that the helicase activity of 2C is necessary for the replication and proliferation of the virus, and the multimerization of protein 2C is crucial for its helicase function. Therefore, the present invention designs a polypeptide drug targeting the multimerization domain of 2C to inhibit its multimerization, so as to inhibit the helicase function, finally achieving the purpose of inhibiting virus replication.

[0009] The polypeptide provided by the present invention has high-efficiency and broad-spectrum antiviral activity, which provides a new strategy for the prevention and control of enteroviruses such as EV71, CVA16, CVA4, CVA6, CVA10, CVB3, CVB5 and Echo 11, and also provides a new theoretical basis for accelerating the development of polypeptide and small molecule drugs against human enteroviruses.

SUMMARY

[0010] In view of this, an object of the present invention is to provide use of a preparation inhibiting multimerization of enterovirus protein 2C as a target in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing and/or treating a viral disease;

[0011] Another object of the present invention is to provide a broad-spectrum anti-enterovirus polypeptide inhibitor. The inhibitor has a core sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.21. Specifically, the inhibitor has a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 or SEQ ID NO.24, and the sequence containing a cell-penetrating peptide are respectively shown in SEQ ID NO.2 and SEQ ID NO.20.

[0012] Another object of the present invention is to provide use of the above polypeptide inhibitor in the manufacture of an enterovirus inhibitor.

[0013] In order to realize the above objects of the present invention, the present invention provides the following technical solution:

[0014] A broad-spectrum anti-enterovirus polypeptide inhibitor is provided, which has a sequence

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of:
TABLE-US-00001 I. (X1)E(X2)(X3)(X4)R(X5)(X6)(X7)(X8)(X9)(X10)(X11) EALFQ
[0015] wherein: [0016] X1 is selected from the group consisting of arginine (R), asparagine (N)
and lysine (K); [0017] X2 is selected from the group consisting of tyrosine (Y) and arginine (R);
[0018] X3 is selected from the group consisting of serine(S), asparagine (N) and arginine (R);
[0019] X4 is selected from the group consisting of asparagine (N), arginine (R), threonine (T) and
histidine (H); [0020] X5 is selected from the group consisting of serine(S), asparagine (N) and
histidine (H); [0021] X6 is selected from the group consisting of alanine (A), asparagine (N) and
serine(S); [0022] X7 is selected from the group consisting of isoleucine (I), threonine (T) and
valine (V); [0023] X8 is selected from the group consisting of glycine (G) and glutamine (Q);
[0024] X9 is selected from the group cFIGURESonsisting of asparagine (N), aspartic acid (D) and
alanine (A); [0025] X10 is selected from the group consisting of threonine (T), cysteine (C) and
lysine (K); [0026] X11 is selected from the group consisting of isoleucine (I) and leucine (L);
[0027] and the sequence is shown in SEQ ID NO.21; [0028] II. a sequence with deletion, addition
or substitution of at least one amino acid compared to the sequence in I; [0029] III. a sequence that
has at least 50% homology with the amino acid sequence in I or II and inhibits enterovirus activity;
and [0030] IV. a complementary sequence to the sequence in I or II or III.
[0031] The "amino acid" in the present invention includes natural amino acids or unnatural amino
acids. Amino acids commonly known to those skilled in the art are all within the protection scope
of the present invention.
[0032] The above sequence is preferably: REYN (X4) R (X5) (X6) (X7) (X8) (X9) (X10) (X11)
EALFQ, as shown in SEQ ID NO.22; further preferably: REYN (X4) R (X5) (X6) (X7) G (X9) T
(X11) EALFQ, as shown in SEQ ID NO.23;
[0033] In a specific embodiment of the present invention, the sequence is as shown in SEQ ID
NO.1 or SEQ ID NO.24, both of which can be added with a cell-penetrating peptide. A sequence
with addition of a cell-penetrating peptide to the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 is shown in
SEQ ID NO.2. A sequence with addition of a cell-penetrating peptide to the sequence shown in
SEQ ID NO.24 is shown in SEQ ID NO.20;
[0034] The protection content of the present invention also includes a polypeptide sequence for
inhibiting enterovirus containing the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 or SEQ ID NO.24, and an
inhibitor with inhibitory activity on enterovirus obtained by replacing different cell-penetrating
sequences, performing polypeptide modification, or designing and modifying unnatural amino
acids on the basis of polypeptide RQ (SEQ ID NO.2) or B-RQ (SEQ ID NO.20).
[0035] In the present invention, the polypeptide with the sequence shown in any one of SEQ ID
NOs.21-23 is a core polypeptide of the present invention, and a polypeptide with addition/deletion
of amino acids at the N-terminal, or a polypeptide with modification at the C-terminal, or a D
configuration of the polypeptide can be used in the manufacture of an enterovirus inhibitor, or in
the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing enterovirus infections.
[0036] Preferably, the modifications to the above core polypeptide include: [0037] addition of 1-5
amino acids to the N-terminal, deletion of 1-13 amino acids from the N-terminal or modification to
the C-terminal, or a D configuration of the polypeptide, all of which have the same inhibitory
activity as the core polypeptide. Specifically, for addition of amino acids, amino acids such as S, E,
L and I can be added to the N-terminal, for example, the addition of LI dipeptide and SELI
tetrapeptide; for amino acids deletion, 1-13 (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13) amino acids
can be sequentially deleted from the N-terminal; for modification to the C-terminal, amino acids A
(BA) and K, PEG4 (tetrapolyethylene glycol), C16 (palmitic acid), Chol (cholesterol) and the like
can be modified to the C-terminal. In specific modifications of the present invention, AK dipeptide
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is usually added at the C-terminal with or without PEG4, C16, Chol and the like (A\K can be added

specific embodiment of the present invention, the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 is taken as an

between PEG4, C16 and Chol), for example, AK-C16, AK-PEG4-K-C16 and AK-Chol. In a

example to perform the above modifications and changes, which can also be performed on the basis of the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.24.

[0038] The inhibitor of the present invention is obtained by adding a cell-penetrating peptide to the polypeptide with inhibitory activity. The cell-penetrating peptide is added according to conventional methods by, for example, linking a cell-penetrating peptide with the polypeptide with inhibitory activity of the present invention via a linking peptide as, for example, a cell-penetrating peptide+a linking peptide+active polypeptide provided by the present invention. The polypeptide with modification to the C-terminal does not need to be added with a cell-penetrating peptide. [0039] The above sequences obtained by conventional methods in the art are all within the protection scope of the present invention. The conventional methods include but are not limited to artificial synthesis, prokaryotic or eukaryotic expression of recombinant proteins comprising the above proteins.

[0040] Use of a broad-spectrum anti-enterovirus polypeptide inhibitor, includes use of a polypeptide containing the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1, or a polypeptide with addition/deletion of amino acids at the N-terminal or a polypeptide with modification at the C-terminal, or a D configuration of the polypeptide as mentioned above in the manufacture of an enterovirus inhibitor or in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing enterovirus infection.

[0041] In the above use, preferably, the enterovirus includes but is not limited to: the Enterovirus genus of the Picornaviridae family, including human enterovirus (EV), coxsackie A virus (CVA), coxsackie B virus (CVB), echovirus, rhinovirus, poliovirus, etc.

[0042] In the above use, a disease caused by the enterovirus infection comprises hand-foot-mouth disease, myocarditis, herpetic angina, aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, viral cold, etc.

[0043] Compared with the prior art, the present invention has the following advantages:

[0044] The polypeptides and derivatives thereof involved in the present invention can inhibit multimerization of enterovirus 2C, thereby inhibiting its helicase function, and they are a novel type of medicament for treating enterovirus against a new target, showing great significance for antiviral drug resistance.

