

Synthesis of a Structurally Defined Antigen – Immunostimulant Combination for Use in Cancer Vaccines

Wulf Dullenkopf,^[a] Gerd Ritter,^[b] Sheila R. Fortunato,^[b]
Lloyd J. Old,^[b] and Richard R. Schmidt^[a]

Abstract: Ganglioside GM₂ expressed on the cell surface of human cancers is a promising target for immunotherapy because GM₂ antibodies are cytotoxic in vitro and GM₂ antibody formation can be induced upon vaccination in cancer patients. We recently reported on the efficient chemical synthesis of GM₂; clinical trials with these synthetic GM₂ conjugated to a purified carrier protein (KLH) are currently under way. In our efforts to generate a totally synthetic GM₂ cancer vaccine, we have now synthesized GM₂ neoglycolipid **1**,

which consists of the GM₂-tetrasaccharide epitope that is linked through a spacer to the B-cell stimulatory glycolipid **4**. Target compound **1** was constructed from the GM₂ tetrasaccharide donor **2**, the 9-hydroxynonanoate **3** spacer, and the 6-amino-6-deoxy derivative (**5**) of compound **4**. Building block **5** was obtained from Z-protected 6-azi-

do-6-deoxy-*N*-leucyl-glucosamine derivative **12**, which was available from glucosamine by two different approaches; the route with the Z-protected derivative of **4** (**10**) as intermediate gave the best yields. The neoglycolipid **1** reacted with a number of different GM₂-reactive antibodies. Vaccination of rabbits with **1** resulted in induction of antibodies against GM₂, thus confirming the viability of this novel concept for the construction of a totally synthetic vaccine.

Keywords: antigens • gangliosides • glycolipids • immunostimulants • synthesis

Introduction

Ganglioside GM₂ has been considered an attractive target for vaccine-based therapy of GM₂-expressing cancers,^[1] because a) GM₂ is expressed in a large number of different cancer types including melanoma, glioma, seminoma, lung cancer, colon cancer, renal cancer, and prostate cancer;^[2] b) GM₂-reactive antibodies are cytotoxic for GM₂⁺ tumor cells;^[3, 4] c) GM₂ is immunogenic in humans as indicated by the presence of naturally occurring serum antibodies to GM₂,^[4] the relative ease of isolating GM₂ monoclonal antibodies from humans,^[5, 6] and the induction of GM₂ antibodies in melanoma patients following vaccination with GM₂-containing vaccines;^[6, 8] d) melanoma patients with GM₂ antibodies, either induced by vaccination or naturally occurring, appear to have more favorable prognosis;^[4] and e) no deleterious effects are associated with an immune response to GM₂.^[4]

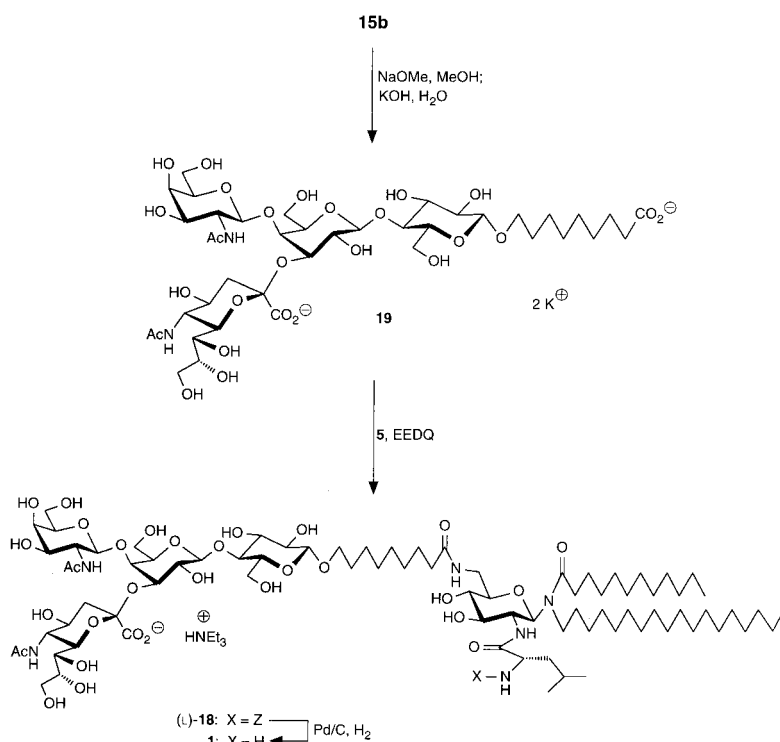
We have recently developed a practical chemical synthesis of ample quantities of the building blocks that consist of GM₂-oligosaccharides and GM₂ itself for use in cancer vaccine studies.^[9] A first clinical vaccine trial in melanoma patients with synthetic GM₂ conjugated to the biological carrier protein keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH) has been started. In our efforts to develop a totally synthetic GM₂ cancer vaccine, we have designed a novel conjugate molecule in which a carbohydrate cancer epitope is linked through a spacer to an immunostimulant as shown in Scheme 1. We prepared neoglycolipid **1** by ligating GM₂-tetrasaccharide and the artificial B-cell stimulatory glycolipid BAYR1005 (Scheme 1, **4**) through the ω -hydroxynonanoate spacer. BAYR1005 has been reported to amplify the proliferation of B lymphocytes in response to stimulation with antigens.^[10, 11] We report here on the synthesis of **1** and on its serological characterization.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis of target molecule 1: The retrosynthesis of target molecule **1** (shown in Scheme 1) disintegrates the molecule into known GM₂-tetrasaccharide donor **2**,^[9] the spacer **3**,^[12] and the 6-amino-6-deoxy derivative **5** of BAYR1005 (**4**); the 6-amino group in **5** is introduced in order to provide a

