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Monanchocidin: A New Apoptosis-Inducing Polycyclic Guanidine Alkaloid from the Marine Sponge *Monanchora pulchra*

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ABSTRACT



Monanchocidin (1), a guanidine alkaloid with an unprecedented skeleton system derived from a polyketide precursor, (ω -3)-hydroxy fatty acid, and containing a 2-aminoethyl- and 3-aminopropyl-substituted morpholine hemiketal ring, has been isolated from the sponge *Monanhora pulchra*. The structure of 1 was assigned on the basis of detailed analysis of 1D and 2D NMR spectra, mass spectrometry, and results of chemical transformations. Compound 1 shows pro-apoptotic and cytoxic activities.

Polycyclic guanidine alkaloids are a unique class of spongederived metabolites exhibiting a broad range of biological activities such as cytotoxic,^{1–10} antifungal,^{1,11} antiviral,^{1,2,6,12–14} antimicrobial,¹⁵ antiprotozoal,^{11,15} and antima-

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In continuation of our search for new physiologically active marine natural products, we have found that extracts from the Far-Eastern sponge *Monanchora pulchra* (Lambe, 1894)¹⁹ were cytotoxic against a human acute monocytic leukemia cell line (THP-1). Monanchocidin (1),²⁰ a cytotoxic

constituent of *M. pulchra*, was isolated from the frozen sponge (0.02% of dry weight) after extraction with EtOH, evaporation, partition between H₂O and *n*-BuOH, partition of the BuOH-soluble materials between aqueous EtOH and hexane, and repeated column chromatography of the ethanol-soluble fraction over Sephadex LH-20 (EtOH) and HPLC (YMC-ODS-A column, 75%EtOH/0.1% aqueous TFA).

