Targeting pathogenic Acanthamoeba castellanii using DNA minor groove binding agents

3	Hasan Y. Alniss ^{1,2} *, Sreedevi Sajeev ² , Ruqaiyyah Siddiqui ^{3,4} , Meshal Daalah ⁵ , Bader S.
4	Alawfi ⁶ , Hadeel M. Al-Jubeh ² , Anil Ravi ² , Naveed A. Khan ^{7,4} *.
5	¹ College of Pharmacy, Department of Medicinal Chemistry, University of Sharjah, 27272,
6	Sharjah, United Arab Emirates; ² Research Institute for Medical and Health Sciences,
7	University of Sharjah, 27272, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates; ³ Institute of Biological
8	Chemistry, Biophysics and Bioengineering, Heriot-Watt University Edinburgh, EH14 4AS
9	UK; ⁴ Microbiota Research Center, Istinye University, Istanbul, 34010, Turkey; ⁵ Department
10	of Medical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Health Sciences Center,
11	Kuwait University, Jabriya, Kuwait; ⁶ Department of Medical Laboratories Technology,
12	College of Applied Medical Sciences, Taibah University, Madinah 42353, Saudi Arabia;
13	⁷ School of Science, College of Science and Engineering, University of Derby, DE22
14	1GB, UK.
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18	*Corresponding address: Naveed. A. Khan, School of Science, College of Science and
19	Engineering, University of Derby, Derby, DE22 1GB, UK; Hasan Y. Alniss, College of
20	Pharmacy, University of Sharjah, Sharjah, 27272, United Arab Emirates Arab Emirate. Tel:
21	+(971)-6-5057427.

23 Abstract

DNA minor groove binders exhibit a high degree of sequence specificity and have a 24 variety of biological actions including antiviral, anticancer, antibacterial, and anti-protozoal 25 properties. Since it is the location of non-covalent interactions, the minor groove of double 26 helical B-DNA is gaining significant interest as therapeutic targets. For the purpose of this 27 investigation, the synthesis of five novel DNA minor groove binding agents was accomplished 28 and antiparasitic efficacies were determined against Acanthamoeba castellanii of the T4 29 genotype in vitro. Using amoebicidal assays, the results revealed that all inhibitors tested 30 showed significant killing of amoebae (P<0.05). Pre-treatment of amoebae with DNA minor 31 groove binders inhibited parasite-mediated human cell death by measuring lactate 32 dehydrogenase release using cytopathogenicity assays. Cytotoxicity assays revealed minimal 33 effects on human cells. As phenotypic switching leads to infection recurrence, assays revealed 34 that the inhibitors blocked amoebae transformation. These are promising findings and suggest 35 that DNA minor groove binders may hold promise for further research in the effective 36 eradication of pathogenic A. castellanii. 37

38 Key words: *Acanthamoeba*; Parasites; Cytopathogenicity; Cytotoxicity; DNA minor groove
39 binders (MGBs); Treatment.

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42 Introduction

A multitude of research endeavours have been dedicated to the precise targeting of 43 specific DNA sequences using synthetic ligands, aiming to advance the development of 44 medications and molecular probes for studying DNA polymorphism. The control of gene 45 expression, or the selective blockage of transcription from specific regions by the specific 46 targeting of a ligand, has become a particularly appealing and productive study subject (Bailly 47 and Henichart, 1991; Nielsen, 1991; Verma et al., 2022). The need for novel anti-infective 48 medications to treat bacterial, fungal, parasitic, and viral illnesses has been well-49 known medically and strategically. The rise of resistant strains of microorganisms has resulted 50 in drug-resistant diseases globally, as classified by the WHO (O'Neill et al., 2019). A large 51 number of non-covalent binding agents target the minor groove. DNA binding to specific 52 sequences, primarily AT, is accomplished through a combination of specific hydrogen bonding 53 54 to base pair edges, Van der Waals interactions with the walls of minor groove, and generalized electrostatic interactions with backbone of DNA (Alniss, 2019). The main advantage of this 55 reversible binding mode of MGBs is that it avoids inducing permanent DNA damage, a 56 common issue encountered with alkylating agents that form covalent bonds with DNA, leading 57 to mutations and irreversible damage. Although there is growing evidence that most minor 58 59 groove interacting molecules may function by directly reducing or preventing protein-DNA recognition, relatively little is documented about the molecular basis of their mode of actions 60 61 (Lauria et al., 2007).