[0045] The polypeptide RQ screened out by the present invention has high-efficiency antiviral activity, which provides a new strategy for the prevention and control of enterovirus, and also provides a new theoretical basis for accelerating the development of polypeptide and small molecule drugs against human enteroviruses. Moreover, the clear antiviral mechanism of the RQ series polypeptides can ensure the safety of their uses and the clarity of approach optimization, which is convenient for further development in the future.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0046] FIG. **1**A-C shows the results of the determined cytotoxicity of polypeptides SQ, LQ and RQ;

[0047] FIG. **2**A-E shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide RQ in inhibiting EV71 in RD, Vero, huh7, and 293T cells;

[0048] FIG. **3**A-B shows the results of the determined efficiencies of polypeptides LQ and SQ in inhibiting EV71 in Vero cells

[0049] FIG. **4** shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide RQ in inhibiting CVA16 in RD cells;

[0050] FIG. **5** shows the results of the inhibition of 2C helicase activity of EV71 by polypeptide RO:

[0051] FIG. **6**A-B shows the results of the inhibition of 2C helicase activity of EV71 and CVA16

- by polypeptide RQ;
- [0052] FIG. **7** shows the results of the inhibition of the multimerization of EV71 2C protein by polypeptide RQ;
- [0053] FIG. **8** shows the results of the detected cell-penetrating efficiency of polypeptide RQ;
- [0054] FIG. **9**A-C shows the results of the determined toxicity of polypeptide RQ in various cells;
- [0055] FIG. **10** shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide RQ in inhibiting CVB3 in RD cells;
- [0056] FIG. **11** shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide RQ in inhibiting Echo 11 in RD cells;
- [0057] FIG. **12**A-B shows the results of the detected antiviral activity of polypeptide RQ against EV71 in mice;
- [0058] FIG. **13** shows the results of the detected antiviral activity of the variants of polypeptide RQ;
- [0059] FIG. **14** shows the results of the detected antiviral activity of the modifiers of polypeptide RQ;
- [0060] FIG. **15** shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide RQ-DRI in inhibiting EV71 in RD cells;
- [0061] FIG. **16** shows the results of the detected toxicity of polypeptide B-RQ in RD cells;
- [0062] FIG. **17**A-B shows the results of the determined efficiency of polypeptide B-RQ in inhibiting CVB3 and Echo 11 in RD cells.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0063] The present invention discloses a broad-spectrum antiviral drug for enterovirus and an application thereof (a broad-spectrum anti-enterovirus polypeptide inhibitor targeting enterovirus protein 2C and an application thereof). Those skilled in the art can refer to the content of this application and appropriately improve the process parameters for realization. In particular, it should be noted that all similar replacements and modifications are apparent to those skilled in the art, and they are all considered to be included in the present invention. The polypeptide inhibitor, antiviral drug and application of the present invention have been described through preferred embodiments. Those skilled can apparently make modifications or appropriate changes and combinations to the polypeptide inhibitor, antiviral drug and application described herein without departing from the content, spirit and scope of the present invention, to realize and apply the technology of the present invention.

[0064] The present invention takes EV71 virus as an example to verify the inhibitory effect of the polypeptide provided by the present invention. Actually, the present invention designs an inhibitor specifically for enterovirus protein 2C as the target, and the inhibitor of the present invention has effect on any virus with enterovirus protein 2C, such as coxsackie A virus (CVA), coxsackie B virus (CVB), echovirus, rhinovirus and poliovirus. In view of space constraints, no more details. [0065] One of the sequences of the inhibitory proteins designed for enterovirus protein 2C in the present invention is REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ as shown in SEQ ID NO.1, which is a core sequence. In order to make it work in vivo, a cell-penetrating peptide is linked to the core protein, and the polypeptide with a cell-penetrating peptide linked has a sequence of

YGRKKRRQRRRGSGREYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ as shown in SEQ ID NO.2, named as polypeptide RQ.

- [0066] The applicant also designed another two inhibitory polypeptides containing a cell-penetrating peptide for enterovirus protein 2C, which have sequences of:
- [0067] YGRKKRRQRRRGSGLIREYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ, SEQ ID NO.3, named as polypeptide LQ; and
- [0068] YGRKKRRQRRRGSGSELIREYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ, SEQ ID NO.4, named as polypeptide SQ.
- [0069] EV71 2C protein has the ability of multimerization, which is crucial for correct helicase

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function by 2C. Based on the structural composition and sequence features of the 2C
multimerization domain, the applicant designed a series of polypeptide sequences for
REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ (SEQ ID No.1), one of the core sequences necessary for protein 2C
multimerization. After screening, the applicant found that the polypeptide RQ has a strong virus-
inhibiting ability. It has been proved by experiments that RQ can efficiently enter cells, and can
inhibit the correct multimerization of protein 2C and thus the helicase function of protein 2C in
vitro. The applicant also conducted structural modifications on the basis of RQ to construct a series
of variants, and found that these variants also have good anti-virus ability.
[0070] The polypeptides involved in the present invention are shown in Table 1:
TABLE-US-00002 TABLE 1 Peptide Number Sequence Tested Antiviral(s) IC.sub.50/EC.sub.50
CC.sub.50 Core SEQ ID No. 1 REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ / / / sequence SQ SEQ ID
     4 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGSELIREY In EV71 10.3
                                                   134.3 NNRSAIGNTIEALFQ vitro μM
μM LQ SEQ ID No.
                       3 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGLIREYNN In EV71
                                                                 2.26 > 150
RSAIGNTIEALFQ vitro µM µM RQ SEQ ID No. 2 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGREYNNR In
               0.41 >300 SAIGNTIEALFQ vivo CVA4/CVA6/ μM/ μM CVA10/CVB3/ 0.37
     11 EQ SEQ ID No. 5 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGEYNNRS In EV71
AIGNTIEALFQ vitro µM YC SEQ ID No. 6 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGYNNRSAI In EV71
1.96 / GNTIEALFQ vitro µM NQ SEQ ID No. 7 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGNNRSAIG In EV71
  1.90 / NTIEALFQ vitro µM RSQ SEQ ID No. 8 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGRSAIGNT In
       2.60 / IEALFQ vitro µM SAQ SEQ ID No. 9 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGSAIGNTI In
EV71
       2.90 / EALFQ vitro \mu M AQ SEQ \, ID \, No. \, 10 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGAIGNTIE In
EV71
       2.99 / ALFQ vitro µM IQ SEQ ID No. 11 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGIGNTIEA In EV71
EV71
  1.64 / LFQ vitro µM GQ SEQ ID No. 12 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGGNTIEAL In EV71
1.78 / FQ vitro µM NTQ SEQ ID No. 13 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGNTIEALF In EV71
                                                                                2.28 /
Q vitro µM TQ SEQ ID No. 14 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGTIEALFQ In EV71
                                                                        1.76
                                                                              / vitro
                                                                 2.48 / vitro µM RQ-PA
μM IEQ SEQ ID No. 15 YGRKKRRQRRRGSGIEALFQ In EV71
                                                           3.58 / C16 vitro \mu M RQ-PE
SEQ ID No.
                16 REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ-βAK- In EV71
SEQ
                17 REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ-βAK- In EV71
                                                           3.47 / G4-PA PEG4-K-C16
vitro μM RQ- SEQ ID No. 18 REYNNRSAIGNTIEALFQ-βAK- In EV71
                                                                       4.25 / CHOL
Chol vitro µM RQ- SEQ ID No. 19 AC-qflaeitngiasrnnyergsgrrrq In EV71
                                                                        2.05 / DRI
rrkkrgy-NH.sub.2 (D-configuration vitro μM amino
                                                acid) B-RQ SEQ ID No.
YGRKKRRQRRRGSGREYNHR In CVB3/ 0.38
                                               >75 HSVGATLEALFQ vitro Echo
                                                                                11 µM
                        21 (X1)E(X2)(X3)(X4)R(X5)(X6) sequence (X7)(X8)(X9)(X10)
μM Core SEQ ID No.
                            22 REYN(X4)R(X5)(X6)(X7)(X8) (X9)(X10)(X11)EALFQ
(X11)EALFQ SEQ ID No.
SEQ ID No. 23 REYN(X4)R(X5)(X6)(X7)G(X9) T(X11)EALFQ SEQ ID
REYNHRHSVGATLEALFQ
[0071] In the polypeptide sequence of the present invention, YGRKKRRQRRR (TAT) is the cell-
penetrating peptide, GSG is the linking peptide, and the amino acid sequence of each polypeptide
after removal of the cell-penetrating peptide and linking peptide is the sequence or partial sequence
of the core polypeptide. The polypeptides having sequences shown in SEQ ID Nos.3 and 4 are the
polypeptides of a cell-penetrating peptide+a linking peptide+the core polypeptide having the
sequence shown in SEQ ID No.1 with addition of LI and SELI to the N-terminal. The polypeptides
having sequences shown in SEQ ID Nos.5-15 are the polypeptides of a cell-penetrating peptide+a
linking peptide+the core polypeptide having the sequence shown in SEQ ID No.1 with sequential
deletion of 1-12 amino acids from the N-terminal. The polypeptides having sequences shown in
SEQ ID Nos.16-18 are the polypeptides of the core polypeptide having the sequence shown in SEQ
ID No.1 with modification of amino acids A (BA) and K, PEG4 (tetrapolyethylene glycol), C16
(palmitic acid) and Chol (cholesterol) to the C-terminal. The polypeptide having a sequence shown
in SEQ ID No.19 is the D configuration of the core polypeptide of the sequence shown in SEQ ID
No.1. The polypeptide having a sequence shown in SEQ ID No.20 is the polypeptides of a cell-
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penetrating peptide+a linking peptide+the core polypeptide having the sequence shown in SEQ ID No.24;

[0072] Negative controls were set for the polypeptides in each example of the present invention, which prove that the core sequences of the polypeptides provided by the present invention have corresponding antiviral efficacy.

