



# 5th International Electronic Conference on Medicinal Chemistry

1-30 November 2019

chaired by Dr. Jean Jacques Vanden Eynde

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## GalNAc mimetics: from synthesis to potential inhibitors in Alzheimer's Disease

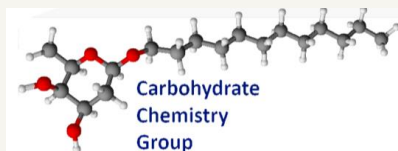
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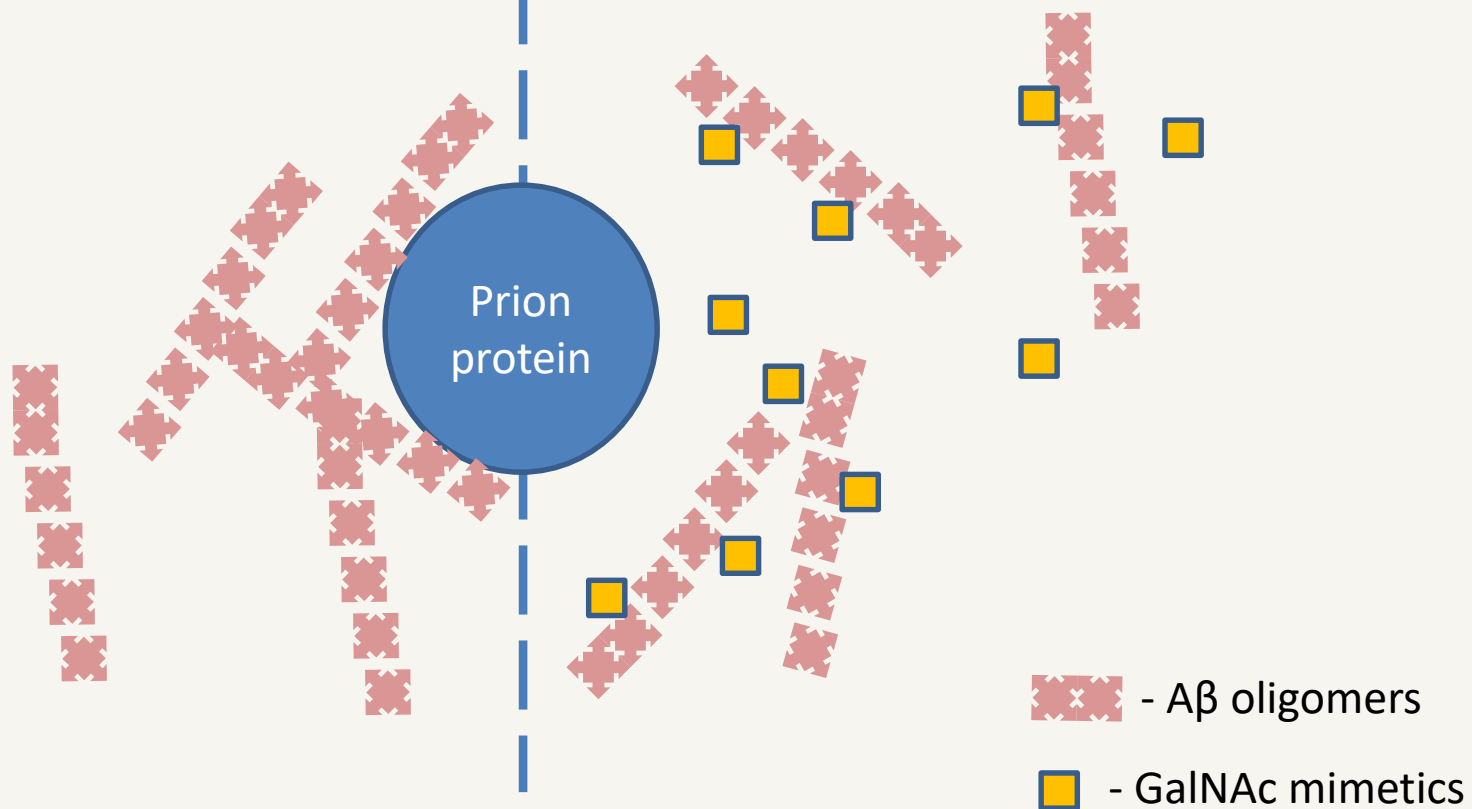
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# GalNAc mimetics: from synthesis to potential inhibitors in Alzheimer's Disease

Alzheimer's Disease reality: PrP – A $\beta$  affinity

Hypothesis



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## Abstract:

*N*-acetylgalactosamine (GalNAc) belongs to the group of 2-amino-2-deoxysugars which are found in a wide range of biological structures playing a role in cell-cell interaction and receptor induced cell signaling.

