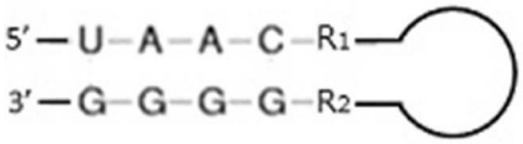
Claims

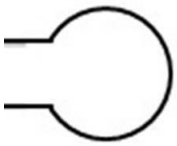
~~1. An aptamer that binds to chymase, and comprises a common sequence represented by UAACR$_1$N$_1$R$_2$GGGG wherein R$_1$ and R$_2$ are each any one base, and N$_1$ shows 3 to 30 bases (uracil is optionally thymine).~~

1~~2~~. An aptamer that binds to and inhibits the activity of chymase, and comprises a potential secondary structure represented by the formula (1) with a base length of 28 to 89 (uracil is optionally thymine):



(1)

wherein



(1')

in the formula (1) is a stem-loop partial structure with a base length of the stem-loop is 4 to 21, and R$_1$ and R$_2$ are each any one base.

~~3. The aptamer according to claim 1 or 2 that inhibits the activity of chymase.~~

2~~4~~. The aptamer according to ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1~~ to 3~~, wherein a combination of R$_1$ and R$_2$ is A/U, C/G, A/C or G/U (uracil is optionally thymine).

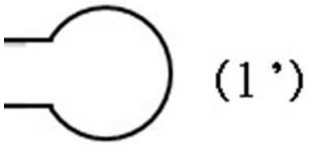
3~~5~~. The aptamer according to claim 1 or 2~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein at least one of pyrimidine nucleotides is modified or altered.

4~~6~~. The aptamer according to any one of claims 1 to 3~~5~~,

wherein U and/or C in the sequence $UAACR_1$ are/is modified or altered.

~~7. The aptamer according to any one of claims 2 to 6, wherein the stem-loop part of (1') has a base length of 3 - 21.~~

5~~8~~. The aptamer according to any one of claims 1 to 4~~7~~, wherein a sequence of N_1 or the stem-loop partial structure represented by



(1')

is UUGU, CUGG or AAUU (uracil is optionally thymine).

6~~9~~. The aptamer according to claim~~s~~ 1~~ or 2~~, comprising ~~any of~~ the nucleotide sequences of the following~~ (a), (b) and (c)~~:
~~(a)~~ a nucleotide sequence selected from any of SEQ ID NOs: 1 - 11 and 14 - 33 (uracil is optionally thymine)~~;~~
~~(b) a nucleotide sequence selected from any of SEQ ID NOs: 1 - 11 and 14 - 33 (uracil is optionally thymine) wherein one to several nucleotides are substituted, deleted, inserted or added; and~~
~~(c) a nucleotide sequence having identity of not less than 70% with a nucleotide sequence selected from any of SEQ ID NOs: 1 - 11 and 14 - 33 (uracil is optionally thymine)~~.

7~~10~~. The aptamer according to claim 6~~9~~, wherein at least one nucleotide contained in the aptamer is modified or altered.

8~~11~~. The aptamer according to claim 1~~ or 2~~, wherein a hydroxyl group at the 2'-position of ribose of each

pyrimidine nucleotide contained in the aptamer is the same or different and unsubstituted or substituted by an atom or a group selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom and a methoxy group.

9~~12~~. The aptamer according to claim 1~~ or 2~~, wherein the hydroxyl group at the 2'-position of ribose of each purine nucleotides contained in the aptamer is the same or different and unsubstituted or substituted by an atom or a group selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom and a methoxy group.

10~~13~~. A complex comprising the aptamer and a functional substance according to any one of claims 1 to 9~~12~~, wherein the functional substance is biotin, streptavidin, a polynucleotide possessing affinity for a target complementary sequence, an antibody, glutathione sepharose, histidine, a fluorescent label, a luminescent label, a radioisotope, an enzyme, a drug delivery vehicle, a drug or a toxin.

11~~14~~. A medicament comprising the aptamer according to any one of claims 1 to 9~~12~~ or the complex according to claim 10~~13~~.

12~~15~~. The medicament according to claim 11~~14~~ that is a therapeutic drug for a disease involving organ or tissue fibrosis, or a circulatory disease.

13~~16~~. The medicament according to claim 11~~14~~ that is a therapeutic drug for fibrosis.

14~~17~~. A method for detecting chymase in vitro, comprising using the aptamer according to any one of claims 1 to 9~~12~~ or the complex according to claim 10~~13~~.