[0073] The raw materials and reagents used in the polypeptide and application thereof provided by the present invention are all commercially available.

[0074] The present invention is further described in conjunction with examples below.

Example 1: Toxicity of Polypeptides RQ, LQ and SQ in Vero Cells

1. Experimental Materials

[0075] Vero E6 cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; CCK-8 reagent (MCE) was purchased from Promoter Company. [0076] Polypeptide SQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.4. Polypeptide LQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.3. Peptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.

2. Experimental Process

[0077] In the anti-virus process, the polypeptide needs to not only inhibit the virus, but also ensure no toxicity to cells. Therefore, this standard was testified by cytotoxicity assay, and the cells without any treatment were used as a control group.

[0078] The steps are as follows:

[0079] (1) Vero cells were plated in a 96-well plate at 100 μL per well.

[0080] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum, and a certain concentration gradient of polypeptide RQ or LQ or SQ was added, so that the final concentrations of the polypeptide in the wells were 0.073242 μ M, 0.146484 μ M, 0.292969 μ M, 0.585938 μ M, 1.171875 μ M, 2.34375 μ M, 4.6875 μ M, 9.375 μ M, 18.75 μ M, 37.5 μ M, 75 μ M and 150 μ M, respectively. [0081] (3) The samples were collected 24 h after the addition of the polypeptide, and then 10 μ L of live cell detection reagent CCK-8 was added to each well and mixed well.

[0082] (4) The plate was placed at 37° C. for 2 h.

 $\left[0083\right]\left(5\right)$ The absorbance value at OD450 was detected by a microplate reader.

[0084] The results are shown in FIG. **1** and Tables 2-4. The CC50 of each polypeptide was calculated taking the cell viability of untreated cells as 100%. RQ had a CC50 of >150 μ M (FIG. **1**A), LQ had a CC50 of >150 μ M (FIG. **1**B), and SQ had a CC50 of 134.3 μ M (FIG. **1**C); TABLE-US-00003 TABLE 2 Concentration of RQ polypeptide (μ M) Cell viability (%) 0.073242 100.6749 110.2362 105.9618 0.146484 93.81327 99.10011 98.98763 0.292969 92.68841 108.2115 106.7492 0.585938 92.23847 91.56355 90.77615 1.171875 116.0855 115.2981 115.5231 2.34375 115.8605 111.0236 119.1226 4.6875 112.7109 109.7863 118.7852 9.375 117.5478 109.3363 99.10011 18.75 111.1361 115.4106 105.7368 37.5 105.6243 116.0855 108.5489 75 110.0112 127.5591 120.5849 150 108.2115 103.5996 100.1125

TABLE-US-00004 TABLE 3 Concentration of LQ polypeptide (μM) Cell viability (%) 0.073242 100 105.88408 97.01806 0.146484 102.8559 104.7744 101.9913 0.292969 111.8018 106.5265 104.7619 0.585938 110.1638 110.5563 108.0087 1.171875 111.3398 115.1555 110.4762 2.34375 104.8299 106.3075 107.1861 4.6875 110.8858 104.8489 112.5108 9.375 114.0277 119.5795 113.5931 18.75 108.6518 115.6373 110.3247 37.5 117.0937 99.1853 97.1429 75 108.2318 87.6084 90.8658 150 72.1798 83.0968 80.9091

TABLE-US-00005 TABLE 4 Concentration of SQ polypeptide (μM) Cell viability (%) 0.073242 104.2439 103.4468 96.06877 0.146484 98.04083 94.606 92.7401 0.292969 101.0204 103.1624 100.4524 0.585938 94.40455 103.9959 100.6225 1.171875 90.14603 94.06821 98.81252 2.34375 96.60283 101.1325 99.03158 4.6875 105.1932 106.7734 95.3706 9.375 99.4719 102.9859

- 103.7701 18.75 105.7187 100.481 90.24951 37.5 100.7644 90.65433 80.59708 75 90.35876 95.75345 70.30992 150 70.01401 80.35016 60.9948
- Example 2: Determination of Efficiency of Polypeptide RQ in Inhibiting EV71 in RD, Vero, Huh7, And 293T Cells
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0085] RD cells, Vero E6 cells, huh7 cells, and 293T cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.
- [0086] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2. The cell-penetrating peptide YGRKKRRQRRR (TAT) was used as a control and synthesized by Nanjing GenScript.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0087] (1) Different cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0088] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of EV71 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0089] (3) After 1 h, different polypeptides (RQ or control TAT) with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0090] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of EV71 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0091] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0092] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0093] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0094] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0095] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0096] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0097] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0098] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0099] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0100] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0101] The results are shown in FIG. **2** and Tables 5-9. The results of the determined anti-EV71 effect of polypeptide RQ in different cells show an IC50 of 1.35 μ M in RD cells (FIG. **2**A), an IC50 of 0.66 μ M in Vero cells (FIG. **2**B), an IC50 of 0.41 μ M in huh7 cells (FIG. **2**C), and an IC50 of 3 μ M in 293T cells (FIG. **2**D). The cell-penetrating peptide control TAT had no anti-EV71 effect in Vero cells (FIG. **2**E);
- TABLE-US-00006 TABLE 5 Concentration of RQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in RD cells (%) 0 98.74564 96.68729 104.5671 82.17592 130.0352 87.78892 84.09811 100.7668 115.1351 0.3125 75.34828 80.42976 84.75739 79.07512 85.1167 65.50396 105.6539 93.32565 61.22043 0.625 73.54402 85.43979 113.5023 86.56448 56.64673 58.60146 62.52759 60.61082 84.55632 1.25 30.05595 42.79864 38.42442 49.01438 63.21512 36.02987 48.88676 46.65231 50.16218 2.5

14.68721 22.11395 20.34741 13.63269 8.986402 25.41335 28.37401 31.44852 32.99647 5 ND 15.74388 16.39792 19.14505 16.02361 15.46365 21.74359 23.04845 14.24234 ND, not detected TABLE-US-00007 TABLE 6 Concentration of RQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 82.32617 153.297 64.37678 ND 117.1999 82.80011 0.3125 87.78578 47.76442 71.67834 86.67063 70.51145 25.67804 0.625 46.90411 82.11225 73.54103 51.71642 65.58883 ND 1.25 6.624615 16.23832 12.20634 9.196032 5.526034 7.367869 2.5 2.980446 0.826799 1.137232 3.105048 2.98824 2.97166 5 2.389376 0.957253 2.002879 1.797167 1.955004 2.113301 ND, not detected

TABLE-US-00008 TABLE 7 Concentration of RQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in Huh7 cells (%) 0 135.2764 80.15702 84.56655 0.3125 52.90425 81.62619 35.41682 0.625 26.90658 51.32333 32.9747 1.25 11.6287 6.87045 12.90771 2.5 7.068214 6.953349 6.49349 5 0.715564 7.820489 14.67491

TABLE-US-00009 TABLE 8 Concentration of RQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in 293T cells (%) 0 140.6661 89.65254 69.68134 86.48279 127.9453 85.57189 0.3125 66.50167 26.53837 41.68405 142.3522 86.73876 67.75856 0.625 90.63467 82.72855 62.9566 112.2779 72.71821 76.02054 1.25 46.14077 61.77934 42.09579 110.8795 85.43184 64.39499 2.5 50.03924 21.79971 51.62416 51.28562 65.19374 51.55135 5 23.20045 ND 24.63166 65.17771 46.72863 36.78709 ND, not detected

TABLE-US-00010 TABLE 9 Concentration of TAT (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 91.39502 100.2266 108.3784 0.3125 115.6133 93.74802 91.92313 0.625 121.4818 94.86778 149.0928 1.25 111.6527 97.24053 100.8214 2.5 125.8799 103.6078 137.9907 5 136.8661 104.0616 88.68295

Example 3: Determination of Efficiency of Polypeptides LQ and SQ in Inhibiting EV71 in Vero Cells

- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0102] Vero E6 cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.
- [0103] Polypeptide LQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.3. Polypeptide SQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd, with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.4
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0104] (1) Vero E6 cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0105] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of EV71 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0106] (3) After 1 h, different polypeptides (LQ or SQ) with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0107] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of EV71 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0108] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μ L of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0109] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0110] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.