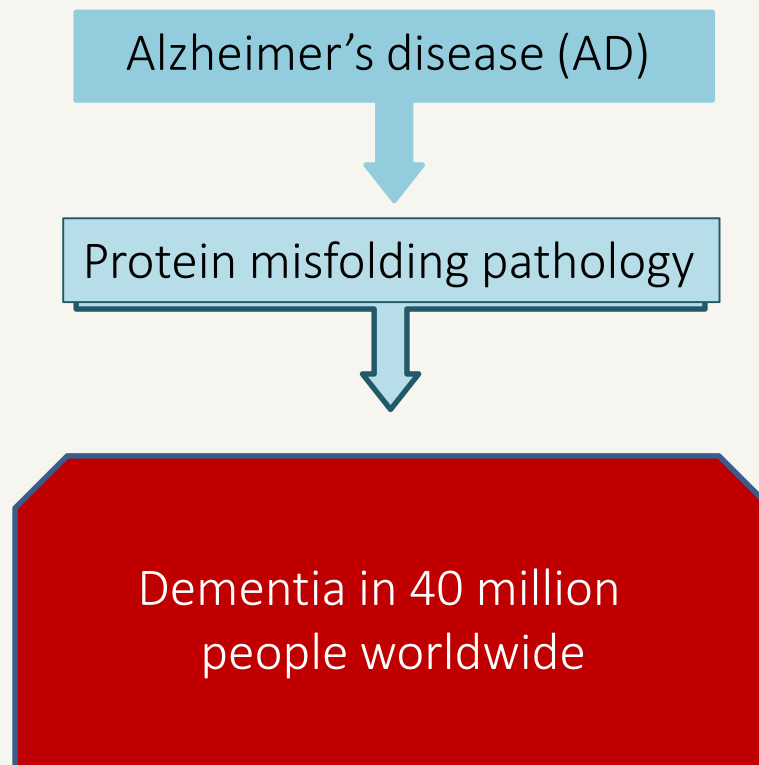
Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a protein misfolding pathology, causing dementia in over 40 million people worldwide. Cellular prion protein (PrP) has a high-affinity binding with amyloid  $\beta$  ( $A\beta$ ) oligomers, the most toxic species in Alzheimer's pathology. It has been demonstrated that *O*-glycosylated GalNAc, attached to Ser/Thr side chain of PrP via an  $\alpha$ -glycosidic linkage, promotes the inhibition of amyloidogenesis in AD.

In this context, we have synthesized new GalNAc mimetics, with additional contacts in the GalNAc core structure, to improve the interactions with the prion peptide and to investigate the binding affinity with  $A\beta_{1-42}$ . The study of the intermolecular interactions of the new chemical structures and  $A\beta_{1-42}$  oligomers was investigated by NMR methods, namely saturation transfer difference NMR (STD-NMR) and  $^{19}\text{F}$  Fluorine NMR (F-NMR) protocols. In this communication, synthetic approaches to the GalNAc mimetics will be presented and interaction results regarding C2 substitution and anomeric heteroatoms, such as O, S and Se with  $A\beta_{1-42}$  oligomers will be discussed.