Table 1. NMR for Data Monanchocidin (1) in DMSO- d_6 and CD₃OD

	1, DMSO- d_6				$1, CD_3OD$	
position	δ_{H} (mult, J in Hz)	$\delta_{\rm C}~({\rm DEPT})$	COSY	HMBC (5 Hz)	$\delta_{ m H} ({ m mult}, J { m in \ Hz})$	$\delta_{ m C}$
1	0.95 (t, 7.5)	$13.2~\mathrm{CH}_3$	H2	C2, C3	0.99 (t, 7.5)	14.3
2	2.01 (m)	$24.5~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H1, H3	C1, C3, C4	2.05 (m, 2H)	26.8
3	5.72 (dt, 6.4, 15.3)	$134.2~\mathrm{CH}$	H2, H4	C1, C2, C4, C5,	5.77 (dt, 6.4, 15.3)	136.9
4	5.42 (ddt, 1.5, 7.2, 15.3)	$129.2 \mathrm{CH}$	H3, H5	C2, C5	5.45 (ddt, 1.5, 7.2, 15.3)	130.7
5	4.48 (br. q, 7.2)	$79.5~\mathrm{CH}$	H4, H6a, H6b	C3	4.57 (br. q, 7.2)	82.4
6	1.70 (m)	$31.2~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H5, H6b, H7	C4, C5, C7, C8	1.78 (m)	33.5
	2.21 (m)		H5, H6a	C4, C7, C8	2.22 (m)	
7	2.12 (m)	$35.8~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H6a	C5, C6, C8		38.4
8		88.3 C				90.6
9	1.50 (m)	$37.6~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H9b, H10	C8, C10, C11	1.69 (m)	39.9
	2.25 (m)		H9a, H10	C8, C10, C11	2.27 (dd, 4.0, 13.0)	
10	3.91 (m)	$53.2 \mathrm{CH}$	H9a, H9b	C8, C9, C11, C21	4.02 (m)	55.4
11	1.44 (m)	$29.8~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H10, H11b		1.64 (m)	
	2.22 (m)		H10, H11a	C12, C13	2.29 (m)	
12	1.61 (m)	$26.2~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H12b, H13	C14	1.77 (m)	28.2
	2.28 (m)		H12a, H13	C11, C13	2.29 (m)	
13	4.19 (m)	$52.5~\mathrm{CH}$	H14	C12, C14	4.32 (m)	55.3
14	2.99 (d, 5.0)	49.3 CH	H13	C13, C15, C22	3.04 (d, 5.0)	51.5
15		80.7 C				83.2
16	1.64 (m)	31.3			1.69 (m)	33.2
17	1.93 (m)	$17.6~\mathrm{CH}_2$	H16, H18a		1.82 (m)	20.0
18	1.18 (m)	$31.5~\mathrm{CH}_2$			1.27 (m)	33.2
	1.62 (m)	-	H18a, H19		2.24 (m)	
19	3.74 (m)	$66.5 \mathrm{CH}$	H18, H20	C15, C17, C20	3.86 (m)	69.2
20	1.08 (d, 6.2)	$21.6 \mathrm{CH}_3$	H19	C15, C17, C18, C19	1.13 (d, 6.4)	22.5
21	,,	148.5 C		, , ,		151.1
21-NH	9.21 (s)			C14. C15. C21		
· ·	9.55(s)			C8, C9, C21		
22		168.3 C				170.8
23	4.75 (m)	76.5 CH	H46	C22, C24, C46, C47	4.82(m)	79.2
24	1.48 (m)	32.4	H23	,,,,	1.58	34.8
25 - 34	1.20 - 1.25 (br s)	28.9 - 29.3			1.00	0110
35	1.22 (m)	28.9 CH ₂			1.45 (m)	27.0
36	1.73 (m)	31.9 CH ₂	H37	C35, C38	1.79 (m)	34.0
00	1.10 (iii)	01.0 0112	1101	000, 000	1.86 (m)	01.0
37	4 08 (dd 3 6 7 8)	70.8 CH	H36	C36 C38 C43 a	4.00 (m) 4.27 (dd 3.6.8.2)	73 5
38	1.00 (uu, 0.0, 1.0)	169.2 C	1100	000, 000, 010	1.21 (dd, 0.0, 0.2)	173.6
39	3.25 (m)	41.7 CH	H39b H40	C38 C40 C41 C42	3.46 (dt 6.0 14.2)	43.3
55	3.25 (m)	41.7 0112	$H39_{2}$ $H40$	C38 $C40$ $C41$ $C42$	3.66 (m)	40.0
40	1.80 (m)	25.5 CH	H39a H39b H41	C39 C41	1.98 (m)	27.4
40	2.77 (m)	26.5 CH_2	H40 NH-41	000, 041	2.95 (m)	38.6
41_NH	7.73 (hr s)	50.7 0112	H41		2.50 (m)	50.0
41-1112	4.41 (d 6.4)	80.9 CH	0H49	C38 C30 C43	4.59 (hr s)	833
42 42 OH	652(d, 60)	00.5 011	U <u>11</u> 42 H49	C_{42} C_{43}	4.00 (01. 5)	00.0
42-011	$0.52(\mathbf{u}, 0.5)$	94 4 C	1142	042, 043		96 7
40 42 OU	6 61 (a)	<i>3</i> 4.4 C		C49 C49		30.1
43-011	1.04 (m)	24 7 CH	1145	C42, C45	9.19 (m)	96 F
44	1.94 (m)	54.7 CH_2	1145 1145	C43, C43 C43, C43, C45	2.12 (III)	50.5
45	2.04 (III)	94.9 (11	1140 UAAA UAAA NII 47	040, 042, 040	2.22 (III) 2.18 (m)	96 7
40 45 NTT	2.33 (III) 7.76 (hm a)	ә4.ә ∪п₂	1144а, п440, м <u>п</u> 245	045	J.10 (III)	əv. 1
40-1NH2 46	1.10 (Dr. S) 1.52 (m)	96 9 011	U99 U47	040 092 047	1.60 (m)	90.9
40 47	1.02 (III)	20.2 UH_2	1120, П41 ЦАС	020,041	1.00 (III)	20.3 10.0
41	0.03 (l, 1.4)	9.0 CH_3	п40	023, 040	0.90(t, 1.4)	10.0
^{<i>a</i>} In CD ₃ OD. Parameters were optimized for 2 Hz.						