Pathogenic *Acanthamoeba* are free-living parasites that are abundant in the environment
and cause opportunistic infections (Marciano-Cabral and Cabral, 2003; Visvesvara et al.,
2007). These organisms cause granulomatous amoebic encephalitis (GAE), a rare disease that
affects the central nervous system, particularly in immunocompromised people, and wellknown to produce keratitis (AK), i.e., a corneal infection that can result in blindness (Clarke

and Niederkorn, 1999; Marciano-Cabral and Cabral, 2003; Visvesvara et al., 2007; Panjwani,
2010; Shing et al., 2021; Siddiqui et al., 2022a). Treatment is problematic and prognosis is
poor despite advances in antimicrobial chemotherapy. Here, DNA minor groove binders were
evaluated for their effects against amoebae.

71 Material and Methods

72 General Chemistry

We sourced chemical reagents through Sigma-Aldrich (Germany) as well as Santa Cruz 73 Biotechnology Inc. (CA, USA) for our experiments, using them without additional purification. 74 The 1H and 13C NMR experiments were conducted on a Bruker 500 MHz instrument, with 75 chemical shifts provided in parts per million (ppm, δ -values) relative to the internal 76 77 tetramethylsilane standard. NMR data analysis was performed uutilizing ACD NMR software. To confirm the structure of intermediate and final MGB compounds, NMR spectroscopy and 78 79 mass spectrometry were employed. We conducted electrospray ionization-mass spectrometry 80 (ESI-MS) experiments utilizing a mass spectrometer (MicromassW Quattro microTM, Waters Corp., USA) equipped with an electrospray ionization (ESI) interface, and it operated in the 81 positive ionization mode. Full spectral characterizations of MGB compounds are provided in 82 the Supplementary Information. For the purification of the MGB final products, we employed 83 reverse-phase liquid chromatography (Agilent 1260 infinity HPLC, CA, USA) with a C18 84 column (5 μ m; 25 cm \times 9.4 mm i.d) utilizing gradient elution and a detection wavelength of 260 85 86 nm.

87 General experimental procedure for the synthesis MGB final products

The MGB compounds were synthesized using the standard protocol as previously
described (Alniss et al., 2019; 2022). In brief, different carboxylic acid moieties (3a, 3b and

6) were coupled with nitro compounds (1a, 1b, and 4) to obtain the MGB final products. 90 Equimolar quantities of (1a, 1b, and 4) were dissolved in a mixture of 3 mL methanol and 3.5 91 mL THF. The solution was then cooled to 0 °C, and 10%-Pd/C (0.1 g) was gradually added to 92 the reaction flask. The flask underwent repeated evacuation and hydrogen refilling, the 93 reaction was then left stirring under hydrogen for four hours. After Pd filtration, the solvent 94 was removed under reduced pressure, resulting in an oily amine product. This amine was then 95 96 mixed with DMF (1.5 mL) and added drop by drop to a flask containing equimolar amounts of the acid, HBTU, and triethylamine (5 equivalent), dissolved in 3 mL DMF. The reaction 97 98 mixture was left to stir overnight under nitrogen gas at room temperature. Following the removal of the organic solvent under vacuum, 12 mL sodium bicarbonate solution was 99 introduced, and the MGB product was extracted twice with ethyl acetate (2x15ml). The 100 101 organic solvent was evaporated, and the crude MGB product underwent purification through reverse phase HPLC using gradient elution. The resulting product solution was freeze-dried 102 to yield the desired MGB in the form of solid TFA salts. 103

104 Acanthamoeba Culturing

Acanthamoeba castellanii genotype T4 (ATCC 50492) were grown in 10 mL of PYG
media (0.75% proteose peptone, 0.75% yeast extract, and 1.5% glucose) at 30°C (RodriguezExposito et al., 2022) in tissue culture flasks. Following 48 hours of incubation, amoebae
cultures reached over 90% confluency and used for subsequent assays (Mungroo et al., 2020).