[a] Prof. Dr. R. R. Schmidt, W. Dullenkopf
Fakultät für Chemie, Universität Konstanz, M725
D-78457 Konstanz (Germany)
Fax: (+49) 7531-88-3135

[b] Dr. G. Ritter, S. R. Fortunato, Dr. L. J. Old
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research
New York Branch at Memorial Sloan Kettering Center
1275 York Avenue, New York, NY 10021 (USA)

Scheme 4. Synthesis of neoglycolipid **1**.

in induction of IgG antibodies against GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** and synthetic GM₂ (sGM₂) ganglioside as determined by ELISA and ITLC (Figures 2A, and B). IgG ELISA reactivity with the GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** (peak titer 1:9600) was stronger than with sGM₂ ganglioside (peak titer 1:1600); this indicates that IgG antibodies were induced against unique epitopes on the GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** as well as epitopes that are shared with sGM₂ and bovine-brain-derived GM₂ ganglioside.

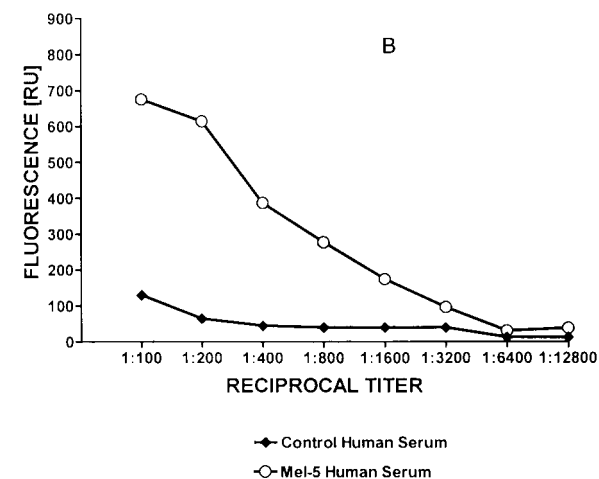
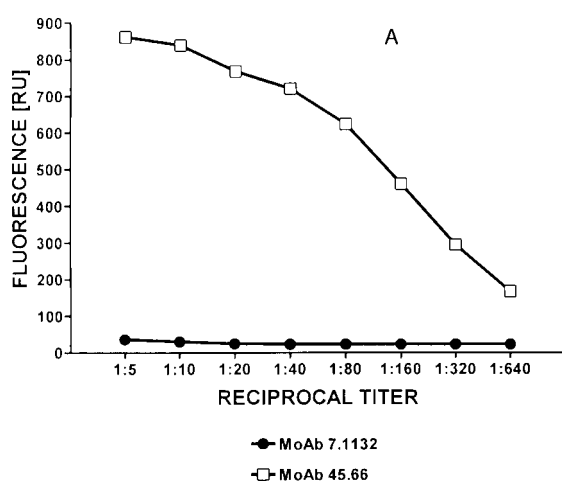


Figure 1. ELISA reactivity of GM₂ antibodies with GM₂ neoglycolipid **1**. A) Human monoclonal antibodies (tissue culture supernatant, IgM) 45.66 (anti-GM₂) and 7.1132 (isotype control); B) Sera from melanoma patient prior and post immunization with bovine brain-derived GM₂-KLH/QS21 vaccine. Method: 200 pmol GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** were incubated with varying amounts of GM₂ antibody; reactivity was quantitated with Fitc-conjugated species, isotype specific secondary antibodies and a microplate fluorospectrometer.

Conclusion

Our results indicate that novel synthetic glycolipids in which the synthetic carbohydrate antigen is linked to an appropriate synthetic immunostimulatory carrier may lead to useful immunogens for inducing antibodies to ganglioside and other carbohydrate cancer antigens.

Experimental Section

Solvents were purified according to the standard procedures. Melting points are reported in degree Celsius (uncorrected). NMR measurements were performed at 22 °C on a Bruker AC250 Cryospec or Bruker DRX600. TMS or the resonance of the deuterated solvent was used as internal standard; solvents: CDCl₃, $\delta = 7.24$; CD₃OD, $\delta = 3.315$; D₂O, $\delta = 4.63$; [D₆]DMSO, $\delta = 2.49$, was used as external standard. MALDI-mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos Kompact

Maldi 1 and 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid (DHB) or 6-aza-2-thiothymine (ATT) were used as matrices. FAB-mass spectra were measured on a Finnigan MAT 312/AMD 5000 (790 eV, 70 °C). Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin–Elmer polarimeter 241/MS in a 1 dm cell at 22 °C. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ plastic plates or Merck amino phase glass plates. Compounds were visualized by treatment with a solution of (NH₄)₆Mo₇O₂₄ × 4H₂O (20 g) and Ce(SO₄)₂ (0.4 g) in 10% sulfuric acid (400 mL). Flash chromatography was performed on J.T. Baker silica gel 60 (0.040–0.063 mm) at a pressure of 0.3 bar.