The molecular formula of monanchocidin (1) was established as $C_{47}H_{83}N_6O_8$ on the basis of HRESIMS data (m/z859.6267, M⁺, calcd 859.6237, $C_{47}H_{83}N_6O_8$) and ¹³C NMR data (Table 1). The mass of the fully deuterium-exchanged molecule (m/z 867) indicated the presence of 8 exchangeable protons. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data (DMSO- d_6 , Table 1) for 1 revealed the presence of a guanidine group ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 148.5 and $\delta_{\rm H}$ 9.21 and 9.55), three methyl groups ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.83, 0.95, 1.08; $\delta_{\rm C}$ 9.5, 13.2, 21.6), one disubstituted double bond ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 5.72, 5.42; $\delta_{\rm C}$ 134.2, 129.2), two *N*-substituted CH carbons ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 3.91, 4.19; $\delta_{\rm C}$ 53.2, 52.5), five oxymethines ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.48, 3.74, $4.75, 4.08, 4.41; \delta_{\rm C}$ 79.5, 66.5, 76.5, 70.8, 80.9), two carbonyl groups ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 168.3 and 169.2), one carbonyl-linked methine $(\delta_{\rm H} 2.99; \delta_{\rm C} 49.3)$, three quaternary carbons ($\delta_{\rm C} 88.3, 80.7$, and 94.4) and an aliphatic long chain ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.20–1.25; $\delta_{\rm C}$ 28.9-29.3).



Substructures **a**–**e** of **1** were established by COSY, HSQC, and HMBC experiments. Fragment **a** has been seen previously in many pentacyclic guanidine alkaloids^{1–6,10,14,16–18} isolated from marine sponges and starfish. It was revealed starting from signals of the methyl group in the tetrahydropyran moiety ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 1.13, $\delta_{\rm C}$ 22.5, CH₃-20, CD₃OD) and characteristic signals of the (5,6,8b)-triazaperhydroacenaphthalene core ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 151.1, C-21; $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.02, $\delta_{\rm C}$ 55.4, CH-10; $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.32, $\delta_{\rm C}$ 55.3, CH-13, CD₃OD).

Interpretation of the COSY spectrum, in conjunction with the HSQC data, starting from the lower field methyl triplet ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.95; CH₃-1) indicated substructure **b**, unusual in guanidine alkaloids (Figure 1), in which the Δ^3 -olefin was assigned as *E* on the basis of the coupling constant between H-3 and H-4 (J = 15.3 Hz). The NMR data in DMSO- d_6 showed the absence of OH groups at C-5 and C-8, which



Figure 1. Partial structures of **1** with selected COSY, HMBC, and NOE correlations.

was also confirmed by the peracetylation of **1** (Ac₂O, pyridine). ¹H NMR chemical shifts of the characteristic signals of tetrahydrofuran moiety in **1** and monanchocidin peracetate (**1a**) were the same. Substructures "**c**" and "**d**" were established in the same manner. The position of the ethyl group in the polymethylene chain of **1** was assigned by HMBC experiment, which indicated that the CH₃-47 signal at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 0.83 was correlated to C-46 (26.2) and C-23 (76.5) signals. The H-23 proton at 4.75 was also correlated to C-22 (168.3), C-24 (32.4), C-46 (26.2), and C-47 (9.5). Thus, the ethyl group is located at C-23.

