## Novel microcystins from Planktothrix prolifica NIVA-CYA 544 identified by LC-

## MS/MS, functional group derivatization and <sup>15</sup>N-labeling

Vittoria Mallia,<sup>1,2</sup> Silvio Uhlig,<sup>1</sup> Cheryl Rafuse,<sup>3</sup> Juris Meija,<sup>4</sup> and Christopher O. Miles<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Toxinology Research Group, Norwegian Veterinary Institute, Ullevålsveien 68, N-0454 Oslo, Norway

<sup>2</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1033, N-0315 Oslo, Norway

<sup>3</sup>National Research Council, 1411 Oxford Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 3Z1, Canada

<sup>4</sup>National Research Council, 1200 Montreal Road, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0R6, Canada

## **Table of contents**

Table S1	Retention times of microcystins of interest using the three LC-MS methods	<b>S</b> 3
Figure S1	LC-HRMS chromatogram of the 10 standards used for optimization	<b>S</b> 4
Figure S2	LC-HRMS chromatograms and mass spectra: oxidation of 15 to 16	S5
Figure S3	LC–HRMS chromatograms: oxidation of 15 to 16	<b>S</b> 6
Figure S4	LC-HRMS/MS and -MS/MS product ion spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR (4), -ER (12)	<b>S</b> 7
Figure S5	LC-HRMS chromatograms of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544 (2.0-4.5 min)	<b>S</b> 8
Figure S6	LC-HRMS chromatograms of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544 (5.5-7.5 min)	<b>S</b> 9
Figure S7	LC-HRMS chromatograms of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544 (5.8–7.8 min)	<b>S</b> 10
Figure S8	LC-HRMS chromatograms of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544 (8.5-12 min)	S11
Figure S9	LC-MS/MS DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 ( <sup>14</sup> N and <sup>15</sup> N)	S12
Figure S10	Positive LC-MS/MS DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544	S13
Figure S11	Negative LC-MS/MS DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544	S14
Figure S12	LC-MS/MS product-ion spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-ER (12), -EE (13), -RW(14)	S15
Figure S13	LC–MS/MS positive product-ion spectra of 4, 5, 6, 12	S16
Figure S14	LC–MS/MS negative product-ion spectra of 4, 5, 6, 12	S17
Figure S15	LC–HRMS chromatograms: glutathione reaction (converting 1 to 19)	S18
Figure S16	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RR (1), ( <sup>14</sup> N and <sup>15</sup> N)	S19
Figure S17	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RR (1), ([M+2H] <sup>2+</sup> and [M+H] <sup>+</sup> )	S20
Figure S18	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR (4), ( <sup>14</sup> N and <sup>15</sup> N)	S21
Figure S19	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ,Mser <sup>7</sup> ]MC-RR (11), ( <sup>14</sup> N and <sup>15</sup> N)	S22
Figure S20	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-ER (12), ( <sup>14</sup> N and <sup>15</sup> N)	S23
Figure S21	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR (4), -ER (12)	S24
Figure S22	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR (4), -ER (12), ( <i>m</i> / <i>z</i> 68–250)	S25
Figure S23	LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR (4), -ER (12), ( <i>m</i> / <i>z</i> 250–410)	S26

LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4), -ER (12), (m/z 410–630) Figure S24 S27 Figure S25 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4), -ER (12), (m/z 630-981)S28 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-EE (13) Figure S26 S29 Figure S27 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-LA, -EE (13) S30 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$ , -EE (13),  $(m/z \ 80-350)$ Figure S28 S31 **Figure S29** LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-LA, -EE (13), (*m/z* 330–670) S32 Figure S30 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$ , -EE (13), (m/z 560-980)S33 Figure S31 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RW (14) S34 Figure S32 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of sulfide conjugate of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (15) S35 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of sulfoxide conjugate of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (16) Figure S33 S36 Figure S34 LC-MS chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 and a L. Victoria sample S37 Figure S35 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RF (18) S38 **Figure S36** LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RCit (20) S39 Figure S37 LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RW, -RF, -RCit (14, 18, 20) S40 Figure S38 LC–HRMS chromatograms: esterification of NIVA-CYA 544 extract (12, 13) S41 **Figure S39** LC-HRMS/MS PRM spectra of GSH-conjugate of 1 (19) S42 LC–HRMS spectrum (positive mode) of a mixture of <sup>15</sup>N-labelled and unlabelled **1** S43 Figure S40 LC-HRMS spectrum (negative mode) of a mixture of <sup>15</sup>N-labelled and unlabelled 1 S44 Figure S41 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) by isotope profile analysis **Figure S42** S45 Figure S43 Elemental composition of oxidized [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR by isotope profile analysis S46 **Figure S44** Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-LR (4) by isotope profile analysis S47 **Figure S45** Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>,Mser<sup>7</sup>]MC-LR (11) by isotope profile analysis S48 Figure S46 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-ER (12) by isotope profile analysis S49 Figure S47 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-EE (13) by isotope profile analysis S50 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RW (14) by isotope profile analysis Figure S48 S51 **Figure S49** Elemental composition of the sulfide conjugate of 1(15) by isotope profile analysis S52 Elemental composition of sulfoxide conjugate 16 by isotope profile analysis **Figure S50** S53 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RY (17) by isotope profile analysis Figure S51 S54 **Figure S52** Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RF (18) by isotope profile analysis S55 Elemental composition of the GSH conjugate of 1 (19) by isotope profile analysis Figure S53 S56 Elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RCit (20) by isotope profile analysis **Figure S54** S57 Figure S55 LC-HRMS chromatograms and spectra of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR cysteine conjugate S58 LC-HRMS chromatograms and spectra of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR cysteine conjugate Figure S56 S59 Most probable elemental composition of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR cysteine conjugate Figure S57 S60 **Figure S58** HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled sulfide conjugate of 1 (15) S61 Expansion of the HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 15 Figure S59 S62 Expansion of the HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 15 **Figure S60** S63 Figure S61 HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled sulfoxide conjugate of 1 (16) S64 Expansion of the HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 16 Figure S62 S65 Expansion of the HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 16 **Figure S63** S66 HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RCit (20) **Figure S64** S67 HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RW (14) Figure S65 S68 HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RF (18) **Figure S66** S69 HRMS/MS spectra of unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) Figure S67 S70 Literature cited S71

	Microaustin	Confidonao	$t_{\rm R}$ (min)		
	Wherocystin	Confidence	method A	method B	method C
1	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RR	confirmed	2.81	4.28	
4	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-LR	confirmed	5.72	7.04	4.46
11	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ,Mser <sup>7</sup> ]MC-RR	probable	2.59	4.14	1.82
12	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-ER	probable	3.63	6.24	3.53
13	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-EE	probable	4.99	11.62	3.93
14	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RW	probable	10.01	9.72	8.40
15	Sulfide conjugate of 1	tentative	9.85 <sup>e</sup>	7.50	7.47
16	15-sulfoxide	tentative	6.50 <sup>f</sup>	6.53	
17	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RY	probable	7.16	8.73	
18	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RF	probable	9.94	9.82	
19	GSH-conjugate of 1	confirmed	2.05	4.09	
20	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RCit	probable	3.44	6.79	
—	Cys-conjugate of 1	tentative		3.74	
—	oxidized 1	tentative		4.09	
2	MC-RR	standard	3.12	4.63	2.31
3	MC-YR	standard	5.22	7.14	4.09
5	[Dha <sup>7</sup> ]MC-LR	standard		7.28	4.67
6	MC-LR	standard	5.84	7.29	4.58
7	MC-LA	standard	9.35	15.10	8.39
8	MC-LY	standard	10.65	15.34	9.67
9	MC-LW	standard	13.83	17.20	12.80
10	MC-LF	standard	13.91	17.85	12.89
23	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ,Dhb <sup>7</sup> ]MC-RR	standard	2.97		2.19
24	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-EHar	tentative		6.55	
25	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-RY(OMe)	tentative		8.89	
26	[D-Asp <sup>3</sup> ]MC-HarY	tentative	—	8.90	

**Table S1**. Retention times of microcystins detected in *P. prolifica* NIVA-CYA 544 or authentic samples analysed using the three LC–MS methods.