Serological assays were performed as described previously.^[18] Immunizations: Two rabbits were immunized four times at four different sites with GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** (7 nmol GM₂-tetrasaccharide) in CFA/IFA every two weeks followed by two boost injections four weeks apart, four weeks after

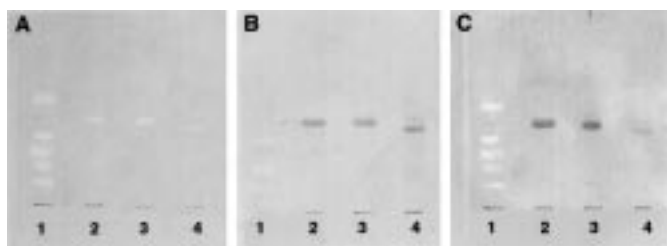


Figure 2. Reactivity of serum of rabbit 322 immunized with GM₂ neoglycolipid **1** plus Freund adjuvant as determined by immune thin-layer chromatography. A) Pre-vaccination serum, B) immune serum obtained after six immunizations, and C) Human GM₂-monoclonal antibody 45.66. Lane 1: gangliosides GM₃, GM₁, GD₃, GD_{1a} and GD_{1b}; lane 2: bovine brain GM₂; lane 3: synthetic GM₂ (C18:0); lane 4: GM₂ neoglycolipid **1**. The plate was developed in chloroform/methanol/water containing 0.2% calcium chloride 55:45:10 (v/v) before overlaying with diluted serum 1:100. Specific reactivity was visualized with HRP-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG and diaminobenzidine as chromogen.

the fourth injection. Blood was collected from the ear vein prior to and two weeks after each injection.

1,3,4-Tri-*O*-acetyl-6-azido-2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranoside (7**):** Water soluble carbodiimide (WSC; 2.01 g, 10.5 mmol) was added to a solution of 1,3,4-tri-*O*-acetyl-2-amino-6-azido-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranoside (**6**;^[13] 3.15 g, 9.54 mmol) and *Z*-Leu-OH (2.78 g, 10.5 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (20 mL). The mixture was stirred for 20 min at room temperature, diluted with dichloromethane (20 mL), washed with brine (2 \times 10 mL) and water (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in hot methanol. After 12 h needles were filtered off, washed with cold ethanol and dried in vacuo to give **7** (4.34 g, 79%). $R_f = 0.38$ (toluene/ethyl acetate 1:1); m.p. 193.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -17.2$ ($c = 1$, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.88, 0.91$ (2s, 6H; CH (CH₃)₂), 1.31–1.45 (m, 1H; CH(CH₃)₂), 1.53–1.66 (m, 2H; CHCH₂), 2.03–2.05 (m, 9H; 3COCH₃), 3.36–3.38 (m, 2H; 6-H, 6'-H), 3.74–3.84 (m, 1H; 5-H), 3.99–4.18 (m, 1H; CHCH₂), 4.26 (ddd, $J(\text{NH}, 2) \approx J(2, 3) \approx 9.2$ Hz, 1H; 2-H), 5.02–5.23 (m, 5H; CH₂-phenyl, 3-H, 4-H, CO₂NH), 5.77 (d, $J(1, 2) = 8.7$ Hz, 1H; 1-H), 6.37 (brs, 1H; NH), 7.34–7.36 (m, 5H; phenyl); C₂₆H₃₅N₅O₁₀ (577.6): calcd C 54.06, H 6.10, N 12.12; found C 54.16, H 6.10, N 12.06.

6-Azido-2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- α -D-glucopyranoside (9**):** A solution of **7** (1.05 g, 1.82 mmol) in dry methanol was treated with DBU (1 mL). After 2 h acetic acid (1 mL) was added, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed over silica gel (toluene/acetone 2:1). Final purification was achieved by crystallization (acetone/petrol ether 1:1) to yield **9** (451 mg, 57%) as a colorless solid. $R_f = 0.41$ (toluene/acetone 1:1); m.p. 104 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +33.9$ ($c = 1$, methanol); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, MeOD): $\delta = 0.91$ –0.95 (m, 6H; CH(CH₃)₂), 1.53–1.73 (m, 3H; CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 3.29–3.54 (m, 3H; 4-H, 6-H, 6'-H), 3.66 (dd, $J(2, 3) = 9.6$ Hz, $J(3, 4) = 8.7$ Hz, 1H; 3-H), 3.83 (dd, $J(1, 2) = 3.4$ Hz; 1H; 2-H), 3.91–3.98 (m, 1H; 5-H), 4.21 (dd, $J(\text{vic}) \approx J(\text{vic}) \approx 6.0$ Hz, 1H; CHCH₂), 5.08–5.11 (m, 3H, 1-H; CH₂-phenyl), 7.27–7.37 (m, 5H; phenyl); C₂₀H₂₉N₃O₆ (435.5): calcd C 52.97, H 6.44, N 15.44; found C 52.81, H 6.61, N 15.16.

***N*-[2-*N*-(*N*-Benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy-6-*O*-tosyl- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**11**):** Tosyl chloride (0.376 g, 1.97 mmol) was added to a solution of *N*-[2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**10**;^[10, 14] 1.11 g, 1.31 mmol) in pyridine (50 mL) at -10°C . After 3 h the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. After another hour methanol (1 mL) was added, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue on silica gel (toluene/ethyl acetate 1:1) gave **11** (930 mg, 70%) as a colorless syrup. $R_f = 0.38$ (toluene/acetone 1:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +0.5$ ($c = 1$, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.74$ –0.84 (brs, 12H; CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 1.03–1.55 (m, 53H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 2.17–2.41 (m, 5H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, C₆H₄CH₃), 3.04–3.06 (brs, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 3.37 (brs, 1H; 5-H), 3.80 (brs, 1H; 2-H), 4.00 (brs, 1H; CHCH₂), 4.12 (brs,

1H; 6-H), 4.26 (brs, 1H; 6'-H), 5.01 (m, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.26 (d, $J(\text{NH}, \text{CH}) = 6$ Hz, 1H; NHCO₂), 5.5 (d, $J(1, 2) = 9.2$ Hz, 1H; 1-H), 6.84 (d, $J(2, \text{NH}) = 7.2$ Hz, 1H; NH), 7.19–7.70 (m, 9H; C₆H₅, C₆H₄CH₃); C₅₇H₉₅N₃O₁₀S (1014.4): calcd C 67.49, H 9.44, N 4.14; found C 67.4, H 9.76, N 4.35.