109 Human cerebral microvascular endothelial (HCME) cells

Human cerebral microvascular endothelial cells (HCME) cells were grown in RPMI
supplemented with 1% penicillin-streptomycin (Pen-Strep), 1% minimum essential medium
amino acids, 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), and 1% L-glutamine in an incubator with 5% CO₂

with 95% humidity at 37°C. After the media was aseptically removed, the cells were
enzymatically detached using 2 mL of trypsin-EDTA. The cells were then centrifuged for 5
minutes at 2500 x g and the cell pellet was reconstituted in the media and inoculated in 96-well
plates, and subsequently used in assays (Mungroo et al., 2020).

117 Amoebicidal Assay

118 Assays were performed to determine the effects of DNA minor groove binders on the 119 viability of amoebae. Briefly, 3×10^5 amoebae were incubated with DNA minor groove binders 120 at various concentrations in 24-well plates to a final volume of 500 µL. Next, the plates were 121 kept in a 30°C incubator for 24 hours. Positive and negative controls were included by 122 incubating amoebae with 25 µM chlorhexidine and RPMI respectively. After the incubation, 123 amoebae were categorized as being alive or dead by the addition of 0.1% Trypan blue and 124 enumeration using a haemocytometer.

125 Phenotypic switching assay

126 *A. castellanii* cysts were prepared by inoculating amoebae on non-nutrient 127 bacteriological agar plates as described previously (Akbar et al., 2021). Plates were incubated in 128 a 30°C incubator for 14 days for complete transformation of cysts. Next, cysts were scraped off 129 and centrifuged for 10 minutes at 3000 x g. Following this, 3×10^5 cysts were treated with 100 130 μ M of various inhibitors in PYG. For controls, amoebae cysts were incubated in PYG alone and 131 emerging viable trophozoites were enumerated using a haemocytometer (Lorenzo-Morales et 132 al., 2010).

133 Cytotoxicity Assays

To assess compound toxicity on HCME cells, cytotoxicity experiments were 134 conducted. HCME cells were cultivated in 96-well plates and exposed to the inhibitors. Plates 135 were placed in a 37°C incubator with 95% humidity and 5% CO2 for 24 hours. Next, 136 supernatants were collected, and the compound cytotoxicity was assessed using a cytotoxicity 137 detection kit that measures lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) release (Jeyamogan et al., 2018). 138 Untreated HCME cells were negative controls, while HCME cells treated with 1% Triton X-139 140 100, inducing 100% cell death, served as positive controls (Kim et al., 2021; Siddiqui et al., 2022b). 141

142 Cytopathogenicity assay

Cytopathogenicity assays were accomplished as previously described by (Ahmed et al., 143 2022), measuring LDH release. Trophozoites (3×10^5) were treated with inhibitors at 100 μ M 144 in RPMI-1640 for 2 hours at 30°C in a 24-well plate. After centrifugation at 2500 x g for 10 145 146 minutes, the amoebae were resuspended in RPMI-1640, and 200µl of treated Acanthamoeba were inoculated into a 96-well plate containing human cell monolayers. Negative controls 147 consisted of untreated cells in RPMI-1640, while positive controls were cells treated with 1% 148 Triton X-100. The extent of cell damage was determined by measuring LDH release. 149 Absorbance at 490 nm was quantified using a spectrophotometer, and the percentage of 150 cytopathogenicity was calculated using the cytotoxicity formula, as previously described 151 (Anwar et al., 2019). 152

