Supplementary Information

Improving membrane permeation in the beyond rule-offive space by using prodrugs to mask hydrogen bond donors

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Supplementary Table S1. Examples of FDA-approved prodrugs and chemical probes containing promoieties that are cleaved enzymatically.

Prodrug	Masking groups	Unmasking enzyme	Target	Target location
HN F ON N HO N HO N	Carbamate	Carboxylesterase 2	Thymidylate synthase	Intracellular
Capecitabine ¹				
	Ester Carbamate	Carboxylesterase 1, Carboxylesterase 2	Thrombin	Extracellular
Dabigatran ²				
CI N N N Co Loratadine ³	Carbamate	Cyp3A4, Cyp2D6	Histamine H₁ receptor	Extracellular
Properties of the state of the	Carbamate	Carboxylesterase 2	Kv7 voltage sensitive K ⁺ channels	Extracellular
Sofasbuvir ⁵	Ester	Carboxylesterase 1, Cathepsin A	Hepatitis C NS5B protein	Intracellular
i Club i	Ester	Carboxylesterase 2	Probe for intracellular carboxylesterase 2 activity	Intracellular
CI NCEN ⁷	Haloamide	Carboxylesterase 2	Probe for intracellular carboxylesterase 2 activity	Intracellular

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- 2. S. C. Laizure, R. B. Parker, V. L. Herring and Z. Y. Hu, *Drug Metab Dispos*, 2014, **42**, 201-206.
- 3. N. Yumibe, K. Huie, K.-J. Chen, M. Snow, R. P. Clement and M. N. Cayen, *Biochemical Pharmacology*, 1996, **51**, 165-172.
- 4. K. Konishi, T. Fukami, T. Ogiso and M. Nakajima, *Biochem Pharmacol*, 2018, **155**, 242-251.
- 5. E. Murakami, T. Tolstykh, H. Bao, C. Niu, H. M. Steuer, D. Bao, W. Chang, C. Espiritu, S. Bansal, A. M. Lam, M. J. Otto, M. J. Sofia and P. A. Furman, *J Biol Chem*, 2010, **285**, 34337-34347.

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Supplementary Table S2. Properties affecting macrocycle permeability and apparent permeability (Papp) measured by PAMPA.

No.	Structure	MW	HBD	НВА	tPSA ^[a]	clogP ^[b]	Rot. Bonds	P _{app} [d] (× 10 ⁻⁶ cm/s)	Stability pH 7.4 ^[e]
1		538	5	10	146	5.1	8	0.2 ± 0.1	100%
2		552	4	10	137	5.8	8	1.0 ± 0.2	100%
3		566	3	10	128	6.4	8	5.5 ± 0.2	100%
4		580	2	10	119	6.9	8	4.3 ± 0.2	100%
5		593	1	10	110	7.3	8	5.0 ± 0.3	100%
6		566	4	10	128	6.2	8	5.0 ± 0.5	100%
7		556	4	10	128	6.4	8	3.6 ± 0.2	100%
8		566	4	10	128	6.4	8	4.9 ± 0.6	100%
9		566	4	10	128	6.4	8	5.4 ± 0.2	100%
10	NH I HN NZNH	589	4	12	152	3.9	8	<0.1	100%

11	ON THE	540	4	11	148	4.1	8	<0.1	100%
12	O NH ₂	580	5	12	171	3.2	9	<0.1	100%
13		556	5	12	171	3.7	8	<0.1	100%
14	NH HW OH	581	4	12	165	4.0	9	<0.1	100%
15		567	4	12	165	4.5	8	<0.1	100%
16	ON NH2	580	6	11	153	4.7	10	<0.1	100%
17		608	8	13	190	3.3	9	<0.1	100%
18		661	3	14	170	4.5	10	3.5 ± 0.2	30%
19		581	3	12	154	4.9	9	1.9 ± 0.4	100%
20		724	3	15	201	5.5	13	5.6 ± 0.3	100%
21		710	3	15	201	5.5	12	8.1 ± 0.2	100%
22		294	3	12	154	4.5	10	3.3 ± 0.1	100%
23		581	3	12	154	4.9	9	3.9 ± 0.2	100%

24	622	4	12	157	4.2	11	0.7 ± 0.1	100%
25	676	4 ^[c]	12	157	5.4	12	4.8 ± 0.2	100%
26	753	5 ^[c]	17	217	6.3	14	1.3 ± 0.3	100%

- [a] tPSA calculated with ChemDraw (ChemDraw Professional, Version 18.1.0.535, Perkin Elmer) on 2D structures.
- [b] clogP calculated with ChemDraw (ChemDraw Professional, Version 18.1.0.535, Perkin Elmer). We note that clogP values may not reflect logP for this class of compounds.
- [c] These compounds may form intramolecular hydrogen bonds.
- [d] Data are the average of 3 independent experiments and expressed with the standard error of the mean.
- [e] Stability is express as percentage remaining after incubation for 24h in phosphate buffer at 25°C.

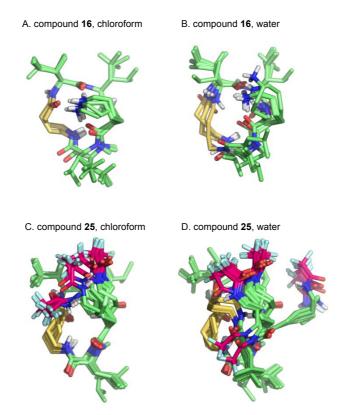
Computational Modelling

Methods

Mixed torsional/low mode¹ conformational searches were performed on each peptide using Batchmin (version 12.2) from the Schrodinger modelling suite. The search used the OPLS3e force field² and the implicit MM-GB/SA³ water and chloroform solvation models. Each search was 10000 steps. The extended search option was used, which considers all rotatable bonds (including amide bonds) in the calculation. Physicochemical properties of the global minimum energy conformations were calculated using QikProp⁴ and Silico⁵.