***N*-[6-Azido-2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**12**):** a) From **11**. A solution of **11** (740 mg, 0.73 mmol) and sodium azide (200 mg, 3.00 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was stirred for 4 h at 80 °C, then cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate (30 mL). The solid was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Further purification by chromatography (toluene/acetone 1:1) on silica gel afforded **12** (638 mg, 97%) as a colorless solid.

b) From **9**: A suspension of **9** (700 mg, 1.55 mmol) and octadecylamine (629 mg, 2.33 mmol) in dry methanol (15 mL) was stirred under reflux for 2–3 h. After the mixture had been allowed to reach room temperature, excess of octadecylamine was filtered off, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was extensively dried in vacuo and then taken up in dry dichloromethane (10 mL). Triethylamine (550 μL , 4.65 mmol) and lauroyl chloride (615 μL , 4.65 mmol) were added, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. After concentration in vacuo, purification on silica gel and subsequent crystallisation (methanol) afforded **12** (510 mg, 37%) as a colorless needles. $R_f = 0.41$ (toluene/acetone 1:1); m.p. 87.9 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +18.3$ ($c = 1$, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.84$ –0.93 (m, 12H; CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 1.11–1.60 (m, 53H; CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 2.25–2.31 (m, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃), 3.15–3.21 (brs, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 3.35–3.60 (m, 5H; 3-H, 4-H, 5-H, 6-H, 6'-H), 3.75 (brs, 1H; OH), 3.92–4.09 (m, 1H; 2-H), 4.58 (brs, 1H; OH), 5.08–5.15 (m, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.43 (d, $J(\text{NH}, \text{CH}) = 8.1$ Hz, 1H; CO₂NH), 5.63 (d, $J(1, 2) = 9.8$ Hz, 1H; 1-H), 6.97 (d, $J(2, \text{NH}) = 7.5$ Hz, 1H; NH), 7.29–7.38 (m, 5H; C₆H₅); rotamers caused a second set of signals of very weak intensity; MS (FAB, positive mode, matrix: 3-nitrobenzylalcohol/NaI): m/z : 908 [$M + \text{Na}$]⁺; C₅₀H₈₈N₆O₇ (885.29): calcd C 67.84, H 10.02, N 9.49; found C 67.68, H 9.95, N 9.40.

***N*-[6-Amino-2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**5**):** A solution of compound **12** (648 mg, 0.73 mmol) and 1,3-propanedithiol (222 mL, 2.19 mmol) in a mixture of pyridine/water (4:1, 10 mL) was stirred at room temperature. After 12 h the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was coevaporated twice with toluene and then chromatographed on silica gel (CHCl₃/MeOH 20:1 \rightarrow 10:1; with 1% Et₃N) to give compound **5** (448 mg, 77%) as a colorless oil. $R_f = 0.37$ (methanol/CHCl₃ 1:10); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +13.5$ ($c = 1$, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃/MeOD 95:5): $\delta = 0.87$ –0.91 (m, 12H; CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 1.01–1.70 (m, 53H; CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 2.23–2.29 (m, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃), 2.88 (dd, $J(5, 6) = 5.4$ Hz, $J(6, 6') = 13.1$ Hz, 1H; 6-H), 3.05 (dd, $J(5, 6') = 3.1$ Hz, 1H; 6'-H), 3.15–3.19 (m, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 3.35–3.51 (m, 3H; 3-H, 4-H, 5-H), 3.94 (dd, $J(2, 3) \approx J(3, 4) \approx 7.2$ Hz, 1H; 2-H), 4.10 (dd, $J = 4.0, 9.9$ Hz, CHCH₂), 5.02, 5.10 (2d, $J(\text{gem}) = 12.8$ Hz, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.60 (d, $J(1, 2) = 9.7$ Hz, 1H; 1-H), 7.27–7.35 (m, 5H; C₆H₅); MS (FAB, positive mode, matrix: 3-nitrobenzylalcohol/NaI): m/z : 908 [$M + \text{Na}$]⁺; C₃₀H₄₀N₄O₇ (859.3): calcd C 69.88, H 10.56, N 6.52; found C 69.65, H 10.68, N 6.53.

***N*-[6-Acetamido-2-*N*-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**13**):** Compound **5** (150 mg, 0.175 mmol) was treated with acetic anhydride (17 mL) in dichloromethane (10 mL) at room temperature. After 30 min the mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified on silica gel (toluene/acetone 1:1) to give oily **13** (151 mg, 96%). $R_f = 0.25$ (toluene/acetone 1:1); $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -18$ ($c = 1$, CHCl₃). The ¹H NMR spectra showed two sets of signals (rotamers). Only significant signals are given: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, [D₆]DMSO-*d*₆ 95:5): $\delta = 0.74$ –0.77 (brs, 12H; CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 1.01–1.54 (m, 53H; CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 1.98–2.31 (m, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃), 2.86–3.22 (m, 5H; 4-H, 5-H, 6-H, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃), 3.37–3.70 (m, 3H; 2-H, 3-H, 6'-H), 3.88–3.99 (m, 1H; CHCH₂), 4.93–4.97 (m, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.09, 5.49 (2d, $J(1, 2) = 8.5$ Hz, 1H; 1-H, rotamers), 7.27–7.35 (m, 5H; C₆H₅); C₅₂H₉₂N₄O₈ (901.3): calcd C 69.29, H 10.29, N 6.22; found C 69.06, H 10.62, N 6.16.