**Keywords:** Alzheimer's disease; GalNAc;  $A\beta$  oligomers.

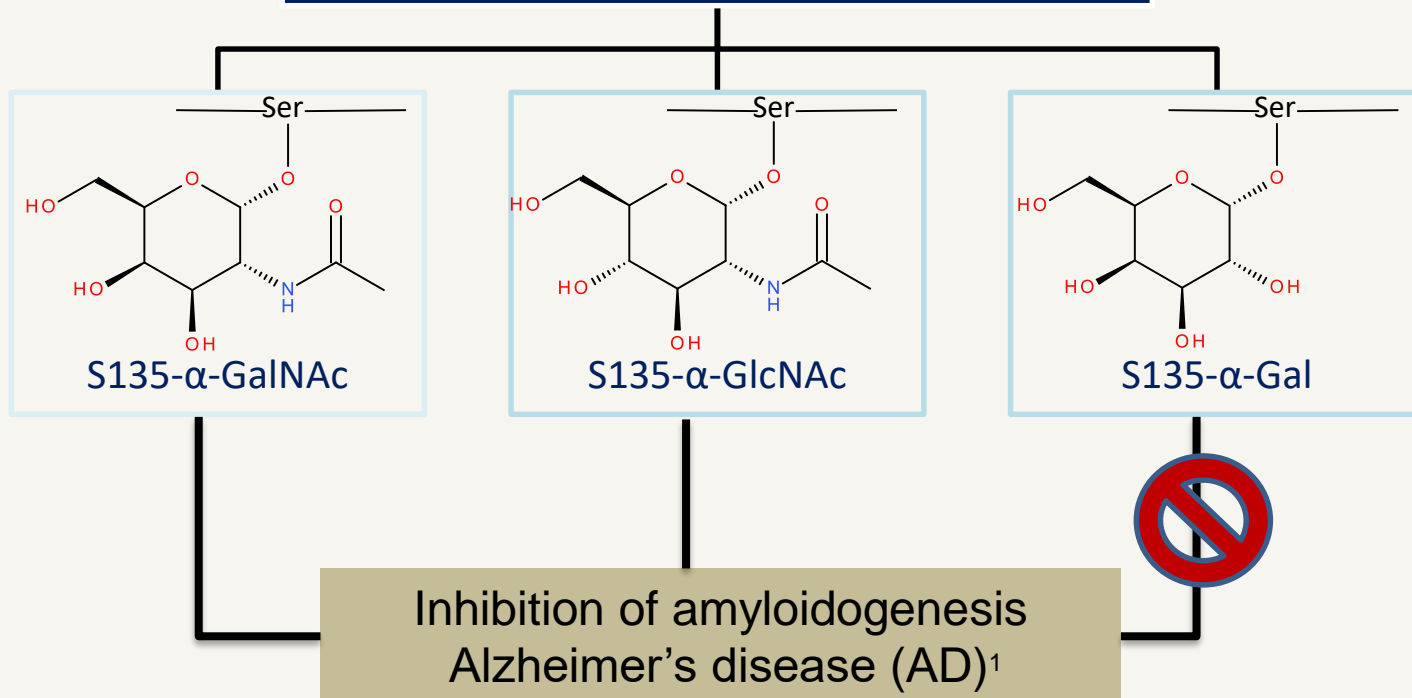


# Introduction



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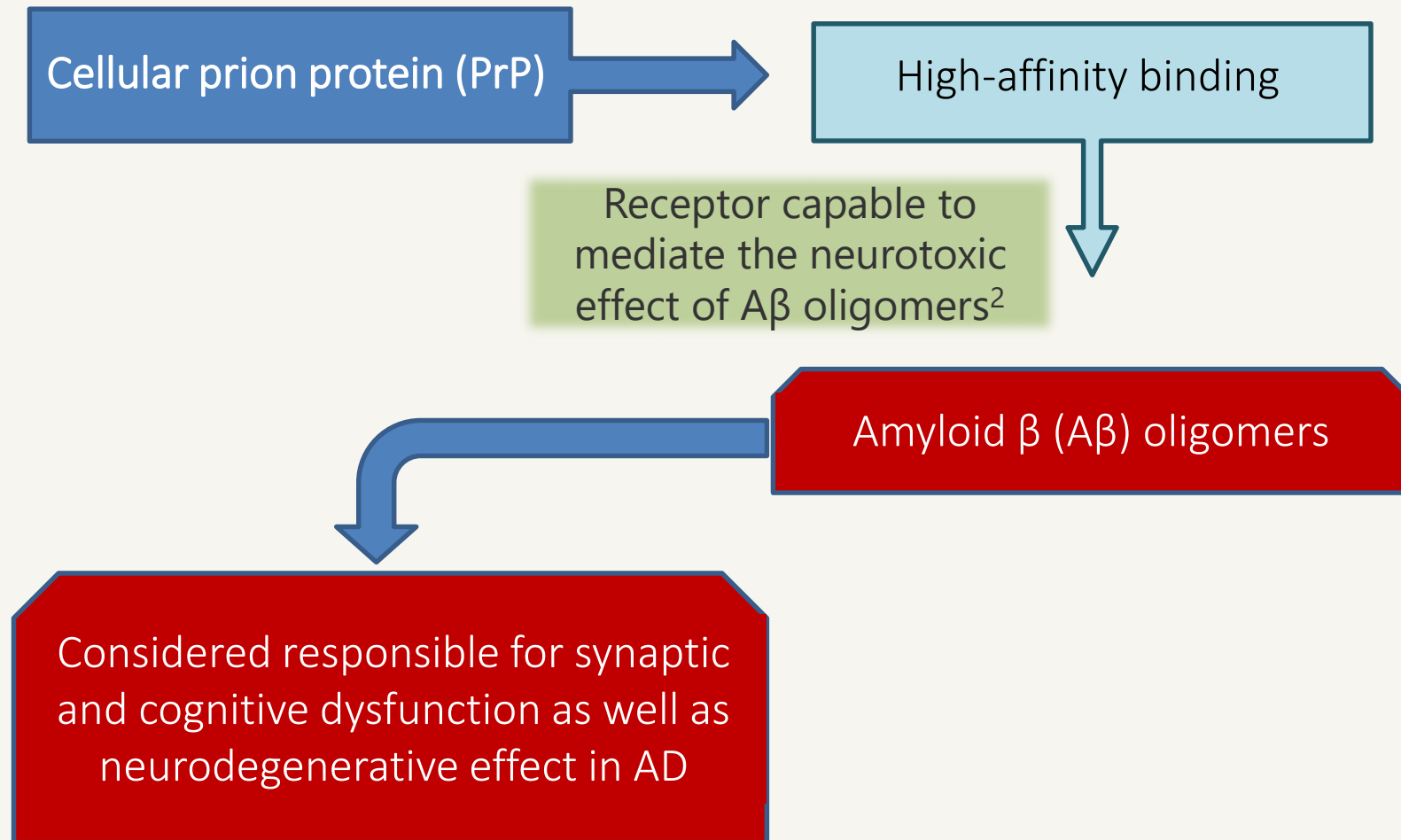
An  $\alpha$ -glycosidic linkage to serine  
of a prion protein (PrP)



<sup>1</sup> C. Lin, E. Chen, L. Lee, R. Hsu, F. Luh, L. Yang, C. Chou, L. Huang, C. Lin, R. Chen, *Carbohydr. Res.* 2014, 387, 46-53.