- 1. Kolossvary, I., Guida, W. C. (1996). Low mode search. An efficient, automated computational method for conformational analysis: Application to cyclic and acyclic alkanes and cyclic peptides. *J Amer Chem Soc*, *118*(21), 5011–5019.
- 2. Roos, K., Wu, C., Damm, W., Reboul, M., Stevenson, J. M., Lu, C., et al. (2019). OPLS3e: Extending Force Field Coverage for Drug-Like Small Molecules. *J Chem Theor Comput*, 15(3), 1863–1874. http://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jctc.8b01026
- 3. Still, W. C., Tempczyk, A., Hawley, R. C., Hendrickson, T. (1990). Semianalytical Treatment of Solvation for Molecular Mechanics and Dynamics. *J Amer Chem Soc*, 112(16), 6127–6129. http://doi.org/10.1021/ja00172a038
- 4. Qikprop. Version 6.2, Schrödinger, LLC, New York, NY
- 5. Silico, a Perl molecular toolkit. Chalmers and Roberts. http://silico.sourceforge.net

Results



Supplementary Figure S1. Low energy conformations (< 8 kJ/mol above the global minimum) of compounds **16** and **25** in chloroform and water. The aminobutyric acid linker is shown in yellow. The trifluoroacetyl masking group present in compound **26** is shown in pink. Conformers were generated using a mixed torsional/low mode conformational search with the GB/SA implicit solvation model.

Compound **16** in chloroform exhibits compact conformations with H-bonds between the lysine ϵ -ammonium group and backbone amide carbonyl groups. In water, the lysine is extended with the ammonium group well-solvated by water. In compound **25**, the trifluoroacetyl group packs against the macrocyclic core in both water and chloroform. In all conformers, a persistent type II' β -turn is formed by the γ Abu-N-Me-Ile-Leu-Lys/Lys(TFA) residues.

Supplementary Table S3. Properties of global minimum energy conformations of unmasked (**3, 10-17**) and masked (**18-26**) compounds computed using QikProp and Silico. Low energy conformations were calculated using the OPLS3e force field with MM/GBSA solvation models for water and chloroform.

Compound	nHBD	nHBA	nH	IB	Unsa	tDon	Unsa	tAcc	SASA	(Ų)	FISA	(Ų)	QPlog	Po/w	QPP	Сасо	PSA	(Ų)
			water	CHCl ₃	water	CHCl₃	water	CHCl ₃	water	CHCl₃	water	CHCl ₃	water	CHCl₃	water	CHCl₃	water	CHCl₃
3	3	5	1	1	2	2	8	8	861	886	59	76	2.01	1.86	1101	558	138	130
10	4	7	0	3	4	1	12	7	821	899	115	153	0.63	0.79	215	83	168	157
11	4	5	3	3	1	1	6	6	794	804	96	99	0.43	0.42	348	324	142	135
12	4	6	3	3	1	1	7	7	839	849	155	151	-0.71	-0.64	51	56	172	173
13	4	6	2	2	2	2	9	8	825	811	173	153	-0.96	-0.89	38	64	184	181
14	3	5	0	3	3	0	12	7	844	864	186	116	0.54	0.93	11	55	189	157
15	3	5	1	2	2	1	10	9	860	821	173	137	0.55	0.55	14	22	183	167
16	4	5	2	4	3	2	8	5	838	838	78	56	0.70	0.77	184	365	161	149
17	6	7	3	3	3	3	7	7	879	813	164	127	0.27	0.27	96	349	189	188
18	3	7	2	3	1	0	11	9	876	879	135	103	0.47	0.65	152	386	178	159
19	3	5	2	2	1	1	9	9	835	818	122	124	0.35	0.35	224	182	156	163
20	3	6	2	3	1	0	13	11	906	963	160	127	0.69	1.29	94	216	213	202
21	3	6	2	2	1	1	13	13	926	885	150	132	0.77	0.68	135	196	218	203
22	3	5	2	2	1	1	9	8	783	909	114	116	0.27	0.97	204	247	154	165
23	3	5	2	2	1	1	9	9	838	843	125	105	0.39	0.73	169	248	162	156
25	4	6	1	3	3	1	10	7	961	893	125	78	1.11	1.22	92	608	170	151
26	5	8	4	4	1	1	10	10	1006	972	178	181	2.44	2.38	60	57	223	224

nHBD: Total number of hydrogen bond donors (Silico). nHBA: Total number of hydrogen bond acceptors (Silico). nHB: Number of intramolecular hydrogen bonds present in global minimum energy conformation (GM) (Silico). UnsatDon: Unsatisfied hydrogen bond donor i.e. donor groups not making an intramolecular hydrogen bond in GM (Silico). UnsatAcc: Unsatisfied acceptors i.e. hydrogen bond acceptors not making an intramolecular hydrogen bond in GM (Silico). SASA: Solvent accessible surface area in GM (QikProp). FISA: Polar solvent accessible surface area of GM (QikProp). QPlogPo/w: Predicted LogP of GM (QikProp). QPPCaco: Predicted CACO2 permeability of GM (QikProp). PSA: Polar surface area of GM (QikProp)

NMR Spectroscopy

Methods

 1 H NMR experiments were recorded on a Bruker 600 MHz spectrometer at 298 K. Compounds were dissolved in 90% H $_{2}$ O/10% 2 H $_{2}$ O and adjusted to pH 4.6. The spectra were referenced using 1,4-dioxane as an internal standard.

Results

¹H NMR spectra were acquired for both the compounds **16** and **25**. Compound **16** shows a single species with three amide resonances at 7.34 ppm, 7.61ppm and 8.31 ppm, and a broad ammonium resonance at 7.56 ppm (Figure S2A). Compound **25** showed two conformers one with three macrocyclic amide resonances at 7.50, 7.66 and 8.21 ppm and trifluoroacetamide resonance at 9.27 ppm, and a second conformer with macrocyclic amide resonances at 7.40, 7.83, and 7.96 ppm and a trifluoroacetamide resonance at 9.30 ppm.