***N*-[6-Acetamido-2-*N*-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy- β -D-glucopyranosyl]-*N*-octadecyl-dodecanamide (**14**):** A mixture of **13** (220 mg, 0.244 mmol), Pd/C (10%, 20 mg), and acetic acid (15 μL , 0.244 mmol) in methanol was treated with

hydrogen (1 atm) under vigorous stirring at room temperature. After 24 h the catalyst was filtered off over Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (CHCl₃/MeOH/Et₃N 100:5:1 → 50:5:1) to give **14** (160 mg, 86%) as a sirup. *R*_f = 0.18 (CHCl₃/MeOH 12:1); [α]_D = 12.8 (*c* = 1, CHCl₃). The ¹H NMR spectra showed two sets of signals (rotamers). Only significant signals are given: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.81–0.91 (m, 12H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.11–1.71 (m, 53H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 1.98 (s, 3H; COCH₃), 2.15–2.42 (m, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃), 3.06–4.12 (m, 9H; 2-H, 3-H, 4-H, 5-H, 6-H, 6'-H, NH₂, CHCH₂), 5.48, 5.73 (2 d, *J*(1,2) = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 6.08–6.23 (brs, 1H; NH), 7.63, 8.11 (2 brs, 1H; NH); C₄₄H₈₆N₄O₆ (767.2); calcd C 68.88, H 11.29, N 7.30; found 68.61, H 11.18, N 7.22.

Benzyl 9-O-[(2-acetamido-3,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-[methyl-(5-acetamido-4,7,8,9-tetra-O-acetyl-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosyl)onate]-(2 → 3)]-(2,6-di-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-3,6-di-O-acetyl-2-O-pivaloyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonanoate (15a): A solution of the known trichloroacetimidate **2** (200 mg, 0.129 mmol) and benzyl 9-hydroxynonanoate (**3a**) (68 mg, 0.259 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (1 mL) was treated under argon with a solution of TMS triflate (130 μL of a 0.1N solution in dichloromethane). After 15 min the mixture was neutralized with Et₃N and concentrated in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue on silica gel (toluene/acetone 3:2) afforded **15a** as an oil (165 mg, 78%), *R*_f = 0.37 (toluene/acetone 1:1); [α]_D = -15.9 (*c* = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.10–1.12 (m, 9H; C(CH₃)₃), 1.19–1.25 (m, 10H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂C₆H₅), 1.47–2.31 (m, 44H; 13 COCH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂C₆H₅, 3c'-H), 2.77 (dd, *J*(3,3') = 13 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz, 1H; 3c-H), 3.26–3.37 (m, 2H; 2d-H, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂C₆H₅), 3.47 (dd, *J*(3,4) ≈ *J*(4,5) ≈ 2.0 Hz, 1H; 4b-H), 3.53–3.56 (m, 2H; 5a-H, 5b-H), 3.76–3.83 (m, 7H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂C₆H₅, OCH₃, 4a-H, 5d-H, 6c-H), 3.91–4.10 (m, 6H; 6b-H, 6'-H, 5c-H, 9c'-H, 6d-H, 6'd-H), 4.16–4.19 (m, 2H; 3b-H, 6'a-H), 4.32 (dd, *J*(8,9) = 2.6 Hz, *J*(9,9') = 12.7 Hz, 1H; 9c-H), 4.39 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.0 Hz, 1H; 1a-H), 4.41 (dd, *J*(5,6) < 2 Hz, *J*(6,6') = 10.9 Hz, 1H; 6a-H), 4.55 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.7 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.76 (ddd, *J*(3',4) = *J*(4,5) = 11.3 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz, 1H; 4c-H), 4.88 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 8.2 Hz, 1H; 2a-H), 4.93 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 10.1 Hz, 1H; 2b-H), 5.06 (s, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.10–5.15 (m, 3H; Nc-H, 3a-H, 1d-H), 5.30–5.35 (m, 2H; 7c-H, 4d-H), 5.49–5.50 (m, 1H; 8c-H), 5.83 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 11.2 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 3.4 Hz, 1H; 3d-H), 6.03 (d, *J*(2,NH) = 7.1 Hz, 1H; Nd-H), 7.27, 7.31 (m, 5H; C₆H₅); MS (MALDI, positive mode, matrix: DHB); *m/z*: 1665 [*M*+Na]⁺; C₇₅H₁₀₆N₂O₃₈ (1643.7); calcd C 54.80, H 6.50, N 1.78; found C 54.93, H 6.74, N 2.07.