153 Results

154 Chemical synthesis

155 The MGB intermediates and final products were synthesized using the established 156 protocol described earlier (Alniss et al., 2019; 2022). In brief, the nitro compounds **1a**, **1b**,

previously reported by our group (Alniss et al., 2022), were reduced by catalytic hydrogenation 157 with 10%-Pd/C to afford amine intermediates 2a, 2b and then followed by direct coupling with 158 159 acids **3a**, **3b** using HBTU in presence of basic conditions to obtain the final products MGB25, MGB27, MGB29 and MGB31 in 49%, 83.3%, 28.8% and 91.7% yield, respectively (Scheme 160 1, A). The nitro group of intermediate 4, previously reported by our group (Alniss et al., 2022), 161 was reduced under catalytic hydrogenation conditions using 10%-Pd/C in a similar manner of 162 previous reaction to give the amine intermediate 5, which was then coupled with the carboxylic 163 acid 6 to afford the final product MGB33 in 19.7% yield (Scheme 1, B). These final yields were 164 165 reported after HPLC purification and lyophilization. The MGB compounds evaluated in this study exhibit purity levels above 95%, as determined by reverse-phase HPLC analysis (S1). 166 Full spectral characterization of MGB compounds is provided in the Supplementary 167 Information (S1). 168

169 DNA minor groove binders exhibited significant amoebicidal effects against A. castellanii

The amoebicidal assay was used to evaluate the effects of DNA minor groove binders on *A. castellanii* viability. At micromolar concentration, the results showed that all drugs tested demonstrated significant killing against *A. castellanii* as compared with the solvent control (Fig. 1). Importantly, the derivative MGB29 demonstrated the most significant activity and treatment resulted in 79 % reduction in amoebae viability. In addition to MGB29, MGB31 also reduced amoebae viability. While MGB25, MGB27, and MGB33 showed significant anti-amoebic activity and reduced viability by 53%, 67%, and 40% respectively (Fig. 1).

A. castellanii phenotypic switching was significantly suppressed by DNA minor groove binders

Cysts are often resistant to chemotherapeutic agents and they are the major cause of infection recurrence. When challenged with pre-formed mature *A. castellanii* cysts, all DNA minor groove binders tested inhibited phenotypic switching at micromolar concentrations. Of note, the derivatives MGB27, MGB29 and MGB31 demonstrated potent activity and abolished up to 90% transformation. Overall, the derivatives MGB25, MGB27, MGB29, MGB31 and MGB33 inhibited cellular differentiation of amoebae by 70%, 89%, 85%, 88% and 73% (Fig. 2).

186 DNA minor groove binding agents depict minimal toxicity against human cells

187 The cytotoxic effects of DNA minor groove binder derivatives on human cells were 188 investigated using LDH release assays. Cytotoxicity assays revealed that all derivatives tested 189 exhibited negligible cytotoxicity. MGB25, MGB27, MGB29, MGB31 and MGB33 exhibited 190 cytotoxicity at 32%, 11%, 22%, 16%, and 24%, respectively (Fig. 3).

191 Amoeba-mediated host cell death was inhibited by pre-treatment of parasites with DNA 192 minor groove binders

To determine whether pre-treatment of amoebae with DNA minor groove binders can inhibit amoebae-mediated human cell death, cytopathogenicity assays were conducted. The results demonstrated that all derivatives tested significantly reduced *A. castellanii*-mediated human cell toxicity as determined by estimation of LDH release. Among various derivatives tested, cytopathogenicity was reduced by MGB25 to 78%, MGB27 to 57%, MGB29 to 72%, MGB31 to 61%, and MGB33 to 47% at micromolar concentrations tested.