**Figure S1.** LC–HRMS (method A) full scan chromatogram in positive ion mode of a standard mixture (200 ng/mL) of 9 microcystins (MCs) and Nodularin-R, used to optimize the method: [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>,Dhb<sup>7</sup>]MC-RR (23) (wrongly labelled by Enzo as [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR), MC-RR (2), NOD-R, MC-YR (3), [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-LR (4), MC-LR (6), MC-LA (7), MC-LY (8), MC-LW (9), MC-LF (10). The chromatogram was extracted at the specified m/z of standard compounds, as reported in Figure 1, with 5 ppm tolerance.



**Figure S2.** Left, LC–HRMS chromatograms (method B) before (top left) and after (bottom left) treatment with sodium periodate. Both chromatograms are extracted at both m/z 1059.0088 and 1067.0060, and show complete conversion of sulfide **15** to sulfoxide **16**. To the right are the mass spectra of the main peak the sulfide (top right) and sulfoxide (bottom right), showing a change in m/z corresponding to addition of one oxygen atom (theoretical  $\Delta m/z = 7.9975$ ).



**Figure S3.** LC–HRMS chromatograms before (top) and 15 min after (bottom) treatment with sodium periodate. Both chromatograms are extracted at both m/z 1059.0088 and 1067.0060, and displayed with the same vertical scale. Equivalent injection volumes were used for both chromatograms, and integration of the peaks (peak areas in arbitrary units) shows complete conversion of sulfide **15** to sulfoxide **16**.



**Figure S4.** Top, LC–HRMS/MS (method A) product ion spectra, and; bottom, LC–MS<sup>2</sup> (method C) product ion spectra from collision-induced fragmentation of the  $[M + H]^+$  ions of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12). The blue lines link examples of conserved fragments while the red lines link examples of fragments shifted by the exact difference between the masses of L and E (15.9585).



**Figure S5.** LC–HRMS (method B) chromatograms (2.0–4.5 min) in positive ionization mode of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544, showing the polar doubly-charged microcystins. Extracted ion chromatograms were at the specified m/z with 5 ppm tolerance.



**Figure S6.** LC–HRMS (method B) chromatograms (5.5–7.5 min) in positive ionization mode of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544, showing the less polar singly-charged microcystins. Extracted ion chromatograms were at the specified m/z with 5 ppm tolerance.



**Figure S7.** LC-HRMS (method B) chromatograms (5.8–7.8 min) in positive ionization mode of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544, showing the less polar doubly-charged microcystin conjugates. Extracted ion chromatograms were at the specified m/z with 5 ppm tolerance. Note the presence of a major and a minor stereoisomer of **16**, each of which appears to be present as a pair of sulfoxide diastereoisomers.



**Figure S8.** LC–HRMS (method B) chromatograms (8.5–12 min) in positive ionization mode of an HP-20 extract of NIVA-CYA 544, showing the least polar singly-charged microcystins. Extracted ion chromatograms were at the specified m/z with 5 ppm tolerance.



**Figure S9.** Negative ionization LC–MS/MS FS/DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 at natural abundance (left) and in a <sup>15</sup>N-labelled culture (right), extracted at m/z 128.0353 (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub><sup>14</sup>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, left) and 129.0324 (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub><sup>15</sup>NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, right) from the Glu<sup>6</sup>-moiety.



**Figure S10.** Positive ionization LC–MS/MS FS/DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 at natural abundance extracted at m/z 135.0804 (C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sup>+</sup>) from the Adda<sup>5</sup>-moiety.



**Figure S11.** Positive ionization LC–MS/MS FS/DIA chromatograms of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 at natural abundance extracted at m/z 135.0804 (C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sup>+</sup>) from the Adda<sup>5</sup>-moiety.



**Figure S12.** LC–MS<sup>2</sup> (method C) product ion spectra from collision-induced fragmentation of the  $[M + H]^+$  ions of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12),  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (13) and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RW$  (14).



**Figure S13.** LC–MS/MS (method C) positive product ion spectra from collision-induced fragmentation of the  $[M + H]^+$  ions of MC-LR (6),  $[Dha^7]MC$ -LR (5),  $[D-Asp^3]MC$ -LR (4) and  $[D-Asp^3]MC$ -ER (12).