Methyl 9-O-[(2-acetamido-3,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-[methyl-(5-acetamido-4,7,8,9-tetra-O-acetyl-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosyl)onate]-(2 → 3)]-(2,6-di-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-3,6-di-O-acetyl-2-O-pivaloyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonanoate (15b): A solution of trichloroacetimidate **2**^{9,16} (1 g, 0.645 mmol) and methyl 9-hydroxynonanoate (**3b**) (365 mg, 1.94 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (2 mL) was treated under argon with a solution of TMS triflate (645 μL of 0.1N solution in dichloromethane). After 15 min the mixture was neutralized with Et₃N and concentrated in vacuo. Chromatography of the residue on silica gel (toluene/acetone 2:1) afforded **15b** (730 mg, 73%) as a colorless foam. *R*_f = 0.31 (toluene/acetone 1:1); [α]_D = -8.0 (*c* = 0.5, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.11–1.13 (m, 9H; C(CH₃)₃), 1.19–1.25 (m, 10H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₃), 1.55–2.25 (m, 44H; 13 COCH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₃, 3c'-H), 2.77 (dd, *J*(3,3') = 13 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz; 3c-H), 3.25–3.37 (m, 2H; 2d, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₃), 3.47 (dd, *J*(3,4) ≈ *J*(4,5) ≈ 2.0 Hz, 1H; 4b-H), 3.53–3.83 (m, 9H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₃, OCH₃, 4a-H, 5a-H, 5b-H, 5d-H, 6c-H), 3.90–4.10 (m, 6H; 6b-H, 6'b-H, 5c-H, 9c'-H, 6d-H, 6'd-H), 4.16–4.19 (m, 2H; 3b-H, 6'a-H), 4.32 (dd, *J*(8,9) = 2.5 Hz, *J*(9,9') = 12.6 Hz, 1H; 9c-H), 4.39 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.1 Hz, 1H; 1a-H), 4.41 (dd, *J*(5,6) < 2 Hz, *J*(6,6') = 10.9 Hz, 1H; 6a-H), 4.55 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.7 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.76 (ddd, *J*(3',4) = *J*(4,5) = 11.3 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz, 1H; 4c-H), 4.88 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 8.2 Hz, 1H; 2a-H), 4.93 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 10.1 Hz, 1H; 2b-H), 5.10–5.15 (m, 3H; Nc-H, 3a-H, 1d-H), 5.30–5.35 (m, 2H; 7c-H, 4d-H), 5.49–5.50 (m, 1H; 8c-H), 5.83 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 11.2 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 3.4 Hz, 1H; 3d-H), 6.03 (d, *J*(2,NH) = 7.1 Hz, 1H; Nd-H); C 51.53, H 6.61, N 1.76; found C 51.64, H 6.65, N 2.39.

9-O-[2-Acetamido-3,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-[methyl-(5-acetamido-4,7,8,9-tetra-O-acetyl-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-gal-

acto-2-D-nonulopyranosyl)onate]-(2 → 3)]-(2,6-di-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-3,6-di-O-acetyl-2-O-pivaloyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonanoic acid (16): Compound **15a** (100 mg, 0.06 mmol) was dissolved in dioxane/ acetic acid (4 mL, 5:1). Then Pd/C (10%) was added, and the mixture was treated with hydrogen (1 atm) for 60–90 min at room temperature. The catalyst was filtered off over Celite, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (toluene/acetone/acetic acid 50:50:1) to yield **16** (89 mg, 94%) as a colorless foam. *R*_f = 0.11 (toluene/acetone 1:1); [α]_D = -15.8 (*c* = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.11–1.13 (m, 9H; C(CH₃)₃), 1.2–1.29 (m, 10H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂H), 1.47–2.31 (m, 44H; 13 COCH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂H, 3c'-H), 2.79 (dd, *J*(3,3') = 13 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz; 3c-H), 3.23–3.37 (m, 2H; 2-d, CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂-phenyl), 3.48 (dd, *J*(3,4) ≈ *J*(3,4) ≈ 2.0 Hz, 1H; 4b-H), 3.56–3.58 (m, 2H; 5a-H, 5b-H), 3.77–3.82 (m, 7H; CH₂(CH₂)₅(CH₂)₂CO₂CH₂-phenyl, OCH₃, 4a-H, 5d-H, 6c-H), 3.92–4.12 (m, 6H; 6b-H, 6'b-H, 5c-H, 9c'-H, 6d-H, 6'd-H), 4.17–4.20 (m, 2H; 3b-H, 6'a-H), 4.33 (dd, *J*(8,9) = 2.6 Hz, *J*(9,9') = 12.7 Hz, 1H; 9c-H), 4.41 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.0 Hz, 1H; 1a-H), 4.45 (dd, *J*(5,6) < 2 Hz, *J*(6,6') = 10.9 Hz, 1H; 6a-H), 4.57 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.7 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.80 (ddd, *J*(3',4) = *J*(4,5) = 11.3 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.3 Hz, 1H; 4c-H), 4.89 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 8.3 Hz, 1H; 2a-H), 4.95 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 10.0 Hz, 1H; 2b-H), 5.10 (d, *J*(4,NH) = 10.3 Hz, 1H; Nc-H), 5.13 (dd, *J*(1,2) = 8.3 Hz, 1H; 1d-H), 5.18 (dd, *J*(2,3) ≈ *J*(3,4) ≈ 9.8 Hz, 1H; 3d-H), 5.32–5.37 (m, 2H; 7c-H, 4d-H), 5.50–5.53 (m, 1H; 8c-H), 5.84 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 11.1 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 3.3 Hz, 1H; 3d-H), 6.15 (d, *J*(2,NH) = 7.3 Hz, 1H; Nd-H); MS (MALDI, positive mode, matrix: DHB); *m/z*: 1575 [*M*+Na]⁺; C₆₈H₁₀₀N₂O₃₈ (1553.6); calcd C 51.97, H 6.41, N 1.79; found C 51.67, H 6.54, N 2.10.