199 Discussion

Minor groove binders have the ability to bind reversibly to the minor groove of DNA, 200 with a significant affinity (Barrett et al., 2013; Wittayanarakul et al., 2010). For many years, 201 202 numerous types of natural products with minor groove binding characteristics have been recognized. Polyamides, netropsin, and distamycin are among a few examples (Arcamone et al., 203 1989). The physical properties of the ligand and its ability to cross cellular membranes are also 204 205 important factors in its activity. While certain polar minor groove binders exhibit DNA 206 interaction capabilities, their inability to penetrate lipophilic membranes renders them inactive. (Alniss et al., 2019; 2022). 207

A substantial amount of research has been published in the discovery of novel and 208 effective chemotherapeutic agents in the treatment of Acanthamoeba infections and/or 209 uncovering novel targets. Among these, the DNA minor groove has been identified as a 210 valuable target, and a variety of intriguing chemicals have been noted. In a recent study, 211 Rahman et al., (2011) showed that polyamides are employed in antiparasitic therapy in addition 212 to being antibacterial and antifungal medications. Similarly, Arafa et al., (2011) developed and 213 214 examined a series of amidine-related dicationic flexible triaryl bis-guanidines as antiparasitic DNA minor groove binders. For the treatment of leishmaniasis, malaria, and human African 215 trypanosomiasis, amidine-like compounds are employed as DNA minor groove binders in 216 217 numerous trials (Barrett et al., 2013; Basselin et al., 2002; Rahman et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2006). However, successful treatment of Acanthamoeba infections remains an unmet challenge 218 219 (Siddiqui et al., 2022a). In this study, a range of DNA minor groove binding agents with enhanced lipophilicity were synthesized, characterised, and evaluated for anti-amoebic 220 properties using a range of assays in vitro. Our findings showed clearly that MGB25, MGB27, 221 MGB29, MGB31, and MGB33 have considerable anti-amoebic activities and inhibited parasite-222 mediated human cell death. The compounds tested were also discovered to have limited 223 cytotoxic effects against human cells tested. These findings are consistent with recent studies 224

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which showed that selected S-MGBs exhibit activity against A. castellanii (Mcgee et al., 2024). 225 226 The MGB compounds presented in this study are derivatives of the MGB compounds 227 previously reported by our group in an earlier study (Table 1) (Alniss et al., 2022). Among the tested compounds, MGB29 displayed the highest amoebicidal activity against Acanthamoeba 228 229 castellanii, while MGB33 showed the weakest amoebicidal activity. Considering the ligand's 230 structural and physical properties, these results suggest that the lipophilicity of MGBs may play 231 a pivotal role in their anti-amoebic attributes. This is consistent with the fact that MGB33 has the lowest LogD (determined by Marvin, https://www.chemaxon .com) among the investigated 232 233 MGBs (Table 1). Furthermore, the new MGBs (25, 27, 29 & 31), exhibit stronger amoebicidal activity against Acanthamoeba castellanii compared the previously reported MGBs (3,5, 6, 16, 234 22). This also could be attributed the ligand's lipophilicity, since the MGBs described in this 235 study possess higher logD values compared to the previous MGBs (Table 1). The lipophilicity 236 of the new MGBs was enhanced by introducing lipophilic moieties into the MGB structure, 237 such as thiazole or benzene instead of pyrrole rings, and double or triple bond instead of the 238 amide links. The ligand's ability to penetrate the cell membrane and reach its molecular target 239 within the nucleus is influenced by its lipophilicity. This conclusion is consistent with the 240 calculated cell permeability using the computational permeability tool, PerMM (Lomize et al., 241 2019) (Table 2). Among the tested compounds, MGB29, which demonstrated the highest 242 amoebicidal activity, also displayed the highest cell permeability. In comparison to MGB33, 243 MGB29 exhibited a 10-fold higher cell permeability in the Caco-2 model and a 3,890-fold 244 increase in permeability in the PAMPA model (Table 2). Moreover, when compared to MGB3 245 (from the previous series), MGB29 demonstrated a 31-fold higher cell permeability in the Caco-246 2 model and a remarkable 229,086-fold higher permeability in the PAMPA model. These 247 findings correlate with the observed amoebicidal activity of MGB compounds and highlight the 248 crucial role of lipophilicity in their biological activity. A similar correlation between 249