# Introduction

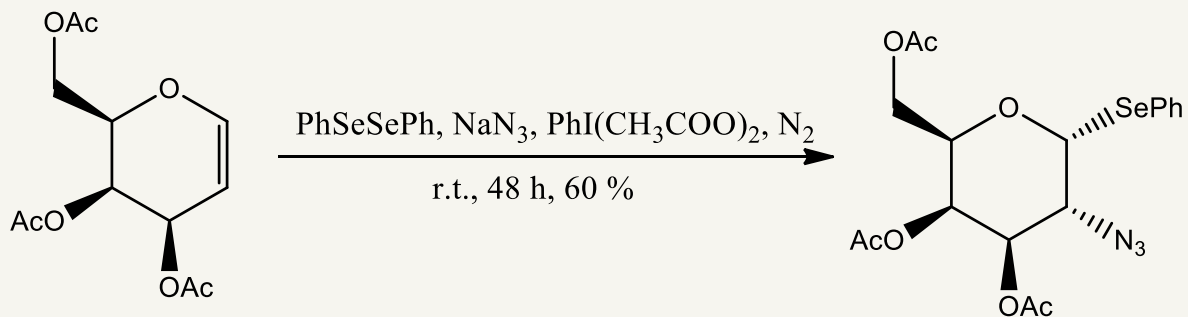
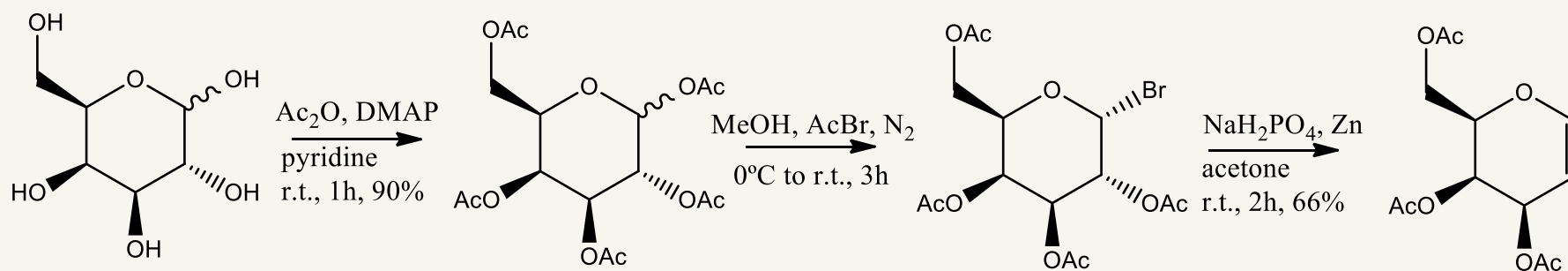


<sup>2</sup>Laurén J, Gimbel DA, Nygaard HB, Gilbert JW, Strittmatter SM. Cellular prion protein mediates impairment of synaptic plasticity by amyloid-beta oligomers. Nature 2009; 457:1128-32.