- [0111] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0112] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0113] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0114] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0115] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0116] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0117] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0118] The results are shown in FIG. **3** and Tables 10-11, which indicate that LQ polypeptide had an IC50 of 2.26 μ M in Vero cells (FIG. **3**A), and SQ polypeptide had an IC50 of 10.3 μ M in Vero cells (FIG. **3**B).
- [0119] The above results show that the inhibitory proteins designed for protein 2C had significantly different inhibition efficiency against the virus, where the polypeptide RQ had an IC50 of 0.66 μ M in Vero cells, showing significantly higher inhibition efficiency than those of polypeptide LQ and polypeptide SQ;
- TABLE-US-00011 TABLE 10 Concentration of LQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 101.0805 100.8891 108.1782 0.3125 92.0208 91.1729 102.4602 0.625 90.7271 81.3501 71.8857 1.25 60.5336 51.4135 62.3497 2.5 52.6153 41.584 40.6992 5 41.9179 31.799 30.9085 TABLE-US-00012 TABLE 11 Concentration of SQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 94.938 111.0771 101.7717 0.3125 101.0203 100.3849 105.3364 0.625 110.1337 105.2279 100.9028 1.25 90.2836 95.7988 81.9498 2.5 81.2941 82.75 71.6192 5 60.1186 61.1934 74.2715 Example 4: Determination of Efficiency of Polypeptide RQ in Inhibiting CVA16 in RD Cells 1. Experimental Materials
- [0120] RD cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.
- [0121] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0122] (1) RD cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0123] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of CVA16 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0124] (3) After 1 h, different polypeptides with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0125] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of CVA16 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0126] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0127] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0128] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0129] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.

- [0130] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0131] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0132] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0133] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0134] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0135] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0136] The results of the determined anti-CVA16 effect of polypeptide RQ in RD cells are shown in Table 12 and FIG. **4**, which indicate an IC50 of 2.16 μ M.
- TABLE-US-00013 TABLE 12 Concentration of RQ (μM) Percentage of viral RNA in RD cells (%) 0 78.38927 97.34762 124.2631 53.65574 123.7802 122.564 93.49458 77.16421 129.3412 0.3125 100.0216 148.3965 77.29282 125.3469 101.8237 69.03192 64.02673 86.24284 110.1741 0.625 115.4959 79.1848 91.90599 99.67949 99.63403 80.72403 145.8942 96.4369 ND 1.25 83.98713 74.20358 80.83334 111.5916 81.89601 63.92798 62.81053 100.5664 117.5637 2.5 68.28515 40.30227 61.91291 27.90528 46.74052 21.57059 4.815019 2.49757 13.56626 5 38.35756 89.90899 32.58479 25.69166 15.84122 34.43394 18.04668 7.616083 21.36344 ND, not detected Example 5: Inhibition of EV71 2C Helicase Activity by RQ
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0137] Baculovirus for fusion expression of MBP-EV71 2C protein; *Spodoptera frugiperda* cells (Sf9) were obtained from China Center for Type Culture Collection (CCTCC), culture medium (SF-HM) was purchased from Beijin Compamy, maltose binding protein (MBP) filler was purchased from NEB, Amicon Mltra-30KDa (ultrafiltration tube) was purchased from Millipore; binding buffer (pH 7.4): 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), 0.5 M EDTA, 200 mM NaCl, 10 mM B-mercaptoethanol, anhydrous ethanol of 5% by volume, and glycerol of 10% by volume. Elution buffer: 10 mM maltose solution. 50 mM HEPES solution at pH 7.5.
- [0138] HEX fluorescently labeled RNA single strand at a length of 42 nt, and a RNA single strand at a length of 54 nt complementary to the HEX labeled RNA strand.
- [0139] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0140] 2.1 In vitro expression and purification of EV71 2C protein
- [0141] (1) 1 mL of baculovirus expressing MBP-EV71 2C protein was added to each of 6 flasks (T75) of Sf9 cells with a density of 80-90%. The flasks were placed at 27.5° C. for 3 days of infection. When the cells presented with obvious symptoms of virus infection (the cells became larger and rounder, and a large number of them were suspended), Sf9 cells were blown off with the original medium, and then centrifuged at 1000 g for 5 min. The supernatant was discarded, and the cells were resuspended with 15 mL of the binding buffer for purifying MBP fusion protein. [0142] (2) Sf9 cells were broken by ultrasonication (250 W, 15-20 min) to be transparent, then aliquoted into 1.5 mL centrifuge tubes, and centrifuged at 12000 g and 4° C. for 15 min. Then the
- supernatant was transferred into a 15 mL centrifuge tube and placed on ice.

 [0143] (3) A chromatography column was added with 2-3 mL of Amylose Resin, washed with 30
- mL of ddH2O, and then added with 30 mL of the binding buffer to equilibrate the filler. It should be noted that air bubbles were not allowed to exist in the filler during the washing process. [0144] (4) The supernatant containing the target protein was slowly added into the equilibrated
- column, and a constant flow pump was set at a flow rate of 50 or 60, so that the flow rate of the protein sample was 7-8 s/drop. 15 mL of supernatant was loaded 3 times.
- [0145] (5) After binding, the filler was washed with 100 mL of the binding buffer at a flow rate of the constant flow pump of 130 to wash off impurities.
- [0146] (6) After washing, the filler was eluted with 10 mM maltose eluent at a flow rate of the

- constant flow pump of 10. The collected eluate (containing the target protein) was added into a 30 KD ultrafiltration tube and centrifuged at 7200 g and 4° C. for ultrafiltration to concentrate the target protein (about 200-300 μ L, with a concentration of about 1 mg/mL).
- [0147] (7) After the ultrafiltration was completed, the buffer system of the target protein was replaced with 50 mM HEPES at pH 7.5 (by ultrafiltration with HEPES-KOH for 3-4 times).
- [0148] (8) 2 μ L of the purified protein sample was subjected to SDS-PAGE electrophoresis, and the remaining protein was stored at -80° C. for later use.
- [0149] EV71 2C protein labeled with MBP was successfully purified.
- [0150] 2.2 Inhibition of helicase activity of EV71 2C protein by RQ in vitro
- [0151] (1) A strand labeled with HEX at a concentration of 0.2 pmol/ μ L was added with a complementary strand RNA at the same concentration to prepare a HEX-labeled double-stranded dsRNA substrate by annealing.
- [0152] (2) Annealing process: the reaction system was kept at 75° C. for 3 min, cooled to 25° C. at a rate of 1° C. per minute, and then kept at 25° C. for 2 min.
- [0153] (3) The target protein and the double-stranded substrate were prepared according to the standard unwinding experiment reaction system. 5 μ g of polypeptide RQ and control TAT were added respectively, and single and double strands controls were set. The single strand sample was boiled at 75° C. for 3 min and then placed on ice for 2 min.
- [0154] (4) The prepared system was mixed well and then placed at 37° C. for 50 min of reaction.
- [0155] (5) A mixture obtained after the reaction was subjected to electrophoresis.
- [0156] (6) Finally, Typhoon 9500 was used for direct scan to obtain a HEX signal.
- [0157] During electrophoresis, the single strand ran faster than the double strand. Therefore, if the MBP-2C protein had helicase activity, it can unwind the double-stranded dsRNA substrate to release a single-stranded RNA, and then the lane would show two bands, upper and lower. The single-stranded RNA (lane 2) prepared by boiling at 75° C. was used as a positive control. The reaction without protein added (lane 1) was used as a negative control. As shown in lane 3 of FIG. 5, EV71 2C had helicase activity and can unwind the double-stranded dsRNA substrate; whereas the addition of RQ inhibited the helicase activity of 2C (lane 5), and the control TAT did not affect the helicase activity of 2C (lane 4). The above results indicate that RQ can indeed inhibit the helicase function of EV71 2C.