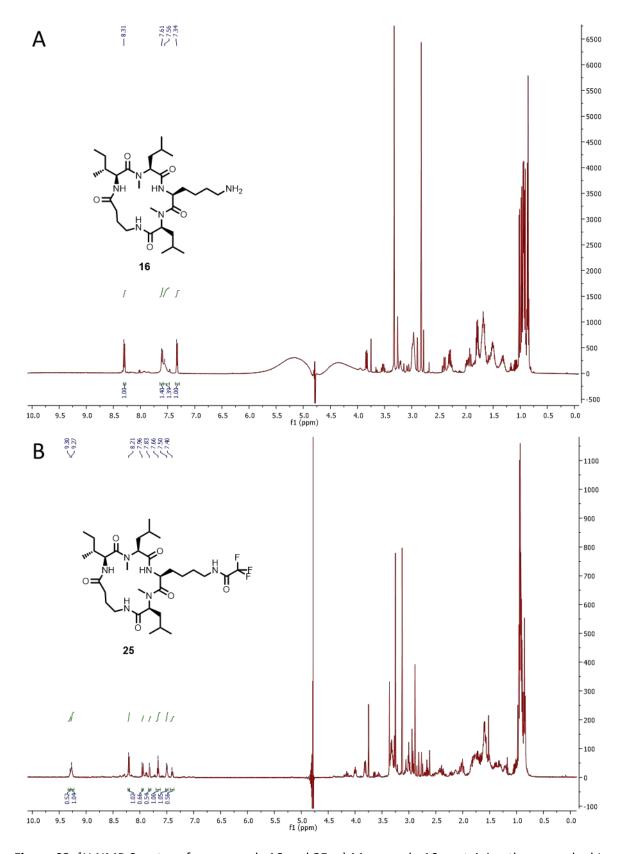


Figure S2. ¹H NMR Spectra of compounds **16** and **25**. a) Macrocycle **16** containing the unmasked Lys sidechain. Amide resonances are consistent with a single conformation in water. b) Macrocycle **25** contains a Lys side chain masked as a trifluoroacetamide. Amide resonances are consistent with two major conformations in water. Amide resonances for both conformations are different from those

recorded for **16** and are consistent with the computational modelling results, which suggest both the interactions of macrocyclic amides with the side chain and the likely occurrence of 2-3 conformations.

PAMPA Assay

Pion Stirwell PAMPA sandwich plates were prepared with an artificial membrane solution of 2.5% lecithin in dodecane (5 μ L per well) and an acceptor well solution of PBS buffer (200 μ L per well, pH 7.4). Donor solutions of macrocycle in PBS (500 μ M, 5% DMSO) were prepared and added to donor wells (200 μ L per well). Acceptor wells were then placed on top of the donor wells and incubated for 4 h. Concentrations of macrocycle in each acceptor well were then measured by UV integration on an LCMS and expressed apparent permeability using equation 1.

$$\mathsf{Papp} = C_{\mathsf{A}}/\mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{D}}^* V/At \tag{1}$$

Here C_A is the final concentration in the acceptor well measured by UV integration, C_D is the initial concentration in the donor well measured by UV integration, V is the volume of the donor well (0.2 cm³), A is the area of the lipid membrane (0.3 cm²) and t is the incubation time (14400 s).

Caco-2 Assay

Caco-2 cells were seeded onto $0.3~\rm cm^2$ polycarbonate filter transwells at a density of 60000 cells per well. The transport experiment was conducted using confluent cell monolayers on day 24 post-seeding. Permeability experiments were performed using pH 7.4 Hanks balanced salt solution (containing 20 mM HEPES) in both the apical and basolateral chambers. Donor solutions were prepared at a nominal concentration of $50~\mu M$ for all compounds with a final DMSO concentration of $0.1\%~\rm v/v$. All donor solutions were equilibrated at $37^{\circ} C$ for 4 h before centrifuging at 4000 rpm for 5 min to remove any compound that may have precipitated. The visually clear supernatant buffer solution was used in the permeability experiment and compound concentration in aliquots of this bulk solution was measured. Compound flux was assessed over a period of 120 min in the apical to basolateral direction, with samples taken from the acceptor chamber at the end of the transport experiment, and samples taken from the donor chamber at the start (approximately 2 min) and end of the experiment. Apparent permeability was calculated using equation 1.

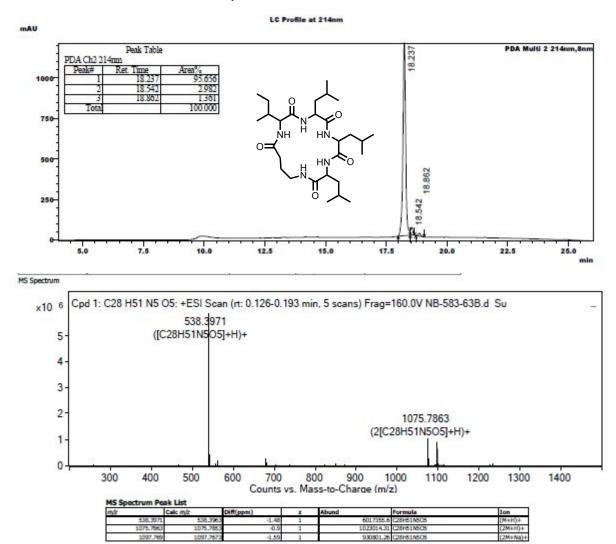
HPLC and High-Resolution Mass Spectrometric Characterisation of Macrocycles

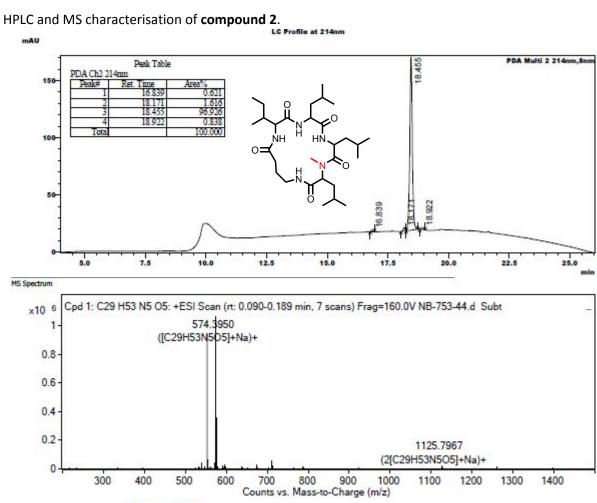
All compounds were analysed by LCMS using a Shimadzu LCMS-2020 fitted with a Phenomenex Luna C8 (100 x2mm) using a gradient of 1-100% MeCN in water for 15 min with 0.1% TFA throughout. The UV chromatogram (λ =214) from this analysis was used to calculate percentage purity. All compounds reported were found to have a purity > 95%.

High-resolution mass spectrum analysis was performed on an Agilent 6224 TOF LCMS by direct injection. All compounds were identified as either the protonated or sodiated cation with a mass error <5 ppm.

Chromatogram and high-resolution mass spectrum outputs for each compound are provided below.