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lipophilicity and lung tumour potency has been previously reported for another structural class 250 of MGBs (Scott et al., 2016). Apart from differences in lipophilicity, the variations in activity 251 252 against A. castellanii among the tested MGBs may be ascribed to their capacity to bind to distinct DNA sequences with varying affinities. MGBs featuring imidazole/thiazole rings 253 demonstrate a preference for GC-rich sites, whereas those containing N-methylpyrrole tend to 254 255 bind to AT-rich sequences (Alniss et al., 2014; Gottesfeld et al., 2001; Salvia et al., 2013). 256 Moreover, the binding affinity between different MGBs and DNA is expected to be unequal; even minor structural variations may substantially modify the binding affinity, thereby 257 258 influencing the ligand's bioactivity. The MGBs formulated in this study possess notable structural features that facilitate their interaction with DNA. These compounds bind reversibly 259 to the minor groove via non-covalent hydrogen bonds between the amide NH groups/ N of 260 thiazole and the DNA bases within the floor of the minor groove. This reversible binding mode 261 prevents the induction of permanent DNA damage, thereby minimizing toxic effects. The 262 MGBs also possess a crescent shape, an essential feature allowing them to match the curvature 263 of the minor groove. Consequently, structural modifications to the MGBs, including the 264 addition of double or triple bonds, were carried out at the terminal position of the ligand 265 structure to preserve the MGB crescent shape. The results of this study indicate that alkene-266 linked MGBs demonstrate greater activity compared to alkyne-linked MGBs, and the 267 lipophilicity of MGBs may play an important role in their amoebicidal attributes. 268

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Authors contributions: HYA and NAK conceived the study amid discussions with RS. HYA performed the synthesis of compounds. HMA, AR, SS, MD and BSA designed the studies, and carried out all experimentation under the supervision of HYA, RS, and NAK. HYA and NAK prepared the first draft of the manuscript. All authors corrected and approved the final manuscript.

278 Competing interests: Hasan Alniss has a patent pending for MGB compounds. The

279 remaining authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

280 Appendix. Supplementary information

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379 Scheme 1: Synthesis of MGB final products.

Figure 1: MGB derivatives demonstrated significant amoebicidal activity against

381 *Acanthamoeba castellanii*. Briefly, 3X10⁵ of *A. castellanii* were treated with MGB derivatives

382 at a concentration of 100 μ M for 24 hours at 30°C. Data are presented as the mean \pm standard

383 error and are representative of at least three independent experiments performed in duplicate.

Additionally, p-values were calculated using a two-sample t-test with a two-tailed distribution; * is $p \le 0.05$.

Figure 2: Excystation effect of MGB derivatives against *A. castellanii*. Data are presented as the mean \pm standard error and are representative of at least three independent experiments performed in duplicate. Additionally, p-values were calculated using a two-sample t-test with a two-tailed distribution; * is $p \le 0.05$.

390	Figure 3: A) Cytotoxicity assays were performed to determine the toxicity of MGB derivatives
391	towards human cells as described in Materials and Methods. The results are presented as the
392	mean \pm standard error.

- 393 Figure 4: MGB derivatives protected human cells against amoebae. After being treated with
- 100μ M compounds to $3x10^5$ amoebae for 2 hours, the compounds showed varying degrees of
- reduction in amoebae-mediated host-cell death. * $p \le 0.05$.

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DNA minor groove binders (100µM)

Highlights

- Minor groove of double helical B-DNA is gaining interest as therapeutic targets.
- Here, five novel DNA minor groove binding agents were synthesized.
- Inhibitors showed significant killing of amoebae and blocked differentiation.
- Pre-treatment of amoebae inhibited parasite-mediated human cell death
- Inhibitors blocked amoebae transformation.
- DNA minor groove binders hold promise in the effective eradication of amoebae.