Example 6: Inhibition of 2C helicase activity of EV71 and CVA16 by RQ

- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0158] Purified MBP-EV71 2C protein; baculovirus for fusion expression of MBP-CVA16 2C protein; *Spodoptera frugiperda* cells (Sf9) was obtained from China Center for Type Culture Collection (CCTCC), culture medium (SF-HM) was purchased from Beijin Company, maltose-binding protein (MBP) filler was purchased from NEB, Amicon Mltra-30KDa (ultrafiltration tube) was purchased from Millipore; binding buffer (pH 7.4): 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.4), 0.5 M EDTA, 200 mM NaCl, 10 mM B-mercaptoethanol, anhydrous ethanol of 5% by volume, and glycerol of 10% by volume. Elution buffer: 10 mM maltose solution. 50 mM HEPES solution at pH 7.5. [0159] HEX fluorescently labeled RNA single strand at a length of 54 nt complementary to the HEX labeled RNA strand.
- [0160] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- 2.1 In Vitro Expression and Purification of CVA16 2C Protein
- [0161] (1) 1 mL of baculovirus expressing MBP-CVA16 2C protein was added to each of 6 flasks (T75) of Sf9 cells with a density of 80-90%. The flasks were placed at 27.5° C. for 3 days of infection. When the cells presented with obvious symptoms of virus infection (the cells became larger and rounder, and a large number of them were suspended), Sf9 cells were blown off with the original medium, and then centrifuged at 1000 g for 5 min. The supernatant was discarded, and the

- cells were resuspended with 15 mL of the binding buffer for purifying MBP fusion protein.
- [0162] (2) Sf9 cells were broken by ultrasonication (250 W, 15-20 min) to be transparent, then aliquoted into 1.5 mL centrifuge tubes, and centrifuged at 12000 g and 4° C. for 15 min. Then the supernatant was transferred into a 15 mL centrifuge tube and placed on ice.
- [0163] (3) A chromatography column was added with 2-3 mL of Amylose Resin, washed with 30 mL of ddH2O, and then added with 30 mL of the binding buffer to equilibrate the filler. It should be noted that air bubbles were not allowed to exist in the filler during the washing process.
- [0164] (4) The supernatant containing the target protein was slowly added into the equilibrated column, and a constant flow pump was set at a flow rate of 50 or 60, so that the flow rate of the protein sample was 7-8 s/drop. 15 mL of supernatant was loaded 3 times.
- [0165] (5) After binding, the filler was washed with 100 mL of the binding buffer at a flow rate of the constant flow pump of 130 to wash off impurities.
- [0166] (6) After washing, the filler was eluted with 10 mM maltose eluent at a flow rate of the constant flow pump of 10. The collected eluate (containing the target protein) was added into a 30 KD ultrafiltration tube and centrifuged at 7200 g and 4° C. for ultrafiltration to concentrate the target protein (about 200-300 μ L, with a concentration of about 1 mg/mL).
- [0167] (7) After the ultrafiltration was completed, the buffer system of the target protein was replaced with 50 mM HEPES at pH 7.5 (by ultrafiltration with HEPES-KOH for 3-4 times).
- [0168] (8) 2 μ L of the purified protein sample was subjected to SDS-PAGE electrophoresis, and the remaining protein was stored at -80° C. for later use.
- [0169] EV71 2C protein labeled with MBP was successfully purified.
- 2.2 Inhibition of Helicase Activity of EV71 and CVA16 2C Proteins by RQ In Vitro
- [0170] (1) A strand labeled with HEX at a concentration of 0.2 pmol/ μ L was added with a complementary strand RNA at the same concentration to prepare a HEX-labeled double-stranded dsRNA substrate by annealing.
- [0171] (2) Annealing process: the reaction system was kept at 75° C. for 3 min, cooled to 25° C. at a rate of 1° C. per minute, and then kept at 25° C. for 2 min.
- [0172] (3) The target protein and the double-stranded substrate were prepared according to the standard unwinding experiment reaction system. 5 μ g of polypeptide RQ and control TAT were added respectively, and single and double strands controls were set. The single strand sample was boiled at 75° C. for 3 min and then placed on ice for 2 min.
- [0173] (4) The prepared system was mixed well and then placed at 37° C. for 50 min of reaction.
- [0174] (5) A mixture obtained after the reaction was subjected to electrophoresis.
- [0175] (6) Finally, Typhoon 9500 was used for direct scan to obtain a HEX signal.
- [0176] As shown in FIG. **6**A, RQ inhibited the helicase activity of EV71 2C in a dose-dependent manner; and as shown in FIG. **6**B, RQ inhibited the helicase activity of CVA16 2C in a dose-dependent manner.
- Example 7: Inhibition of Multimerization of EV71 2C Protein by RQ
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0177] Purified MBP-EV71 2C protein; Superdex 200 Increase 10/300 GL chromatography column was purchased from GE Healthcare Co., Ltd; Amicon Ultra centrifugal filters were purchased from Merck Co., Ltd; BioLogic DuoFlow system was purchased from Bio-Rad Co., Ltd; 50 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 8.5).
- [0178] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0179] (1) The purified MBP-EV71 2C was concentrated to 1 mg/mL with Amicon Ultra centrifugal filters.
- [0180] (2) The concentrated protein 2C was mixed with 20 μ M polypeptide RQ for 1 h of incubation on ice, and the incubation of 2C with ddH2O of the same volume was set as a control.

- [0181] (3) The above samples were equilibrated with 50 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 8.5), and then loaded onto a Superdex 200 Increase 10/300 GL chromatography column. The flow rate was controlled to be 1 mL/min by the BioLogic DuoFlow system.
- [0182] (4) The duration of the protein passing through the chromatography column was recorded by ultraviolet (UV) signal, and changes in protein molecular weight were analyzed.
- [0183] As shown in FIG. 7, in a case that protein 2C was only co-incubated with ddH.sub.2O, 2C formed into a polymer, which was eluted from the system rapidly (light-colored line) with a peak elution time of 8 min (light-colored peak on the left); in a case that RQ was co-incubated with 2C (dark-colored line), the peak elution time of 2C polymer changed obviously (dark-colored peak on the left), and the dark-colored peak on the right represents free polypeptide RQ. The above results indicate that RQ in co-incubation with 2C inhibited the formation of 2C polymer.

Example 8: Determination of Cell-Penetrating Efficiency of Polypeptide RQ

- 1. Materials
- [0184] MEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd, immunofluorescence dish (NEST) was purchased from Promoter Company, PBS, DAPI and paraformaldehyde were purchased from Diyue Chuangxin Company.
- [0185] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0186] The experiment was performed with two groups. In order to avoid the impact of adding EV71 virus on the polypeptide entering cells, in one group of the experiment, EV71 virus was added before the addition of polypeptide RQ, while in the other group, no virus was added before the addition of the polypeptide, and each group was set with a negative control.
- [0187] An immunofluorescence experiment was conducted according to the following steps:
- [0188] (1) 1 mL of RD cells was added in an immunofluorescence special dish, and cells were collected when grew to a confluence of 30%.
- [0189] (2) The culture medium was discarded, and the residual culture medium was washed off by washing with 1 mL of PBS of 0.01 mol/L and pH 7.4 three times, 5 min each time.
- [0190] (3) 4% paraformaldehyde solution was prepared by dissolving 4 g of paraformaldehyde in 100 mL of PBS. 1 mL of the prepared 4% paraformaldehyde was added to each dish for 5 min of reaction to fix the cells.
- [0191] (4) The 4% paraformaldehyde was discarded, and then the residual paraformaldehyde was washed off by washing with 1 mL of PBS of 0.01 mol/L and pH 7.4 three times, 5 min each time.
- [0192] (5) 1 mg/mL DAPI solution was diluted to 100 ng/mL with PBS, and then added to the dish for 15 min of reaction.
- [0193] (6) The reaction solution was discarded, and then the residual reaction solution was washed off by washing with 1 mL of PBS of 0.01 mol/L and pH 7.4 three times, 5 min each time.
- [0194] (7) The dish was placed under a fluorescence microscope for observation.
- [0195] The fluorescently labeled (FITC) polypeptide was detected for its cell-penetrating efficiency in RD cells. Two groups of experiments were set up. The first group was an untreated control group, which was added with FITC-RQ. The second group was an EV71-infected group, which was added with FITC-RQ after EV71 infection. The two groups of experiments were performed simultaneously, with a virus MOI of 0.1 and a concentration of the polypeptide added of 1 μ M. The samples were collected 12 h after the addition of the polypeptide, and the cells were fixed and subjected to an immunofluorescence experiment. The results show that the polypeptide can enter the cells with or without infection, showing a good cell-penetrating ability.
- [0196] As shown in FIG. **8**, the polypeptide can be observed entering the cells with or without virus added, proving that polypeptide RQ had a good cell-penetrating ability.
- Example 9: Toxicity Assay of Polypeptide RQ in Various Cells
- 1. Experimental Materials

[0197] RD cells, Huh7 cells, and 293T cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; CCK-8 reagent (MCE) was purchased from Promoter Company.