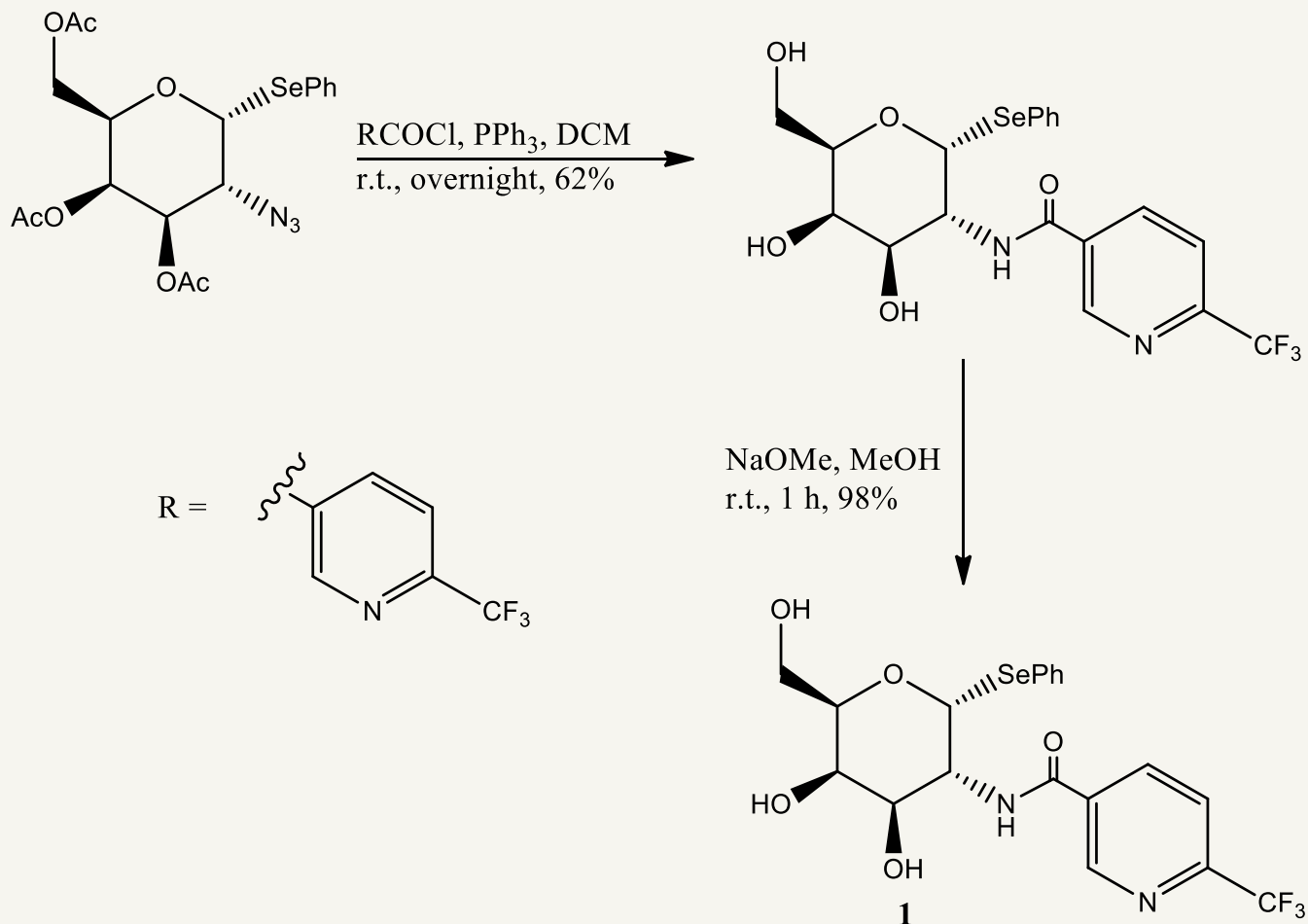
# Results and discussion

## Synthesis: SePh



# Results and discussion

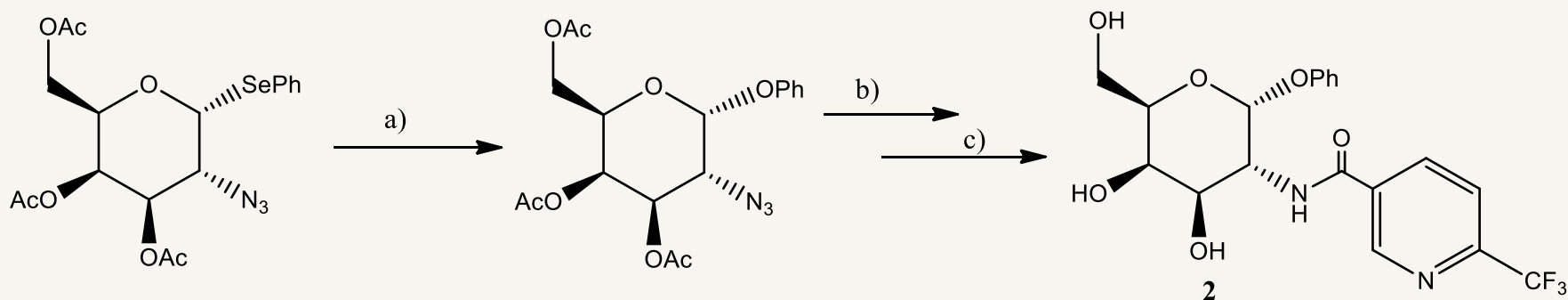
## Synthesis: SePh





# Results and discussion

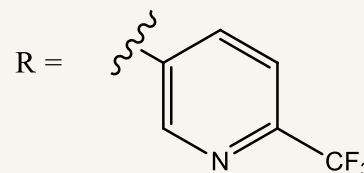
## Synthesis: OPh



**a)** PhOH, I<sub>2</sub>/DDQ, dioxane/toluene, r.t., overnight, 67%;

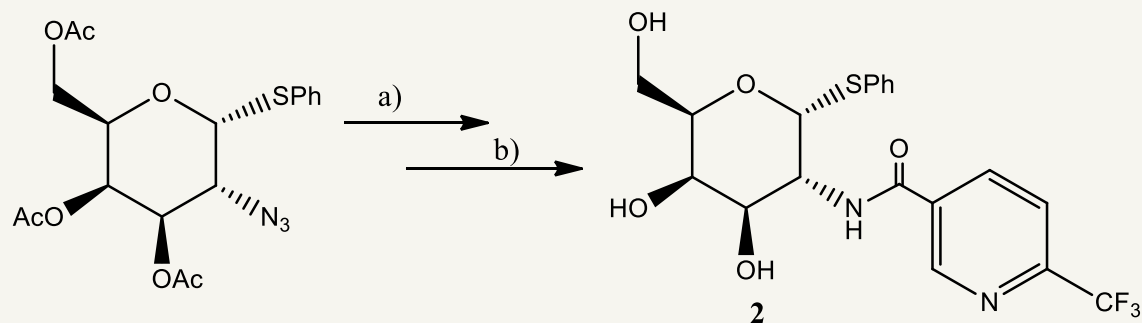
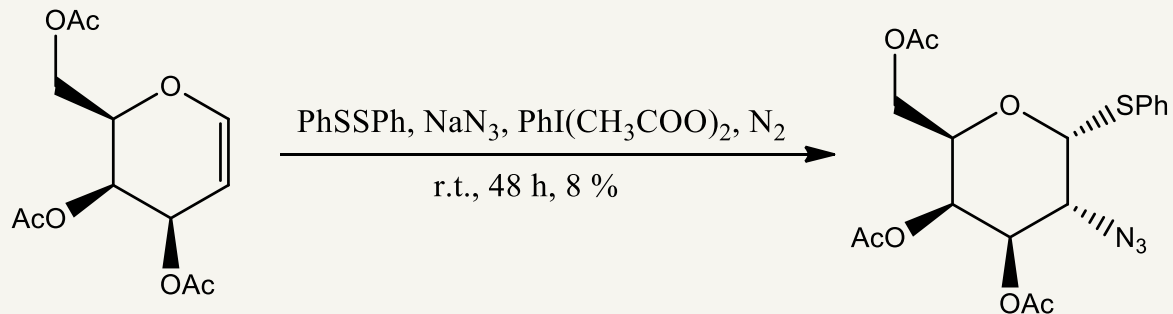
**b)** RCOCl, PPh<sub>3</sub>, DCM, r.t., overnight; 61 %;