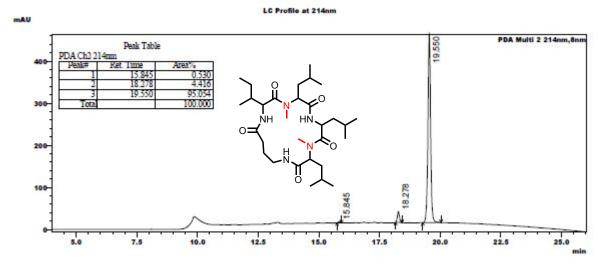
HPLC and MS characterisation of **compound 1**.

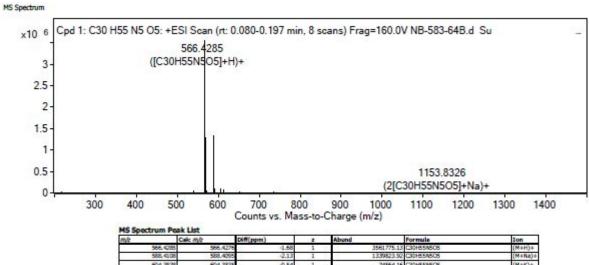




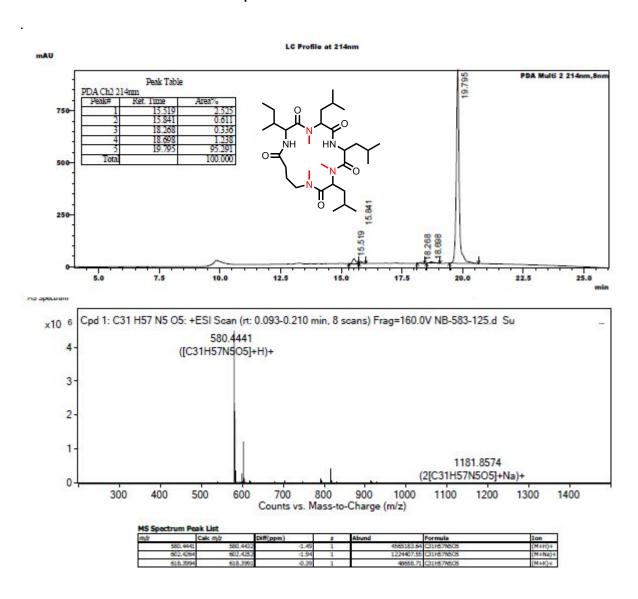
S	1	2

HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 3.

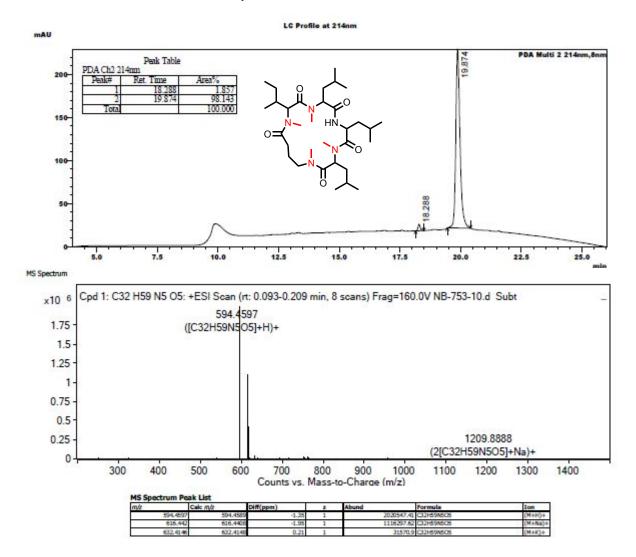




HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 4.



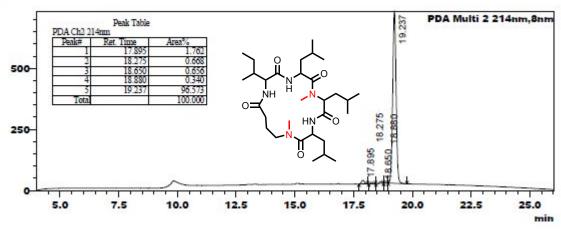
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 5.

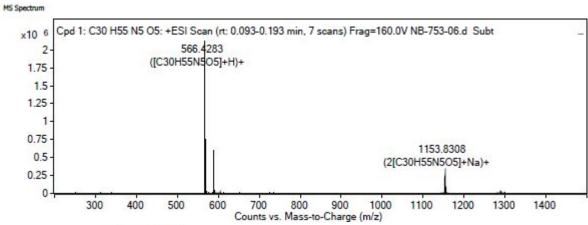


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 6.



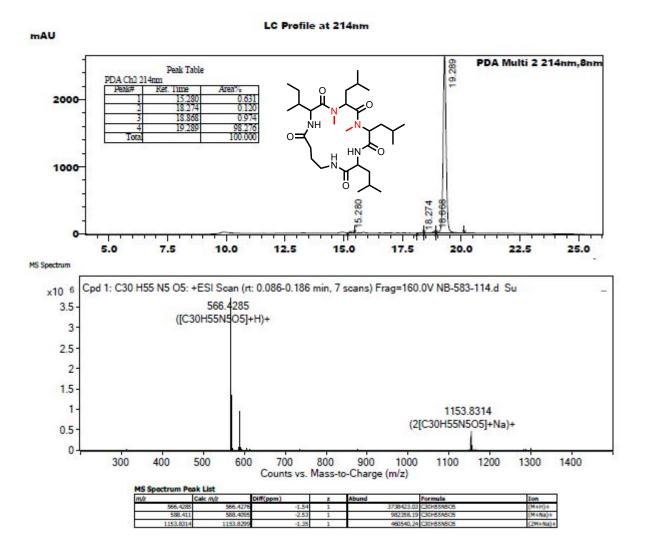
LC Profile at 214nm



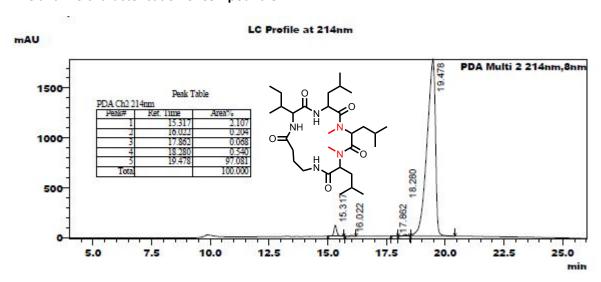


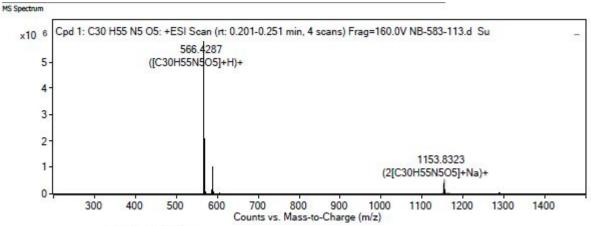
m/z	Calc m/z	Diff(ppm)	2	Abund	Formula	Ion
566,4283	586.4276	-1.31	1	2130258.12	C30H55N5OS	(M+H)+
588,4109	588,4095	-2.25	1	609169.57	C30H55N5OS	(M+Na)+
1153,8308	1153.8299	-0.81	1	335509.49	C30H55N5O5	(2M+Na)

HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 7.