[0198] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.

2. Experimental Process

[0199] (1) Different cells were plated in a 96-well plate at 100 µL per well.

[0200] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum, and a certain concentration gradient of polypeptide RQ was added, so that the final concentrations of the polypeptide in the wells were 0.073242 μ M, 0.146484 μ M, 0.292969 μ M, 0.585938 μ M, 1.171875 μ M, 2.34375 μ M, 4.6875 μ M, 9.375 μ M, 18.75 μ M, 37.5 μ M, 75 μ M, 150 μ M, and 300 μ M, respectively. [0201] (3) The samples were collected 24 h after the addition of the polypeptide, and then 10 μ L of live cell detection reagent CCK-8 was added to each well and mixed well.

[0202] (4) The plate was placed at 37° C. for 2 h.

[0203] (5) The absorbance value at OD450 was detected by a microplate reader.

[0204] The results are shown in FIG. **9** and Tables 13-15. The CC50 of each RQ in different cells was calculated taking the cell viability of untreated cells as 100%. CC50 was >150 μ M in RD cells (FIG. **9**A), CC50 was >300 μ M in Huh cells (FIG. **9**B), and CC50 was >300 μ M in 293T cells (FIG. **1**C).

TABLE-US-00014 TABLE 13 Concentration of RQ polypeptide (μM) Viability of RD cell (%) 0.073242 99.7786 100.3321 99.8893 0.146484 99.22509 102.3247 99.94465 0.292969 100.7749 100.2214 99.16974 0.585938 98.94834 103.5978 102.7122 1.171875 99.61255 99.00369 99.22509 2.34375 98.78229 99.22509 98.50554 4.6875 98.33948 99.44649 100.8856 9.375 98.39483 100.7196 102.6568 18.75 100.6089 103.4317 102.4354 37.5 101.4945 103.9852 103.5424 75 102.1033 103.5978 102.9889 150 8.726937 8.782288 8.00738

TABLE-US-00015 TABLE 14 Concentration of RQ polypeptide (μM) Viability of Huh7 cell (%) 0.073242 113.2507 113.9801 116.7518 0.146484 110.6978 106.6132 101.8721 0.292969 110.9895 104.4979 102.018 0.585938 101.2157 100.7051 101.5074 1.171875 104.3521 97.20399 99.02747 2.34375 98.73572 100.1945 96.03696 4.6875 98.00632 103.5497 101.2886 9.375 103.4768 101.4345 97.71456 18.75 100.851 93.41114 94.28641 37.5 95.0158 97.05811 92.02529 75 90.93119 93.26526 88.08655 150 65.84002 67.73645 51.47095

TABLE-US-00016 TABLE 15 Concentration of RQ polypeptide (μM) Viability of Huh7 cell (%) 0.073242 98.39022 100.4267 97.86656 0.146484 100.6594 100.8922 100.9503 0.292969 100.7758 102.4631 100.8922 0.585938 100.4849 102.8123 101.6486 1.171875 99.67029 115.4383 103.5687 2.34375 99.08844 100.3685 102.8704 4.6875 98.56478 99.96121 100.0776 9.375 99.67029 99.96121 94.02638 18.75 100.2521 99.90303 101.8231 37.5 101.8231 101.1249 102.9286 75 101.5322 98.97207 99.49573 150 66.56323 63.82855 64.4104

Example 10: Determination of Efficiency of Polypeptide RQ in Inhibiting CVB3 in RD Cells 1. Experimental Materials

[0205] RD cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment. [0206] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.

2. Experimental Process

[0207] (1) RD cells were plated in a 24-well plate.

[0208] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing

- 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of CVB3 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0209] (3) After 1 h, the polypeptides with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0210] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of CVB3 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0211] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0212] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0213] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0214] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0215] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0216] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0217] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0218] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0219] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0220] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0221] The determination results of the anti-CVB3 effect of polypeptide RQ in RD cells are shown in Table 16 and FIG. **10**, which indicate an IC50 of 2.31 µM.
- TABLE-US-00017 TABLE 16 Concentration of SQ (μ M) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 106.8374 119.2124 93.16261 0.3125 62.25856 140.3936 70.09917 0.625 30.54633 134.359 36.93837 1.25 119.4583 30.84876 26.36559 2.5 35.87058 29.1883 35.07889 5 31.34734 39.17466 25.33601
- Example 11: Determination of Efficiency of Polypeptide RQ in Inhibiting Echo 11 in RD Cells 1. Experimental Materials
- [0222] RD cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.
- [0223] Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0224] (1) RD cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0225] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of Echo 11 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0226] (3) After 1 h, the polypeptides with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0227] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of Echo 11 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0228] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.

- [0229] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0230] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0231] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0232] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0233] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0234] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0235] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0236] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0237] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0238] The determination results of the anti-Echo 11 effect of polypeptide RQ in RD cells are shown in Table 17 and FIG. **11**, which indicate an IC50 of 0.37 μ M.
- TABLE-US-00018 TABLE 17 Concentration of SQ (μ M) Percentage of viral RNA in Vero cells (%) 0 144.9111 165.5089 72.39416 0.3125 117.2316 36.60896 30.65337 0.625 59.40357 6.90746 7.106392 1.25 33.44803 29.3462 7.071973 2.5 1.051358 5.505496 3.538126 5 4.488181 1.195551 2.309541
- Example 12: Detection of Antiviral Activity of Polypeptide RQ on EV71 in Mice
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0239] Newborn 1-day-old ICR suckling mice. Polypeptide RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0240] (1) Twenty-seven 1-day-old ICR suckling mice were randomly divided into 3 groups; one group of 10 suckling mice was challenged with virus and injected with the same amount of PBS (vehicle) as a positive control, one group of 9 suckling mice was challenged with virus and then injected with RQ, and one group of 8 suckling mice was not challenged with virus and not administered with drugs as a negative control. These 19 suckling mice were challenged with EV71 at a dose of 107 PFU by intraperitoneal injection.
- [0241] (2) Simultaneously with the challenge, one group was intraperitoneally injected with polypeptide RQ at 20 mg/kg as a treatment group, and the other group was injected with the same amount of PBS as a control group.
- [0242] (3) The polypeptide and PBS were injected every 12 h until the 7th day after the challenge.
- [0243] (4) The clinical symptoms and death of suckling mice were observed until the 21st day.
- [0244] (5) The clinical symptoms were evaluated by a clinical scoring system: 0 point: healthy, 1 point: exhibiting slow and hunchbacked movements, 2 points: weak in one limb, 3 points: one limb paralyzed, 4 points: two limbs paralyzed, and 5 points: died.
- [0245] The results are shown in FIG. **12**A, which indicate that all the suckling mice in the negative control group (Mock) survived, 5 suckling mice in the group with challenge but no drug administration died on the 10th day, showing a mortality rate of 50%, while all the suckling mice in the group with RQ administration survived. As shown in FIG. **12**B, the group with challenge but no drug administration had a significantly higher clinical score than that of the group with drug administration after challenge. The above results indicate that RQ can effectively treat suckling mice infected with a lethal dose of EV71 and prevent them from dying.
- Example 13: Detection of Antiviral Activity of Polypeptide RQ Variants
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0246] Polypeptides EQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.5), YQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.6), NQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.7), RSQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.8), SAQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.9), AQ (shown in

SEQ ID NO.10), IQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.11), GQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.12), NTQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.13), TQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.14), and IEQ (shown in SEQ ID NO.15). The sequences were all commercially synthesized. CCK-8 reagent (MCE) was purchased from Promoter Company.