**c)** NaOMe, MeOH, r.t., 1h, 93%.



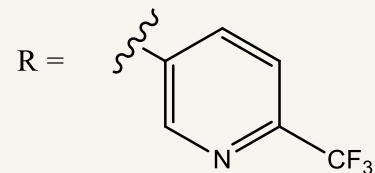
# Results and discussion

## Synthesis: SPh



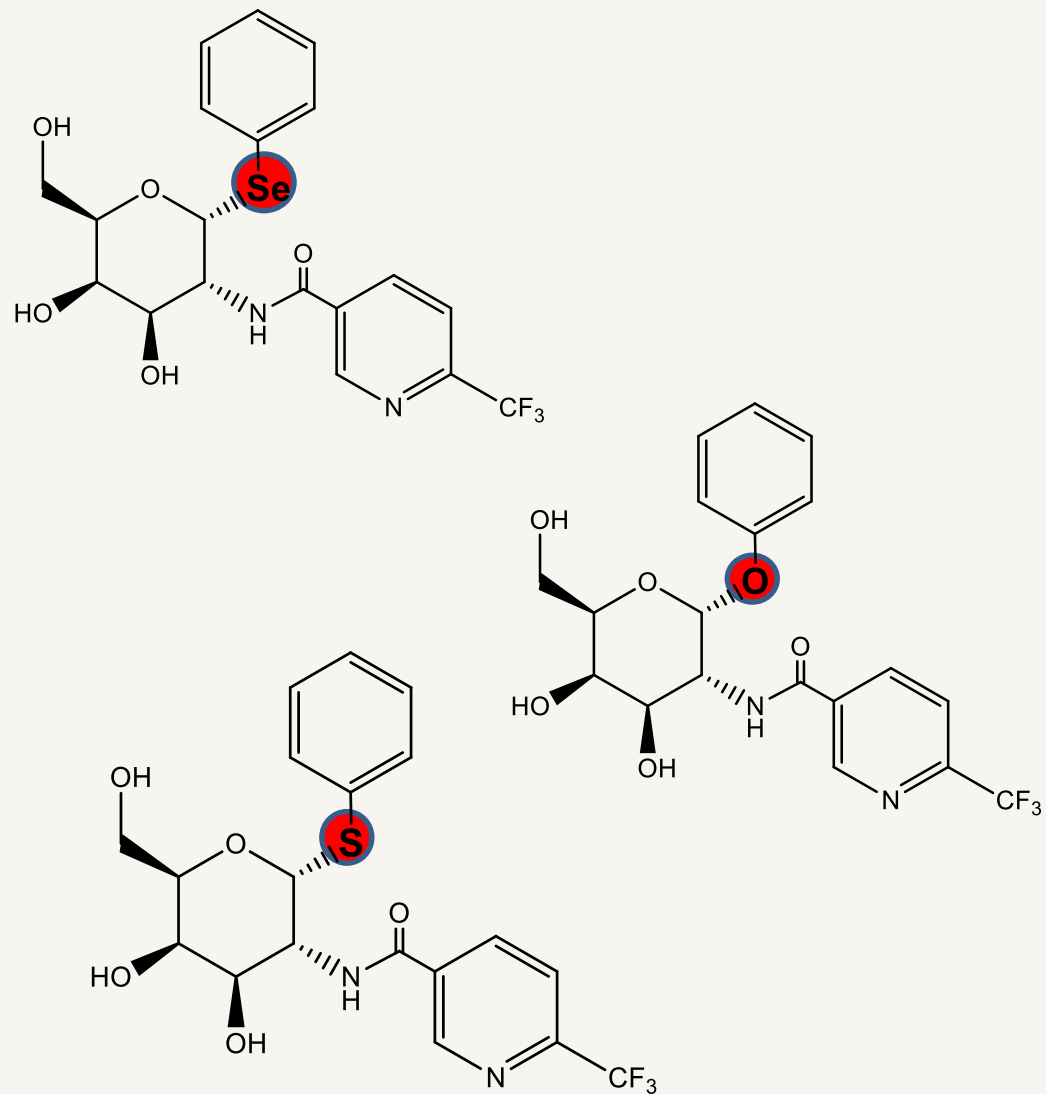
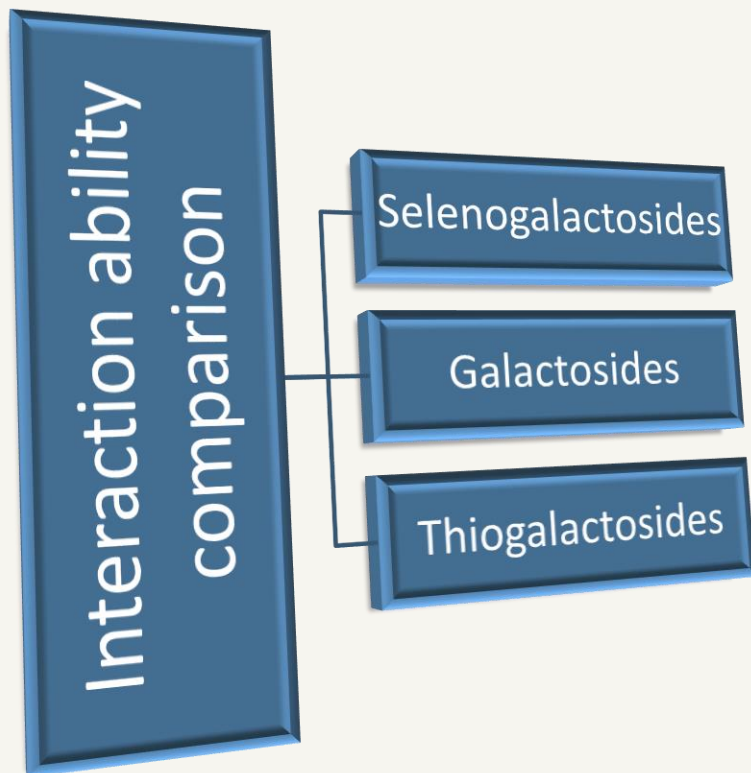
a) RCOCl, PPh<sub>3</sub>, DCM, r.t., overnight; 34 %;

b) NaOMe, MeOH, r.t., 1h, 97%.