The chemical shift of C-23 suggested an ester linkage at that point. The C-22 ester carbonyl showed correlations with H-14 as well as H-23. Thus, 1 consists of a pentacyclic guanidinium ring system (vessel part) and unusual, containing morpholine ring unit d (anchor part) were connected to each other through an ester linkage and a long-chain hydrocarbon moiety. The HRESIMS data of 1 show 13 methylene groups in the connecting chain (substructure e). The chemical shifts of the protons and carbons at 39, 40, 41, and 45 positions in the fragment d were comparable to those of the spermidine residue of ptilomycalin A.²¹ The proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.08 (H-37) correlated with the carbonyl carbon at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 169.2 (C-38), the carbon signal at $\delta_{\rm C}$ 169.2 correlated with the protons on C-39 and a HMBC correlation between a hydroxyl proton at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 6.61 and quaternary C-43 (94.4) indicated that C-43 is a hemiketal carbon. Analysis of key HMBC correlations then led to the construction of a morpholine hemiketal ring.

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⁽²⁰⁾ Monanchocidin (1): colorless oil; $[\alpha]_D - 12$ (*c* 0.4, EtOH); ¹H, ¹3C NMR data, Table 1; HRESIMS *m*/*z* 859.6260 [M]⁺ (calcd for C₄₇H₈₃N₆O₈ 859.6267). HRESIMS/MS of the ion [M]⁺ at *m*/*z* 859.6260: 758.5718 [M - C₄H₉NO₂ + 2H]⁺, 404.2338 [M - C₂₅H₅₀N₃O₄ + H]⁺.

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The relative stereochemistry of **1** was assigned by NOESY and ROESY. Diagnostic NOE correlations between the resonances of NHa 21 (9.55) and H-5, H-7, H-9 and NOEs from H-3 to H-5 were indicative of the relative configurations as 5S* and 8R* in substructure **b**. In addition, 15S* and 19S* relative configurations were suggested by diagnostic NOE correlations between NHb 21 (9.21) and H-19, H-17. An NOE between H-10 and H-13 in the NOESY and ROESY, together with the observed coupling constants between H-13 and H-14 (J = 5.0 Hz) located them all on the same side of the molecule. NOEs between OH-43 (6.61) and H-37 and between OH-43 and H-42 were observed, confirming the *trans*-position of hydroxyl groups and *cis*-position of H-37 and OH-43 in the anchor part. Configuration at C-23 was not determined.



Treatment of 1 (NaBH₄, EtOH, 60 °C, Figure 2) resulted in 2 by reduction of the hemiaminal groups at C-8, C-15

and C-42 with concomitant loss of C-42–C-45. The structure of **2** was established, using NMR, HRESIMS, and HRES-IMS/MS data. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **2** (DMSO- d_6) indicated the presence of a three new hydroxyl groups at C-5, C-19, and C-37 ($\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.77, 4.30 and 5.48), respectively.

The structure of monanchocidin (1) possesses a collection of uncommon features, including a vicinal hemiketal in a substituted 2-morpholinone ring formed by fusion of an α -hydroxy acid and a highly oxidized spermidine unit C-41–C-45. The combination of two contiguous spiroring systems, a 1-oxa-6-azaspiro[4.5]decane and 1-oxa-7-azaspiro[5.5]undecane, is unprecedented among guanidine alkaloids. Finally, the long-chain substituted 2-morpholinone unit in **1** is unified with the complex bis-spiro-cyclic moiety through an ester linkage at the ω -3 position of a hydroxy fatty acid residue and not the ω -position, as encountered in related natural products.

Compound 1 demonstrates cytotoxicity against human leukemia THP-1 (IC₅₀ 5.1 μ M), human cervix epithelioid carcinoma HeLa (IC₅₀ 11.8 μ M), and mouse epidermal JB6 Cl41 (IC₅₀ 12.3 μ M) cell lines. It also induces 66% of early apoptosis in THP-1 cells at 3.0 μ M concentration.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and full spectroscopic data for new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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