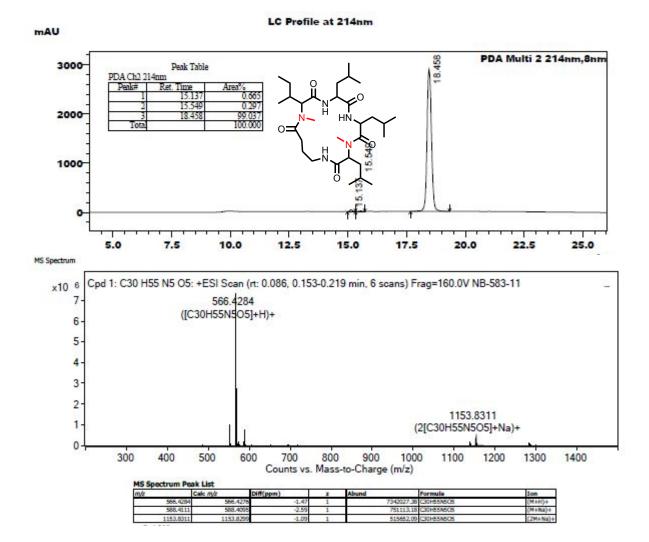
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 8.





MS Spectrum Pe	MS Spectrum Peak List												
m/z	Calc m/z	Diff(ppm)	z	Abund	Formula	Ion							
566,4287	566,4276	-1.95	1	5798080.92	C30H55N5OS	(M+H)+							
588,4113	588,4095	-2.93	1	1024718.12	C30H55N5O5	(M+Na)+							
1163 8939	1183 8300	-214	4	642060.3	CHARRANCE	COMMENSA							

HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 9.

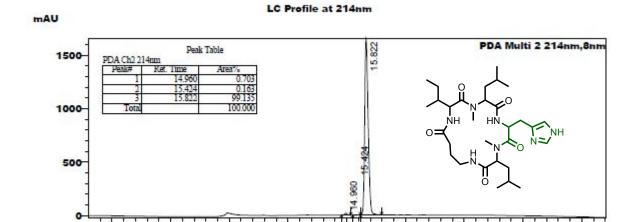


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 10.

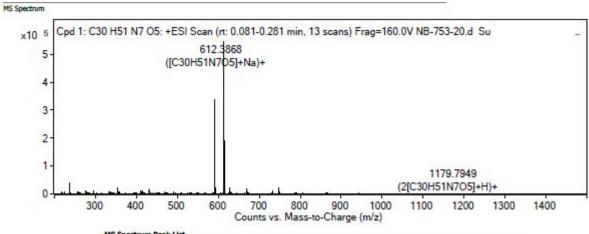
7.5

10.0

5.0



12.5



15.0

17.5

20.0

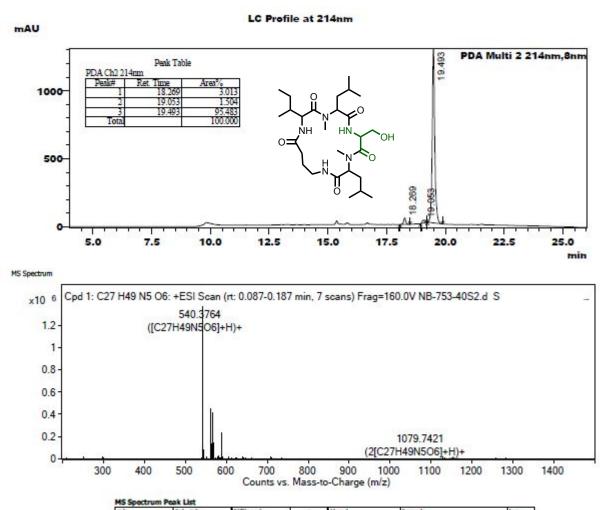
25.0

min

22.5

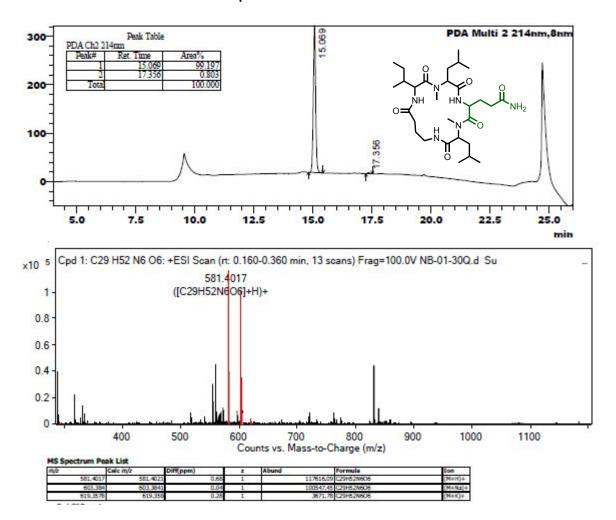
m/z	Calc m/c	Diff(ppm)	z	Abund	Formula	Ion
59	0.4046 590.4	124 3.62	1	341104.99	C30H51N7OS	(M+H)+
61	2.3868 612.3	944	1	545965.88	C30H51N7OS	(M+Na)
62	8.3891 628.3	4.18	1	18740.38	C30H51N7OS	(M+K)+

HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 11.