# Results and discussion

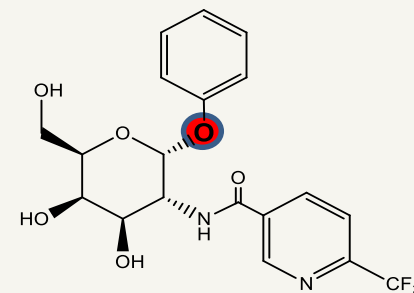
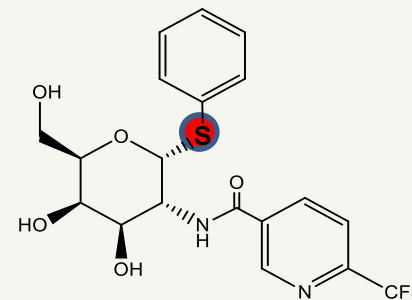
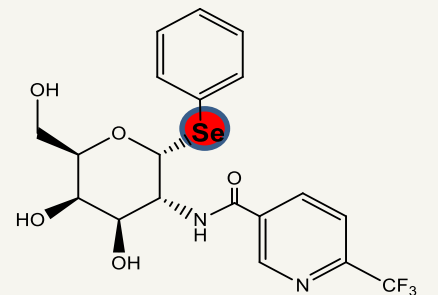
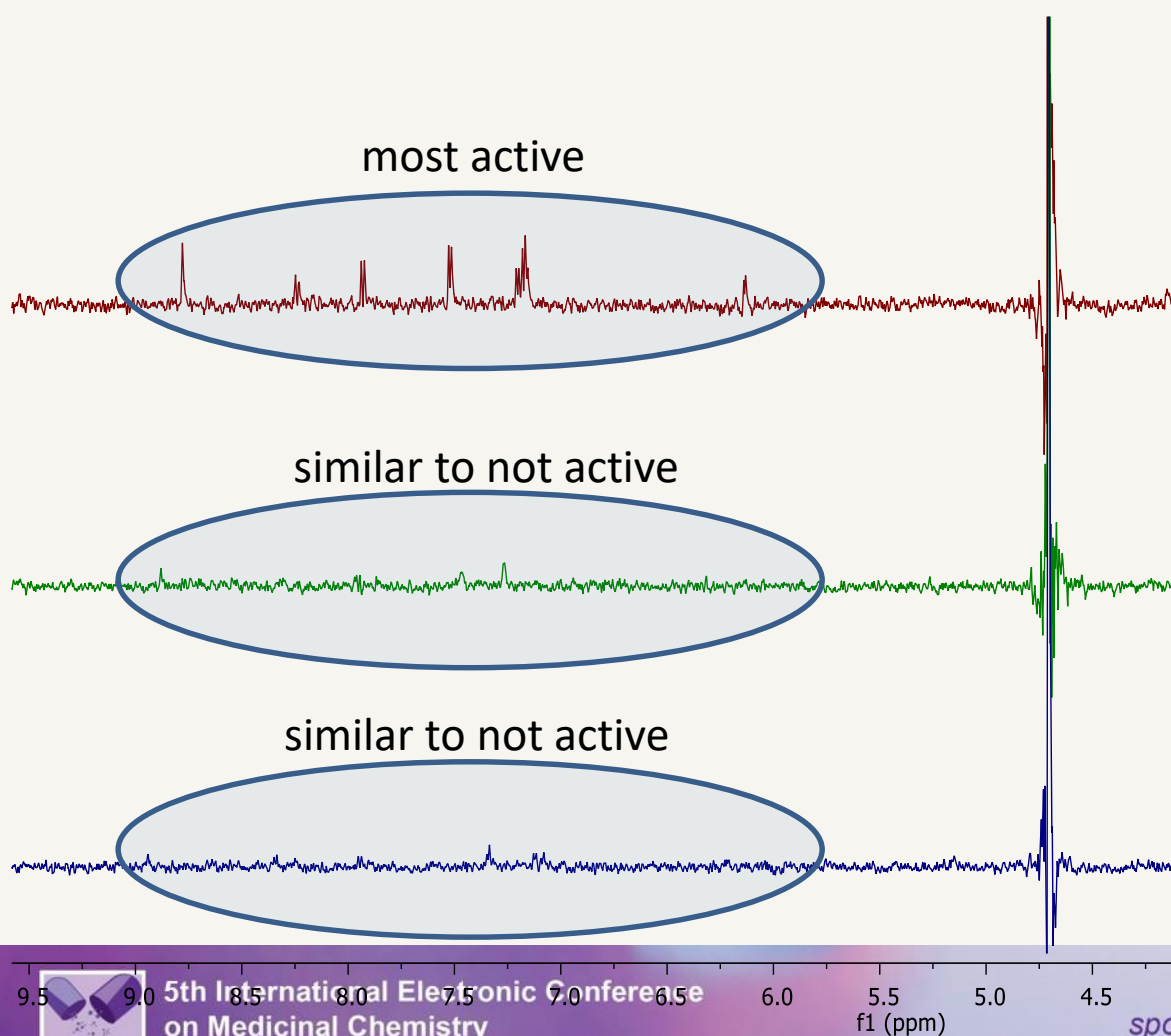
## Synthesis