Scheme 1: synthesis of MGB final products

Fig. 1



DNA minor groove binders (100µM)

Fig. 2



DNA minor groove binders (100µM)

Fig. 3



DNA minor groove binders (100µM)



Fig. 4

List of Contents:

--S1: Spectral characterization (NMR and mass spectroscopy) and purity of the tested MGBs by HPLC analysis



¹H NMR (500 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) &¹³C {¹H} APT NMR (126 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) spectrum of MGB25.

1H NMR (500 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 11.12 (s, 1H), 9.91 (s, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 4.35 (sep, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, (CH3)2CH-), 4.03 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.54-3.48 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.36 – 3.30 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.04 (s, 6H, -N(CH3)2), 2.17 – 2.10 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 1.32 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, (CH3)2CH-). 13C {1H} NMR (126 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 164.5, 164.2, 159.7, 154.8, 147.8, 136.5, 135.4, 132.4, 132.3, 129.8, 129.6, 128.4, 126.8, 124.2, 123.6, 122.6, 121.6, 107.5, 92.1, 89.3, 55.9, 43.3, 37.3, 36.2, 27.6, 25.9, 25.1. ESI-MS: m/z calcd for C33H36N6O3S, 596.26 found 597.31 [M + H]+.



ESI-MS for MGB25: m/z calcd for C₃₃H₃₆N₆O₃S, 596.26 found 597.31 [M + H]⁺.

```
Data File C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\MGB-PURE\MGB 25.D
Sample Name: MGB 25
   _____
   Acq. Operator : hadeel
   Acq. Instrument : Instrument 1
                                          Location : Vial 1
   Injection Date : 10/4/2023 12:26:28 PM
                                          Inj Volume : 10.000 µl
                : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\FINAL MGB.M
   Acq. Method
               : 10/4/2023 12:21:39 PM by hadeel
   Last changed
                  (modified after loading)
   Analysis Method : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\MGB3Y.M
               : 10/4/2023 4:18:39 PM by hadeel
   Last changed
                  (modified after loading)
          DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off (MGB-PURE/MGB 25.D)
      mAU 3
       100 -
       80
       60 -
       40 -
                              8
       20 -
        0
           P1. PMP1D. Sol
        5.3
      97.5
       95
      92.5 -
       90
      87.5
       85
      82.5
       80
   _____
                        Area Percent Report
   Sorted By
                           Signal
                     :
                                 1,0000
   Multiplier:
                           1
   Dilution:
                                 1.0000
                           .
   Use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
   Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off
   Peak RetTime Type Width
                           Area
                                   Height
                                            Area
    # [min]
                 [min] [mAU*s]
                                  [mAU]
                                            *
   1 2.406 BV 0.1882 57.20536 4.01581 4.9833
2 2.799 VB 0.1530 1090.73889 110.61087 95.0167
   Totals :
                        1147.94425 114.62668
```

Purity determined by HPLC for MGB25





MGB27:1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 12.14 (s, 1H), 10.56 (s, 1H), 8.05-7.98 (m, 3H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 4.20 (sep, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, (CH3)2CH-), 4.03 – 3.96 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2O), 3.93 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.65 (t, J = 12.1 Hz, 2H, -NCH2CH2O), 3.48 – 3.40 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.36 (dd, J = 12.9, 6.5 Hz, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.19-3.13 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2O), 3.12-3.03 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2O), 1.96 – 1.88 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 1.29 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, (CH3)2CH-). 13C {1H} NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 163.0, 162.5, 158.9, 153.9, 145.4, 135.9, 134.2, 131.5, 131.36, 129.2, 128.8, 127.8, 125.1, 122.6, 121.8, 120.3, 107.5, 91.4, 88.7, 63.4, 54.1, 51.2, 36.7, 35.8, 26.3, 24.7, 23.8. ESI-MS: m/z calcd for C35H38N6O4S, 638.27 found 639.27 [M + H]+.