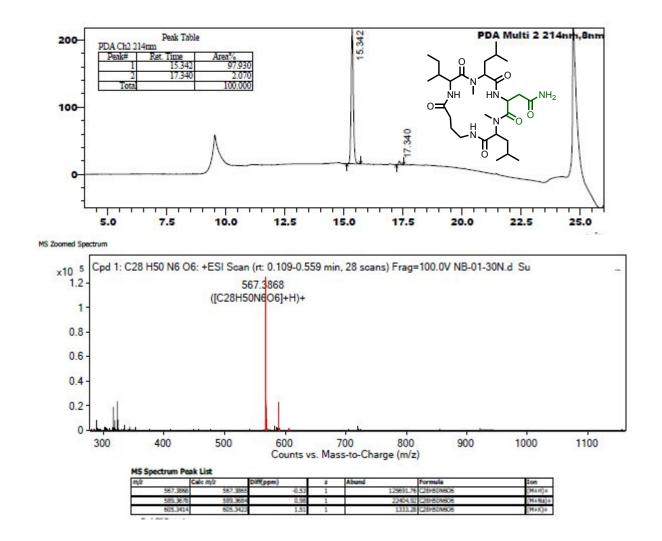


- 12	1/0	Calc /tt/2	Diff(ppm)	2	Abund	Formula	Ion
Г	540,3764	540.3756	-1.61	1	1375311.51	C27H49NSO6	(M+H)+
1	562,3588	562,3575	-2.21	1	489571.99	C27H49NSO6	(M+Na)+
ा	578.3311	578,3314	0.66	1	15490.8	C27H49N5O6	(M+K)+

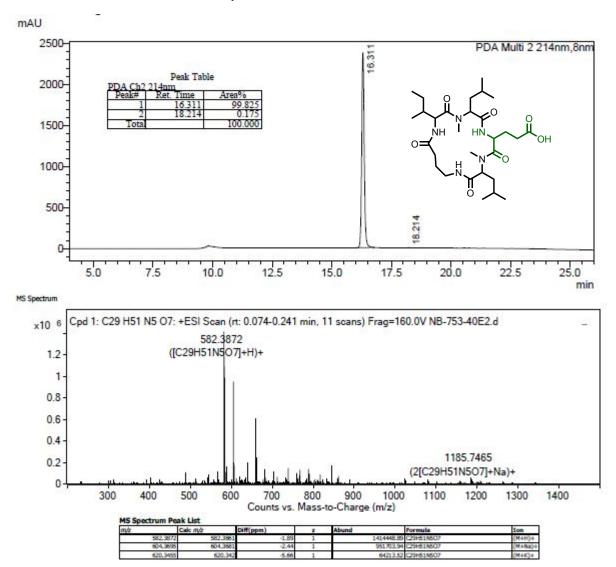
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 12.



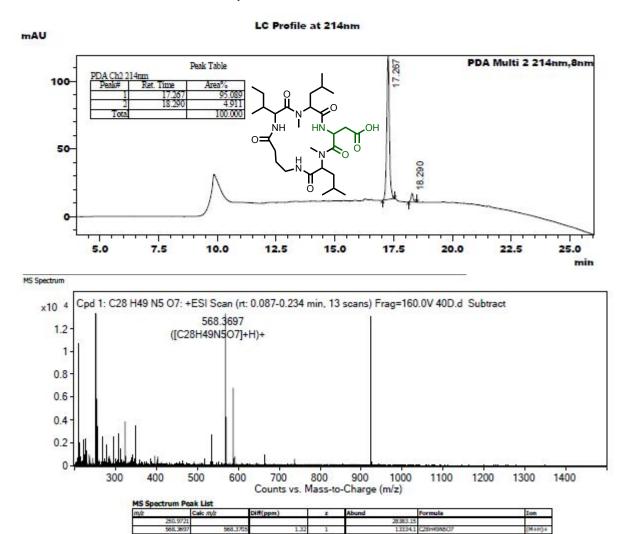
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 13.



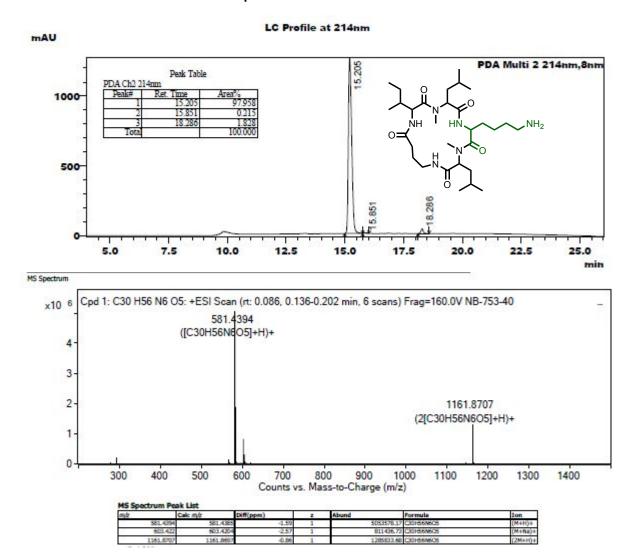
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 14.



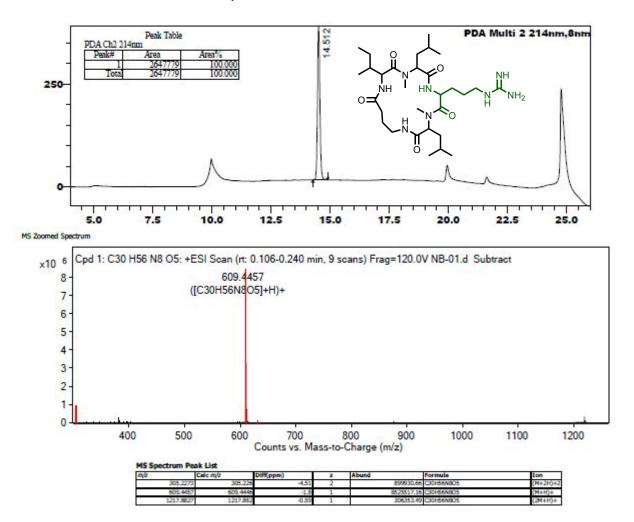
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 15.



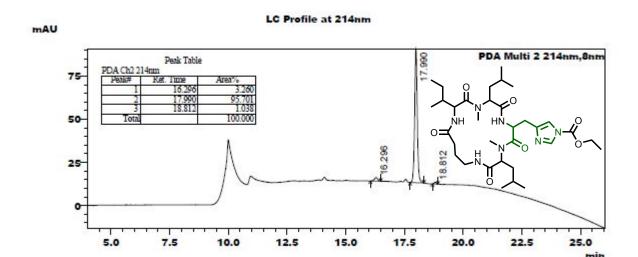
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 16.