6-[9-O-(2-Acetamido-3,4,6-tri-O-acetyl-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-[methyl-(5-acetamido-4,7,8,9-tetra-O-acetyl-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosyl)onate]-(2 → 3)]-(2,6-di-O-acetyl-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-3,6-di-O-acetyl-2-O-pivaloyl-β-D-glucopyranosyl]noylamido-2-N-(N-benzoyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy-β-D-glucopyranosyl]-N-octadecylamide [(D,L)-17]: Compound **5** (55 mg, 0.064 mmol), compound **16** (99 mg, 0.064 mmol), and WSC were dissolved in dry dichloromethane (5 mL). After 2 h the reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and extracted with water (3 × 10 mL). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified on silica gel (toluene/acetone 1:1 → 2:3) to give (L)-**17** (101 mg, 66%) as a colorless foam. *R*_f = 0.63 (CHCl₃/MeOH 8:1); [α]_D = -21.8 (*c* = 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.83–0.89 (m, 21H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH(CH₃)₂, C(CH₃)₃), 1.13–2.17 (m, 107H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂CH₃(CH₃)₂, 3'd-H [CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CON, 13 COCH₃], 2.79 (dd, *J*(gem) = 13 Hz, *J*(3,4) = 4.4 Hz, 1H; 3d-H), 3.0–4.12 (m, 25H; 2a-H, 3-H, 4-H, 5a-H, 6a-H, 6'a-H, 4b-H, 5b-H, 6b-H, 4c-H, 5c-H, 6c-H, 3d-H, 5d-H, 5d-H, 9d-H, 2e-H, 5e-H, 6e-H, 6'e-H, CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CON, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CHCH₂), 4.79 (m, 1H; 4d-H), 4.18–4.24 (m, 2H; 6'b-H, 3c-H), 4.32 (dd, *J*(9,9') = 12.2 Hz, *J*(8,9) = 3.5 Hz, 1H; 9d-H), 4.41 (m, *J*(1,2) = 8.0 Hz, 2H; 1b-H, 6'c-H); 4.56 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.8 Hz, 1H; 1c-H), 4.79 (m, 1H; 1c-H), 4.79 (m, 1H; 4d-H), 4.87 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 8.5 Hz, 1H; 2b-H), 4.94 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 9.8 Hz, 1H; 2c-H), 5.08–5.24 (m, 6H; 3b-H, 1e-H, CH₂-phenyl, ND-H, CO₂NH), 5.32–6.07 (m, 5H; 1a-H, 7d-H, 8d-H, 4e-H, Ne-H), 6.52 (brs, 1H; NH-a), 7.28–7.32 (m, 5H; phenyl); MS (FAB, positive mode, matrix: NaI/3-nitrobenzylalcohol); *m/z*: 2417 [*M*+Na]⁺; C₁₁₈H₁₈₈N₆O₄₄ (2394.9); C 59.18, H 7.91, N 3.51; found C 59.00, H 8.04, N 3.71.

6-[9-O-(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-[5-acetamido-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosyl]onate]-(2 → 3)]-(β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1 → 4)-β-D-glucopyranosyl]noylamido-2-N-(N-benzoyloxycarbonyl)-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy-β-D-glucopyranosyl]-N-octadecylamide potassium salt [(D,L)-18]: Compound (L)-**17** (100 mg, 0.041 mmol) was treated at room temperature with a solution of sodium methoxide in methanol (10 mL, 0.05 mol) for 12 h, and was then neutralized with Amberlite (IR120, H⁺-form). The solid was filtered off, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in a solution of potassium hydroxide (4 mL, 0.2 mol). After stirring for 3 d the solution was again neutralized with Amberlite (IR120, H⁺-form), and the solvent was removed by lyophilisation. Purification was carried out as described for compound (L)-**18** to yield compound (D,L)-**18** (48 mg, 61%). *R*_f = 0.41 and 0.42 [CHCl₃/MeOH/CaCl₂ (2% water) 55:45:10]; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, [D₆]DMSO/D₂O 95:5) and MS (FAB,

positive mode, matrix: DMSO/3-nitrobenzylalcohol) showed no differences to the data for compound (L)-18.

9-O-[(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-[5-acetamido-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosylonate-(2→3)]-(β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonanoate dipotassium salt (19): Compound **15b** (400 mg, 0.255 mmol) was dissolved in a solution of sodium methoxide in methanol (10 mL, 0.05 M). After 12 h stirring the solution was neutralized with Amberlite (IR120, H⁺-form), filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was treated with a solution of potassium hydroxide in water (4 mL, 0.2 M). The reaction was monitored by TLC on amino-phase silica gel. After 3 d the mixture was neutralized as described above. The product was purified on a sephadex column (LH-20, CHCl₃/MeOH 1:1) to give (251 mg, quant.) of the dipotassium salt **19**. *R*_f = 0.5 (EtOH/water 1:1, amino-phase silica gel); [α]_D = -4.5 (*c* = 1, MeOH); ¹H NMR (600 MHz, MeOD): δ = 0.88–1.55 (m, 12H; CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CO₂⁻), 1.81 (m, 1H; 3'-c-H), 1.91, 1.92 (2s, 6H; COCH₃), 2.12 (brs, 2H; CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CO₂⁻), 2.64 (m, 1H; 3c-H), 3.15 (dd, *J*(1,2) ≈ *J*(2,3) = 7.8 Hz, 1H; 2a-H), 3.21–3.39 (m, 5H; 3a-H, 5a-H, 2b-H, 6c-H, 7c-H), 3.44–3.80 (m, 18H; 4a-H, 6a-H, 6'a-H, 5b-H, 6b-H, 6'b-H, 4c-H, 5c-H, 8c-H, 9c-H, 9'c-H, 3d-H, 4d-H, 5d-H, 6d-H, 6'd-H, CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CO₂⁻), 3.85 (dd, *J*(1,2) ≈ *J*(2,3) = 8.1 Hz, 1H; 2d-H), 3.9 (dd, *J*(2,3) = 8.5 Hz, *J*(3,4) < 2 Hz, 1H; 3b-H), 4.05 (d, 1H; 1a-H), 4.19 (d, 1H; 1a-H), 4.39 (d, *J*(1,2) 7.8 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.73 (d, 1H; 1d-H); MS (FAB, negative mode, matrix: DMSO/glycerol 1:1); *m/z*: 991 [M+H]⁻ 990.3 for C₄₀H₆₆N₂O₂₆.