- 2. Experimental Process
- [0247] (1) RD cells were plated in a 96-well plate at 100 µL per well.
- [0248] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum.
- [0249] (3) The polypeptide drug was gradiently diluted with the DMEM containing 2% FBS into concentrations of 0.15625 μ M, 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M, and then added to a new 96-well plate at 100 μ L per well, with 3 replicate wells for each concentration.
- [0250] (4) The diluted virus was added to the above wells at 100 μ L per well. The wells with no drug and no virus added and the wells with no drug but virus added were set as controls respectively, with a final concentration of virus of 0.1 MOI.
- [0251] (4) The mixture was transferred into the 96-well plate plated with cells for another 24 h of culture, and the inhibitory activity of the polypeptide on the virus was determined by a CCK8 kit. [0252] (5) The inhibition rates of different concentrations of the polypeptides on virus infection were calculated according to a calculation formula of: inhibition rate of polypeptide=(well with drug-well with virus)×100%/(well with no drug-well with virus).
- [0253] As shown in Tables 18-21 and FIG. **13**, the determination of the inhibitory activity of the polypeptides on the virus by a CCK8 method indicates that EQ had an IC50 of 1.83 μ M, YQ had an IC50 of 1.96 μ M, NQ had an IC50 of 1.90 μ M, RSQ had an IC50 of 2.60 μ M, SAQ had an IC50 of 2.90 μ M, AQ had an IC50 of 2.99 μ M, IQ had an IC50 of 1.64 μ M, GQ had an IC50 of 1.78 μ M, NTG had an IC50 of 2.28 μ M, TQ had an IC50 of 1.76 μ M, IEQ had an IC50 of 2.48 μ M, and control TAT had no antiviral activity.
- TABLE-US-00019 TABLE 18 Concentration of Inhibition rate on EV71 virus (%) polypeptide (μ M) EQ YQ NQ 0.15625 6.88487 4.67462 10.9434 5.8298 7.32961 11.0089 4.27801 5.36773 8.33654 0.3125 10.2126 12.8194 16.4536 15.102 10.7124 13.3881 11.5056 17.809 19.7228 0.625 21.5745 20.64 25.9399 23.6157 20.9642 29.1606 16.7886 21.2091 24.9365 1.25 31.5814 30.7778 32.9503 30.9365 28.1124 32.0401 41.6538 40.8779 50.5607 2.5 62.8263 54.1779 55.7124 62.0331 53.8159 52.1987 51.933 60.1502 57.7744 5 86.8541 90.3885 78.0023 80.0886 71.2711 87.578 60.6122 74.6708 75.3331
- TABLE-US-00020 TABLE 19 Concentration of Inhibition rate on EV71 virus (%) polypeptide (μM) RSQ SAQ AQ 0.15625 1.47093 6.58837 2.82634 3.54678 2.72622 6.81941 9.88833 7.50558 5.9715 0.3125 11.34 21.2746 16.4228 8.96419 7.90219 11.0435 15.9607 11.702 12.6022 0.625 18.633 25.8298 26.1918 14.4055 11.5364 18.402 26.3573 23.7158 19.5264 1.25 40.5468 36.4575 35.2676 27.4779 24.0778 33.4848 33.3847 31.7366 38.7678 2.5 53.4848 40.7778 47.2122 47.0158 47.2468 36.2572 58.9642 46.161 41.3092 5 58.6022 68.9642 62.4952 75.1367 61.8367 63.2191 51.0435 51.8675 69.1952
- TABLE-US-00021 TABLE 20 Concentration of Inhibition rate on EV71 virus (%) polypeptide (μM) IQ GQ NTQ 0.15625 12.0331 13.5849 7.36773 7.21948 10.3851 5.4678 2.6541502 4.74383 5.74339 0.3125 18.7401 22.4297 22.9573 14.8883 12.0678 14.91259 14.830508 10.2542 13.3898 0.625 26.0539 31.1744 34.8606 28.8333 30.5125 26.48479 20.841686 30.339 24.339 1.25 41.6022 42.578 47.4848 43.1263 40.6161 31.07124 39.174089 47.6271 50.8202 2.5 55.7952 50.9781 60.5503 51.8367 58.9472 57.2507 45.423729 51.9492 59.661 5 73.2884 68.7332 83.2884 71.5094 77.9438 84.7439 68.271186 52.5424 61.6949
- TABLE-US-00022 TABLE 21 Concentration of Inhibition rate on EV71 virus (%) polypeptide (μ M) TQ IEQ TAT 0.15625 3.31377 5.35593 7.23007 11.724 8.44024 7.62688 1.38042 5.23131 2.29427 0.3125 12.3437 24.3588 27.3869 18.8643 15.5487 10.6223 2.46255 5.24217 6.28153 0.625 33.3736 28.4011 30.3085 20.7161 25.7224 19.5166 8.37385 2.33994 7.23439 1.25 35.3209

40.3898 46.2471 33.6936 35.484 28.4286 8.36531 3.23706 6.20318 2.5 59.3508 67.3559 55.2235 45.6995 48.4526 57.4377 7.37254 4.24089 8.21274 5 71.3029 65.3559 69.2301 69.4739 61.3527 68.272 12.2608 8.20447 19.1522

Example 14: Detection of Antiviral Activity of Polypeptide RQ Modifier

- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0254] Polypeptides RQ-PA (shown in SEQ ID NO.16), RQ-PEG4-PA (shown in SEQ ID NO.17) and RQ-CHOL (shown in SEQ ID NO.18). The sequences were all commercially synthesized. CCK-8 reagent (MCE) was purchased from Promoter Company.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0255] (1) RD cells were plated in a 96-well plate at 100 μL per well.
- [0256] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum.
- [0257] (3) The polypeptide drug was gradiently diluted with the DMEM containing 2% FBS into concentrations of 0.15625 μ M, 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M, and 5 μ M, and then added to a new 96-well plate at 100 μ L per well, with 3 replicate wells for each concentration. (4) The diluted virus was added to the above wells at 100 μ L per well. The wells with no drug and no virus added and the wells with no drug but virus added were set as controls respectively, with a final concentration of virus of 0.1 MOI.
- [0258] (4) The mixture was transferred into the 96-well plate plated with cells for another 24 h of culture, and the inhibitory activity of the polypeptide on the virus was determined by a CCK8 kit. [0259] (5) The inhibition rates of different concentrations of the polypeptides on virus infection were calculated according to a calculation formula of: inhibition rate of polypeptide=(well with drug-well with virus)×100%/(well with no drug-well with virus).
- [0260] As shown in Table 22 and FIG. **14**, the determination of the inhibitory activity of the polypeptides on the virus by a CCK8 method indicates that RQ-PA had an IC50 of 3.58 μ M, RQ-PEG4-PA had an IC50 of 3.47 μ M, and RQ-CHOL had an IC50 of 4.25 p.M.
- TABLE-US-00023 TABLE 22 Concentration of Inhibition rate on EV71 virus (%) polypeptide (μ M) RQ-PA RQ-PEG4-PA RQ-CHOL 0.15625 1.01454 2.28411 5.27651 7.27824 4.14494 8.12615 5.14141 6.97113 3.01327 0.3125 7.00885 10.3563 13.2967 11.2937 10.1514 13.1404 10.1389 15.972 11.0215 0.625 14.0139 21.402 20.3253 25.328 21.1587 27.1395 21.154 32.986 27.0328 1.25 26.9703 29.3073 30.2687 30.2434 35.1393 34.127 30.1246 38.9729 35.9495 2.5 35.0322 41.4947 50.486 44.43 40.1798 45.1788 34.1616 42.9746 41.0404 5 53.0512 57.3238 59.3155 62.2879 53.136 52.1554 49.1465 51.9169 52.0145

Example 15: Determination of Efficiency of RQ-DRI in Inhibiting EV71 in RD Cells 1. Experimental Materials

[0261] RD cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.

[0262] Polypeptide RQ-DRI was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.19.

- 2. Experimental Process
- [0263] (1) Different cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0264] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of EV71 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0265] (3) After 1 h, different polypeptides (RQ or control TAT) with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.