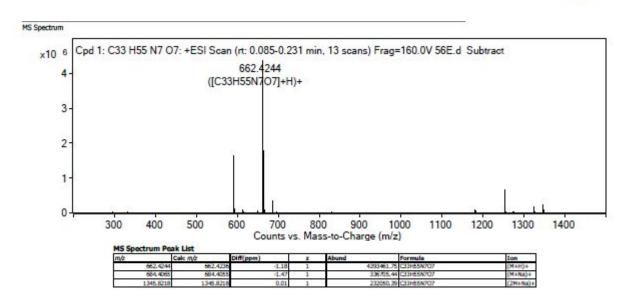


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 17.

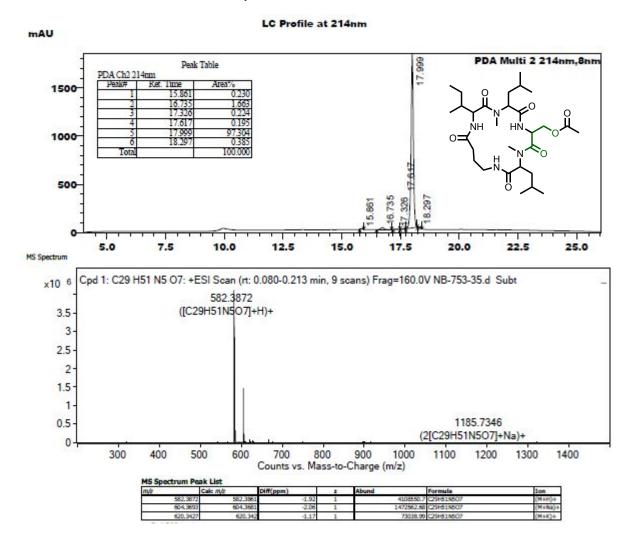


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 18.

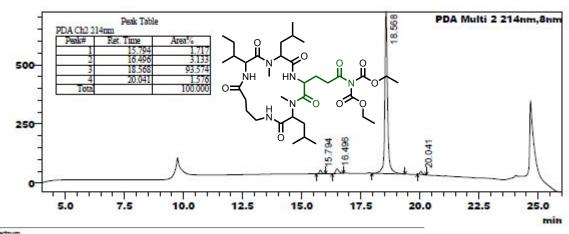


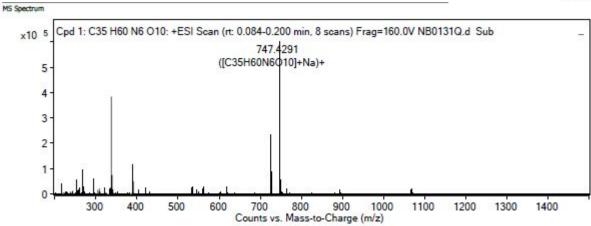


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 19.



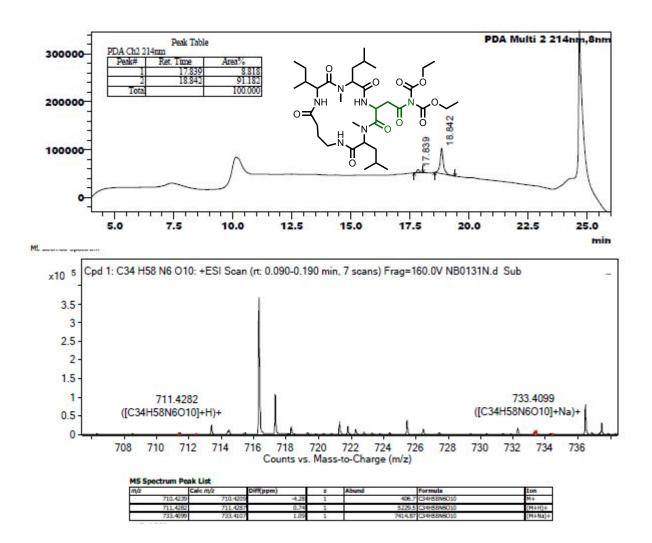
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 20.





MS Spectrum Pe	ak List					
m/z	Calc m/z	Diff(ppm)	2	Abund	Formula	Ion
725,4466	725,4444	3.09	1	237598.1	C35H60N6O10	(M+H)+
747.4291	747.4263	3.76	-1	611253.91	C35H60N6010	(M+Na)+
763.4007	763.4003	-0.58	-1	21159.24	C35H6DN6O10	(M+K)+

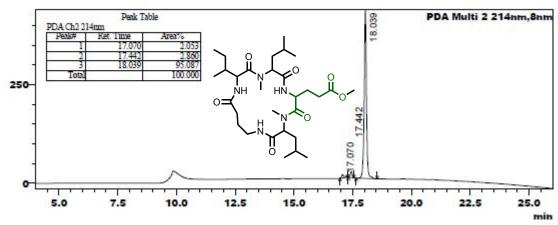
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 21.

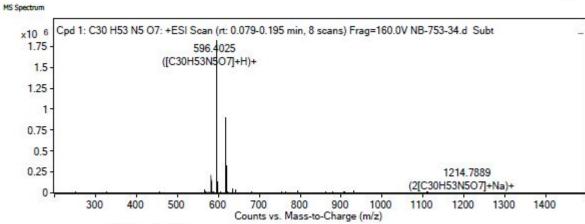


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 22.