6-[9-O-[(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-[5-acetamido-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosylonate-(2→3)]-(β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonylamido-2-N-(N-benzoyloxycarbonyl)leucyl-2,6-dideoxy-β-D-glucopyranosyl]-N-octadecyl-dodecanamide potassium salt [(L)-18]: A solution of **19** (208 mg, 0.242 mmol), compound **5** (260 mg, 0.262 mmol), and EEDQ (67 mg, 0.271 mmol) in dry ethanol (4 mL) was stirred at 60–70 °C and then concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃/MeOH/water 70:30:3) to give (L)-18 (250 mg, 55%) as a colorless lyophilisate (dioxane/water 4:1). *R*_f = 0.41 [CHCl₃/MeOH/CaCl₂ (2% in water) 55:45:10]; [α]_D = -11.2 (*c* = 1, dioxane); the ¹H NMR spectra showed two sets of signals (rotamers). Only significant signals are given: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, [D₆]DMSO/D₂O 95:5): δ = 0.77–0.80 (m, 12H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.07–2.29 (m, 76H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, CH₂(H₂)₆CH₂CON, 3'd-H, 2COCH₃ [1.77, 1.85], 2.54 (m, 1H; 3d-H), 2.87–3.77 (m, 34H; 2a-H, 3a-H, 4a-H, 5a-H, 6a-H, 6'a-H, 2b-H, 3b-H, 4b-H, 5b-H, 6b-H, 6'b-H, 2c-H, 3c-H, 5c-H, 6c-H, 6'c-H, 4d-H, 5d-H, 6d-H, 7d-H, 8d-H, 9d-H, 9'd-H, 2e-H, 3e-H, 4e-H, 5e-H, 6e-H, 6'e-H, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CON), 3.88–3.91 (m, 2H; 4c-H, CHCH₂), 4.12 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.4 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.27 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.7 Hz, 1H; 1c-H), 4.69 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.3 Hz, 1H; 1e-H), 4.94–4.97 (m, 2H; CH₂C₆H₅), 5.03, 5.47 (2 d, *J*(1,2) = 7.0 Hz, 1H; 1a-H, rotamers), 7.27–7.30 (m, 5H; C₆H₅); MS (FAB, positive mode, matrix: DMSO/3-nitrobenzylalcohol); *m/z*: 1872 [M+K+H]⁺ for C₉₀H₁₅₅KN₆O₃₂ (1872.3).

6-[9-O-[(2-Acetamido-2-deoxy-β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-[5-acetamido-3,5-dideoxy-D-glycero-α-D-galacto-2-D-nonulopyranosylonate-(2→3)]-(β-D-galactopyranosyl)-(1→4)-β-D-glucopyranosyl]nonylamido-2-N-L-leucyl-2,6-dideoxy-β-D-glucopyranosyl]-N-octadecyl-dodecanamide triethylammonium salt (1): A mixture of (L)-18 (20 mg, 0.011 mmol) in dioxane/water (4:1, 5 mL) and Pd/C (10%, 5 mg) was kept under hydrogen (1 atm) with vigorous stirring for 3 d. The catalyst was removed by filtration over Celite, and was washed with dioxane. The combined filtrates were concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (CHCl₃/MeOH/water/Et₃N 70:30:3:1) to give the final compound **1** (14 mg, 72%) as a colorless lyophilisate (dioxane). *R*_f = 0.31 [CHCl₃/MeOH/CaCl₂ (2% in H₂O) 55:45:10]; [α]_D = -11.9 (*c* = 1, dioxane). The ¹H NMR spectra showed two sets of signals (rotamers). Only significant signals of the major rotamer are given: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, [D₆]DMSO/D₂O 90:10): δ = 0.79–0.82 (m, 12H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH₂(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH(CH₃)₂), 1.11–2.31 (m, 82H; CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃, CH(CH₂)₁₆CH₃, CH₂CH(CH₃)₂, N(CH₂CH₃)₃, CH₂(CH₂)₆CH₂CON) [1.75, 1.86 (2s, COCH₃)], 2.53 (m, 1H; 3'd-H), 2.89–3.75 (m, 42H; 2a-H, 3a-H, 4a-H, 5a-H, 6a-H, 6'a-H, 2b-H, 3b-H, 4b-H, 5b-H, 6b-H, 6'b-H, 2c-H, 3c-H, 5c-H,

6c-H, 6'c-H, 3d-H, 4d-H, 5d-H, 6d-H, 7d-H, 8d-H, 9d-H, 9'd-H, 2e-H, 3e-H, 4e-H, 5e-H, 6e-H, 6'e-H, CHCH₂, N(CH₂CH₃)₃, (CH₂)₆CH₂CON, CH₂(CH₂)₉CH₃), 3.90 (dd, *J*(3,4) ≈ *J*(4,5) < 2 Hz, 1H; 4c-H), 4.12 (d, *J*(1,2) = 7.8 Hz, 1H; 1b-H), 4.24 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.6 Hz, 1H; 1c-H), 4.78 (d, *J*(1,2) = 8.7 Hz, 1H; 1e-H), 5.13, 5.57 (2 d, *J*(1,2) = 9.6 Hz, 1H; 1a-H, rotamers); MS (MALDI, negative mode, matrix: ATT); *m/z*: 1696 [M - Et₃N]⁻ for C₈₂H₁₄₉N₆O₃₀ · C₆H₁₅N (1698.3 + 101.2).

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