- [0266] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of EV71 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0267] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0268] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0269] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0270] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0271] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0272] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0273] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0274] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0275] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0276] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step gRT-PCR kit.
- [0277] The results are shown in FIG. **15** and Table 23, which indicate that the polypeptide RQ-DRI had an IC50 of 2.05 M in RD cells.
- TABLE-US-00024 TABLE 23 Concentration of RQ-DRI (μ M) Percentage of viral RNA in RD cells (%) 0 68.13518 128.4527 103.4121 0.3125 90.20158 150.7832 85.03728 0.625 113.2834 92.13482 108.0728 1.25 93.12259 79.48209 58.28617 2.5 24.39655 38.77366 23.45334 5 21.2764 19.04182 17.18671
- Example 16: Toxicity Assay of B-RQ in RD Cells
- 1. Experimental Materials
- [0278] CCK-8 reagent (MCE) was purchased from Promoter Company. Polypeptide B-RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.20.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0279] (1) RD cells were plated in a 96-well plate at 100 µL per well.
- [0280] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum, and B-RQ was added so that the final concentrations in the wells were 0.46 μ M, 2.34 μ M, 4.68 μ M, 9.37 μ M, 18.75 μ M, 37.5 μ M, 75 μ M, and 150 μ M.
- [0281] (3) The samples were collected 24 h after the addition of the polypeptide, and then 10 μL of live cell detection reagent CCK-8 was added to each well and mixed well.
- [0282] (4) The plate was placed at 37° C. for 2 h.
- [0283] (5) The absorbance value at OD450 was detected by a microplate reader.
- [0284] The results are shown in FIG. **16** and Table 24, which indicate that B-RQ had a CC50 of $>75 \mu M$ taking the cell viability of untreated cells as 100%,.
- TABLE-US-00025 TABLE 24 Concentration of B-RQ polypeptide (μM) Cell viability (%) 0.46875 99.01384 99.46899 98.27423 2.34375 99.12763 97.93287 97.19325 4.6875 98.67248 100.7775 96.96567 9.375 99.29831 96.62431 96.16916 18.75 97.81908 95.54333 97.36393 37.5 99.35521
- 99.63967 99.24142 75 95.99848 95.65712 99.29831 150 95.54333 95.94159 95.31576
- Example 17: Determination of Efficiency of B-RQ in Inhibiting CVB3 and Echo 11 in RD Cells 1. Experimental Materials
- [0285] RD cells; DMEM medium (Thermo) and serum (Gibco) were purchased from Invitrogen Co., Ltd; Total RNA extraction kit (Omega) and One step qRT-PCR kit (Takara) were purchased from U-MeBiotech Co., Ltd. The water used in the processes of RNA extraction and qRT-PCR was DEPC water, and the entire experiment was performed in an RNase-free environment.

- [0286] Polypeptide B-RQ was synthesized by Nanjing GenScript Co., Ltd with a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.20.
- 2. Experimental Process
- [0287] (1) Different cells were plated in a 24-well plate.
- [0288] (2) When the cells grew to a confluence of 70%-80%, the DMEM medium containing 10% serum was replaced with a DMEM medium containing 2% serum (the DMEM medium containing 2% serum was added in each well at an amount of 0.5 mL), and 5 μ L of EV71 virus of 1×10.sup.6 PFU/mL was added to each well.
- [0289] (3) After 1 h, the polypeptides with final concentrations of 0.3125 μ M, 0.625 μ M, 1.25 μ M, 2.5 μ M and 5 μ M were added respectively. The group without polypeptide added was used as a control.
- [0290] (4) The samples were collected 24 h after the infection of EV71 virus, and RNA was extracted with the total RNA extraction kit.
- [0291] (5) The supernatant was discarded, then 350 μL of TRK lysate was added to each well, and the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0292] (6) 350 μ L of 70% ethanol (DEPC) was added to each well, and then the plate was put on a shaker for 5 min.
- [0293] (7) The solution in each well was transferred to a RNA extraction column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0294] (8) The solution obtained in the recovery tube was reloaded on the column again for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0295] (9) RNA washing buffer 1 was added in the column for 30 s of centrifugation at 12000 g.
- [0296] (10) RNA washing buffer 2 was added in the column for 1 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0297] (11) Step (10) was repeated.
- [0298] (12) The column alone was centrifuged at 12000 g for 2 min to completely remove the residual RNA washing buffer.
- [0299] (13) 50 μ L of DEPC water was added to the column for 2 min of centrifugation at 12000 g. [0300] (14) 2 μ L of RNA sample was subjected to a fluorescence quantitative experiment using the one step qRT-PCR kit.
- [0301] The results are shown in FIG. **17** and Tables 25-26, which indicate that the polypeptide B-RQ had an IC50 of 2.29 μ M for inhibiting CVB3 in RD cells (FIG. **17**A), and an IC50 of 0.38 μ M for inhibiting Echo 11 in RD cells (FIG. **17**B).
- TABLE-US-00026 TABLE 25 Concentration of B-RQ (μ M) Percentage of CVB3 viral RNA (%) 0 110.1778 109.7637 80.05847 0.3125 ND 126.7007 62.25837 0.625 116.425 88.76191 77.23717 1.25 80.22625 52.01695 36.74467 2.5 26.8204 49.13786 24.49975 5 22.86381 37.99408 26.97489 ND, not detected
- TABLE-US-00027 TABLE 26 Concentration of B-RQ (μM) Percentage of Echo 11 viral RNA (%) 0 90.48197 75.34791 134.1701 105.4064 82.09798 112.4956 0.3125 78.63341 46.42134 35.11162 43.24912 24.63388 64.67318 0.625 50.9076 51.05015 20.07373 51.16597 51.93671 48.38548 1.25 47.75375 35.28912 14.8342 3.086194 12.76211 39.50013 2.5 0.685338 0.532339 0.784078 4.1758 1.177338 3.252157 5 0.616862 1.284713 0.869355 1.744232 0.571171 1.849904
- [0302] The above are only preferred embodiments of the present invention. It should be noted that for those of ordinary skill in the art, multiple improvements and modifications can be made without departing from the principle of the present invention, and these improvements and modifications should be considered as the protection scope of the present invention.

Claims

1. A polypeptide used as a broad-spectrum anti-enterovirus inhibitor, having a sequence selected from the group consisting of: TABLE-US-00028 I. (X1)E(X2)(X3)(X4)R(X5)(X6)(X7)(X8)(X9)

- (X10)(X11) EALFQ wherein: X1 is selected from the group consisting of arginine (R), asparagine (N) and lysine (K); X2 is selected from the group consisting of tyrosine (Y) and arginine (R); X3 is selected from the group consisting of serine(S), asparagine (N) and arginine (R); X4 is selected from the group consisting of asparagine (N), arginine (R), threonine (T) and histidine (H); X5 is selected from the group consisting of serine(S), asparagine (N) and histidine (H); X6 is selected from the group consisting of alanine (A), asparagine (N) and serine(S); X7 is selected from the group consisting of glycine (G) and glutamine (Q); X9 is selected from the group consisting of asparagine (N), aspartic acid (D) and alanine (A); X10 is selected from the group consisting of threonine (T), cysteine (C) and lysine (K); X11 is selected from the group consisting of isoleucine (I) and leucine (L); II. a sequence with deletion, addition or substitution of at least one amino acid compared to the sequence in I; III. a sequence that has at least 50% homology with the amino acid sequence in I or II and inhibits enterovirus activity; and IV. a complementary sequence to the sequence in I or II or III.
- **2**. The polypeptide according to claim 1, having a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 or SEQ ID NO.24, or a D-configuration polypeptide thereof.
- **3.** The polypeptide according to claim 1, comprising a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.1 or SEQ ID NO.24.
- **4.** The polypeptide according to claim 2, wherein the polypeptide has a sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.2 or SEQ ID NO.20.
- **5.** The polypeptide according to claim 1, having a sequence with addition of 1-5 amino acids to the N-terminal of the polypeptide with the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.21, with deletion of 1-13 amino acids from the N-terminal of the polypeptide with the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.21, or with modification to the C-terminal of the polypeptide with the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO.21, or a D configuration polypeptide thereof.
- **6**. The polypeptide according to claim 5, further comprising a cell-penetrating peptide.
- **7**. The polypeptide according to claim 6, having a sequence shown in any one of SEQ ID NOs.3-20.
- **8**. A method for inhibiting an enterovirus, comprising administering the polypeptide according to claim 1 to a subject in need thereof.
- **9.** A method for treating or preventing enterovirus infection, comprising administering the polypeptide according to claim 1 to a subject in need thereof.
- **10**. The method according to claim 8, wherein the enterovirus is selected from the group consisting of human enterovirus (EV), coxsackie A virus (CVA), coxsackie B virus (CVB), echovirus, rhinovirus and poliovirus.
- **11**. The method according to claim 9, wherein the enterovirus infection causes a disease selected from the group consisting of hand-foot-mouth disease, myocarditis, herpetic angina, aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, and viral cold.
- **12.** A method for preventing and/or treating a viral disease, comprising administering a preparation inhibiting multimerization of enterovirus protein 2C as a target to a subject in need thereof.
- **13**. The method according to claim 9, wherein the enterovirus is selected from the group consisting of human enterovirus (EV), coxsackie A virus (CVA), coxsackie B virus (CVB), echovirus, rhinovirus and poliovirus.