# Results and discussion

## STD-NMR

Compounds 1, 2 and 3 interactions with  $A\beta_{1-42}$  oligomers



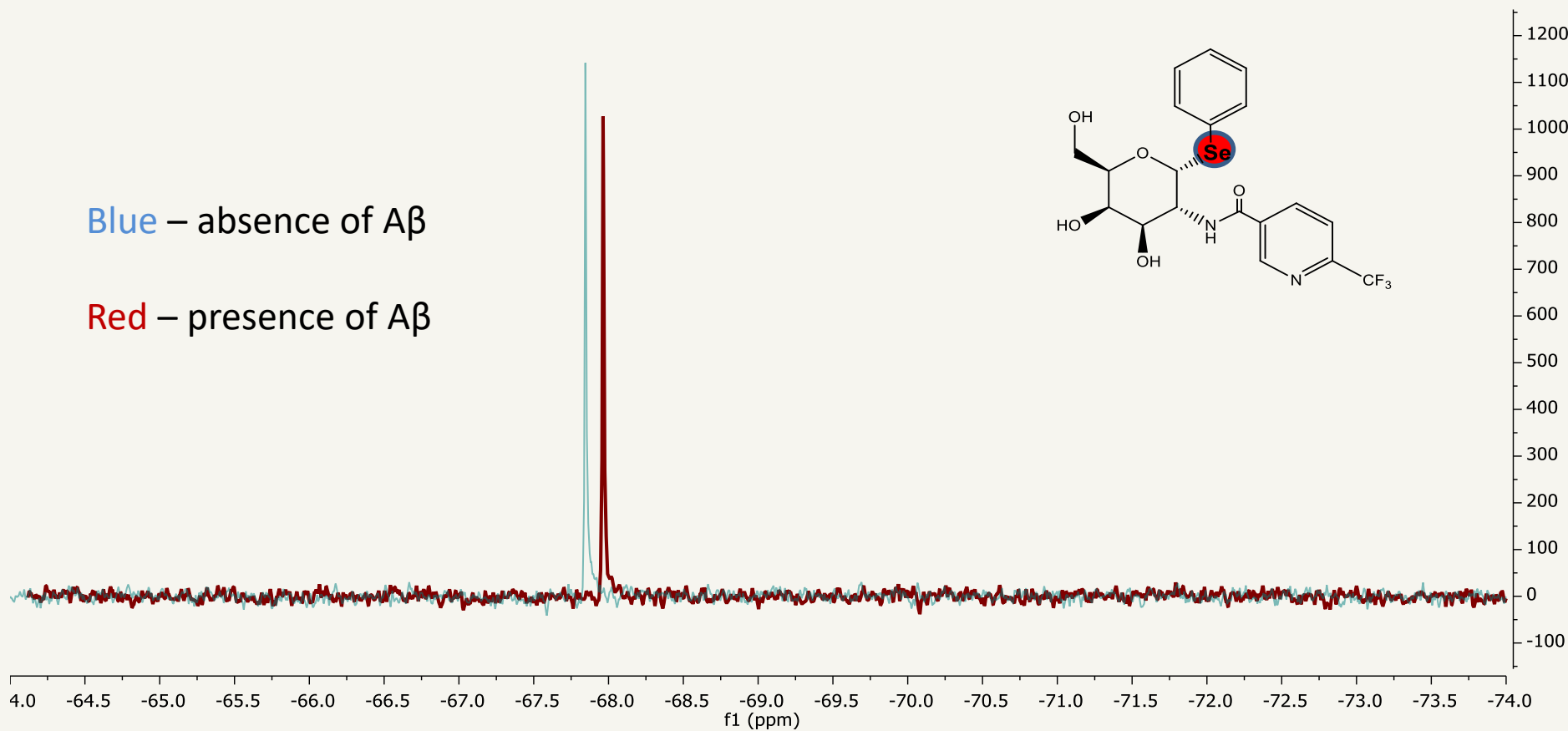
# Results and discussion

<sup>19</sup>F-NMR

Compound 1 interactions with A $\beta$ <sub>1-42</sub> oligomers – Positive result

Blue – absence of A $\beta$

Red – presence of A $\beta$



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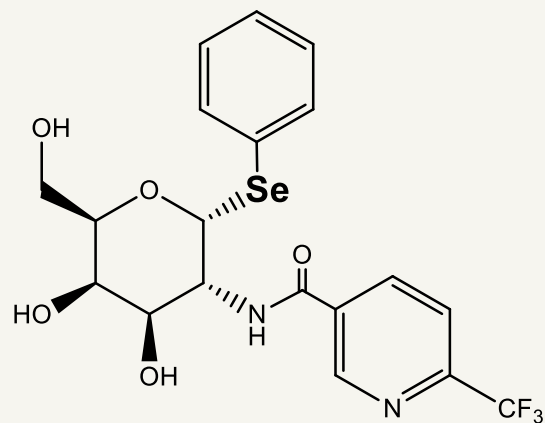


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# Results and discussion

## Toxicity Experiments

### MTT experiments



revealed to be non toxic

> 75 % cell viability (50  $\mu$ M)



# Conclusions

## *New GalNAc mimetics*

- Synthetic route aiming C2 *N*-functionalization;
- Anomeric substitution with stereochemical control.

## *A $\beta_{1-42}$ interaction (STD-NMR; <sup>19</sup>F-NMR) and toxicity results*

STD –NMR and <sup>19</sup>F-NMR:

- require the presence of selenium atom, at the anomeric position;
- selenogalactoside interact with A $\beta_{1-42}$  oligomers, opening the possibility to inhibit the PrP-A $\beta$  binding;

Compounds toxicity:

- selenogalactoside (active compound) is not toxic.



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