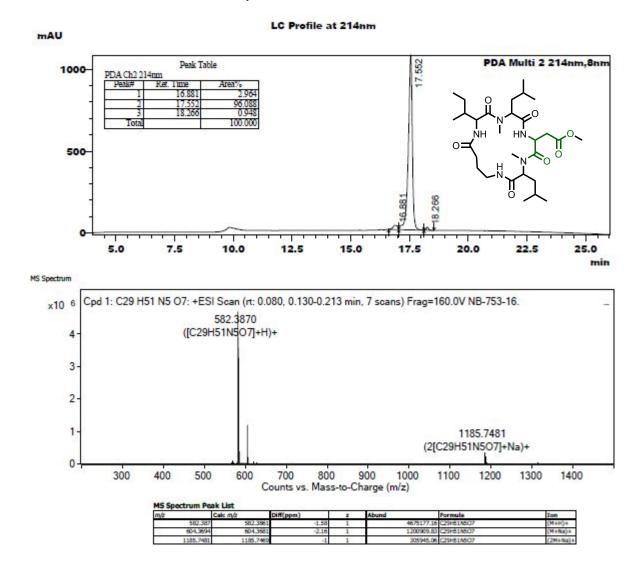
LC Profile at 214nm



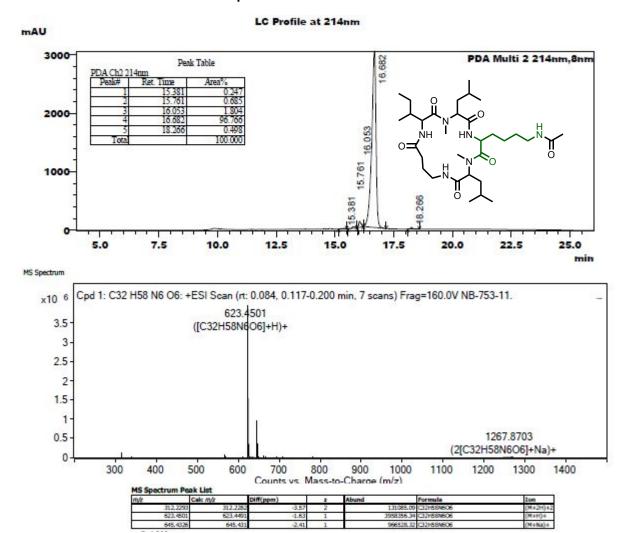


MS Spectrum Peak List									
m/z	Calc m/z	Diff(ppm)	r	Abund	Formula	Ion			
596,4025	596,4018	-1.27	1	1845860.43	C30H53N507	(M+H)+			
618.385	618.3837	-2.07	1	895370.6	C30H53N507	(M+Na)+			
634,3575	634.3577	0.21	1	38896.01	C30H53N507	(M+K)+			

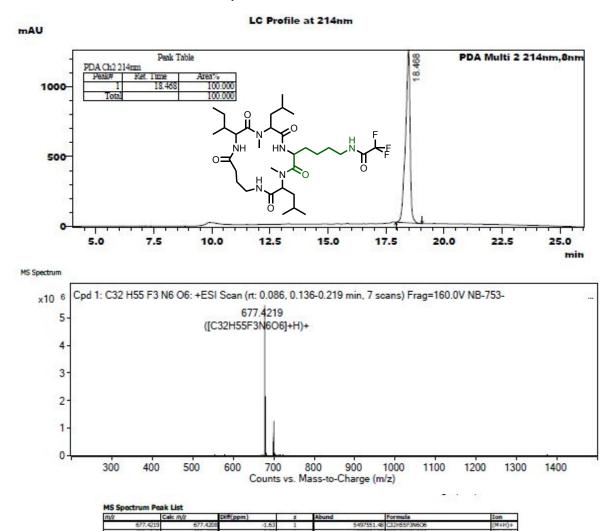
HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 23.



HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 24.

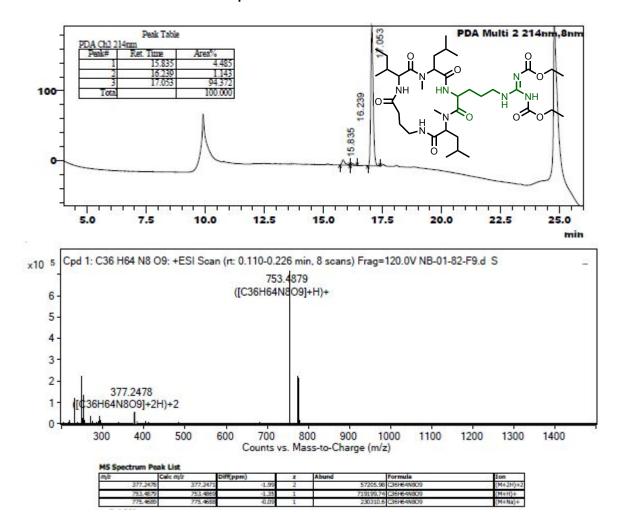


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 25.

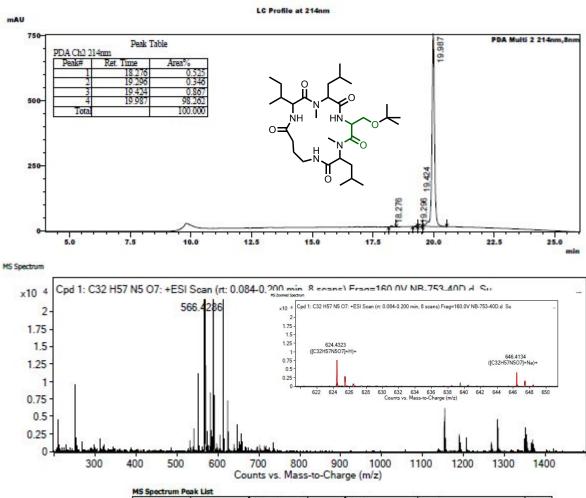


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HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 26.

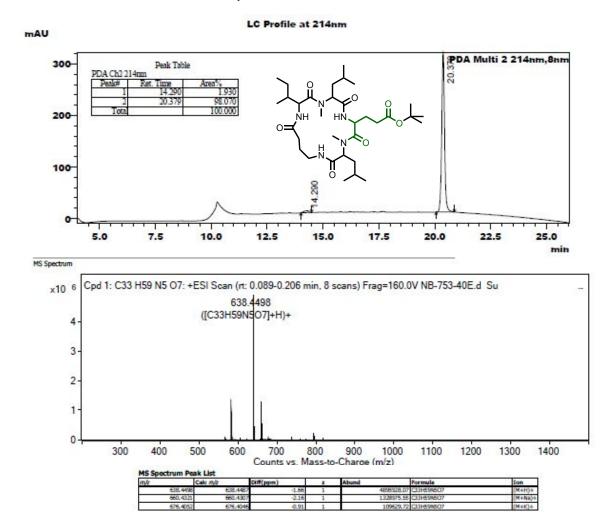


HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 27.



MS Spectrum Peak List									
m/r		Calc m/z	Diff(ppm)	z:	Abund	Formula	Ion		
(S)	566,4236	3 9/20/13	- 52		460348.3	A Communication	W 17		
(d)	624.4323	624,4331	1.22	1	7340.88	C32H57N5O7	(M+H)+		
	646,4134	646,415	2.49	1	3902.64	C32H57N5O7	(M+Na)		

HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 28.



HPLC and MS characterisation of compound 29.