ESI-MS for MGB27: m/z calcd for $C_{35}H_{38}N_6O_4S$, 638.27 found 639.27 [M + H]⁺.



Purity determined by HPLC for MGB27



 ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) & ^{13}C {¹H} APT NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of MGB29.

MGB29: 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 9.07 (s, 1H), 8.03 – 7.89 (m, 3H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (sep, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H, (CH3)2CH-), 3.91 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.46-3.36 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.17-3.08 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 2.81 (s, 6H, -N(CH3)2), 2.13-2.03 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 1.28 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, (CH3)2CH-). 13C {1H} NMR (126 MHz, CDCl3) δ 164.9, 163.4, 158.6, 154.9, 148.5, 140.8, 136.8, 133.8, 132.7, 130.9, 128.9, 128.3, 127.9, 127.5, 126.9, 126.6, 123.3, 122.7, 120.4, 106.9, 56.0, 43.2, 37.4, 35.8, 27.2, 24.9, 24.8. ESI-MS: m/z calcd for C33H38N6O3S, 598.27 found 599.33 [M + H]+.



ESI-MS for MGB29: m/z calcd for C₃₃H₃₈N₆O₃S, 598.27 found 599.33 [M + H]⁺.



Purity determined by HPLC for MGB29



¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) &¹³C {¹H} APT NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) spectrum of **MGB31.**

MGB31: 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 12.12 (s, 1H), 10.44 (s, 1H), 9.73 (s, 1H), 8.02 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.46-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.37-=7.28 (m, 2H), 4.21 (sep, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H, (CH3)2CH-), 3.99 (m, J = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.70-3.60 (m, 2H), 3.48-3.39 (m, 2H), 3.39-3.29 (m, 2H), 3.20-3.00 (m, 4H, NCH2CH2O), 1.97-1.85 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 1.28 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H, (CH3)2CH-).13C {1H} NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 163.5, 162.6, 159.0, 153.9, 145.6, 140.0, 136.7, 135.9, 133.2, 130.4, 128.9, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 126.8, 126.4, 122.8, 121.9, 120.3, 107.5, 63.4, 54.1, 51.2, 36.7, 35.8, 26.3, 24.8, 23.9. ESI-MS: m/z calcd for C35H40N6O4S, 640.28 found 641.41 [M + H]+.



ESI-MS for MGB31: m/z calcd for $C_{35}H_{40}N_6O_4S$, 640.28 found 641.41 [M + H]⁺.



Purity determined by HPLC for MGB31



¹H NMR (500 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) &¹³C {¹H} APT NMR (126 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) spectrum of **MGB33.**

MGB33: 1H NMR (500 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 11.90 (s, 1H), 9.21 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.99 (s, 1H), 8.67-8.62 (m, 1H), 7.78 (bs, 1H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.40 (bs, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 4.74-4.65 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH3), 3.96 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.91 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 3.50-3.40 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 3.34 – 3.25 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 2.98 (s, 6H, -NCH3CH3), 2.72 (s, 3H, -NCH3), 2.14-2.06 (m, 2H, -NCH2CH2CH2N-), 1.53 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, -NCH2CH3).13C {1H} NMR (126 MHz, Acetone-d6) δ 177.3, 164.4, 163.3, 161.7, 159.5, 149.5, 148.5, 136.9, 124.3, 123.7, 123.6, 123.2, 123.0, 122.1, 120.9, 119.7, 119.3, 113.5, 104.8, 104.3, 55.7, 47.4, 42.9, 36.7, 36.7, 36.3, 25.7, 25.2, 15.4. ESI-MS: m/z calcd for C29H36N8O4, 560.29 found 561.42 [M + H]+.



ESI-MS for MGB33: m/z calcd for C₂₉H₃₆N₈O₄, 560.29 found 561.42 [M + H]⁺.



Purity determined by HPLC for MGB33