**Figure S14.** LC–MS/MS (method C) negative product ion spectra from collision-induced fragmentation of the  $[M - H]^-$  ions of MC-LR (6),  $[Dha^7]MC$ -LR (5),  $[D-Asp^3]MC$ -LR (4) and  $[D-Asp^3]MC$ -ER (12).



**Figure S15.** Extracted ion (at m/z for 1 and 19) LC–HRMS (method A) chromatograms of: a standard solution of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) (black); the gradual conversion of standard [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) to the GSH-conjugate of 1 (19) by reaction with glutathione in weakly basic solution (blue); an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 showing extracted m/z corresponding to  $[M + H]^+$  for the GSH-conjugate of 1 (19) and [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) (purple). Results of the reaction (blue) supported the identification of 19 as the GSH-conjugate of the major microcystin congener 1, together with elemental composition calculation and comparison of the LC–HRMS characteristics of the products with those of 19 in the culture extract. LC-HRMS/MS spectra of natural 19 in the culture extract and semi-synthetic 19 produced by reaction of 1 with GSH are shown in Figure S39.



**Figure S16.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) at m/z 512.8 (top), and of nitrogen-15 labelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) at m/z 519.3 (bottom).



**Figure S17.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) at m/z 512.8 (top), and of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) at m/z 1024.5 (bottom).



**Figure S18.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of nitrogen-15 labelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 991.5 (bottom).



**Figure S19.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of  $[D-Asp^3, Mser^7]MC-RR$  (**11**) at m/z 521.8 (top), and of nitrogen-15 labelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (**11**) at m/z 528.3 (bottom).



**Figure S20.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 997.5 (top), and of nitrogen-15 labelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 1007.5 (bottom).



**Figure S21.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 997.5 (bottom).



**Figure S22.** Expansion (m/z 68–250) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 997.5 (bottom). Blue lines join selected peaks that differ by m/z + 15.9595, which is the exact mass difference between 4 and 12, and between leucine and glutamic acid. The bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on Yilmaz et al.<sup>1</sup> The results show that 4 and 12 differ by 15.9595 Da in amino acid-2.



**Figure S23.** Expansion (m/z 250-410) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (**4**) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (**12**) at m/z 997.5 (bottom). Blue lines join selected peaks that differ by m/z + 15.9595, which is the exact mass difference between **4** and **12** (and between leucine and glutamic acid). The bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on Yilmaz et al. (2019). The results show that **4** and **12** differ by 15.9595 Da in amino acid-2.



**Figure S24.** Expansion (m/z 410–630) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 997.5 (bottom). Blue lines join selected peaks that differ by m/z + 15.9595, which is the exact mass difference between 4 and 12 (and between leucine and glutamic acid). The bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on Yilmaz et al. (2019). The results show that 4 and 12 differ by 15.9595 Da in amino acid-2.



**Figure S25.** Expansion (m/z 630–981) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) at m/z 981.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) at m/z 997.5 (bottom). Blue lines join selected peaks that differ by m/z +15.9595, which is the exact mass difference between 4 and 12 (and between leucine and glutamic acid). The bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on Yilmaz et al. (2019). T he results show that 4 and 12 differ by 15.9595 Da in amino acid-2.



**Figure S26.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectrum (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (13) at m/z 970.5.



**Figure S27.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  at m/z 896.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (13) at m/z 970.5 (bottom).



**Figure S28.** Expansion (m/z 80–350) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  at m/z 896.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (**13**) at m/z 970.5 (bottom). Blue lines join peaks differing by m/z +73.9640 (the exact mass difference between  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  and **13**) and contain both amino acid-2 and -4; orange lines join peaks differing by m/z +58.0055 (the difference in exact mass between Ala and Glu) and contain amino acid-4 but not -2; green lines join peaks differing by m/z +15.9585 (the difference in exact mass between Leu and Glu) and contain amino acid-2 but not -4; red lines join peaks that do not differ between the two compounds, and thus contain neither amino acid-2 nor -4. Bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on LeBlanc et al.<sup>2</sup> The results show that **13** and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  differ by +15.9585 Da in amino acid-2 and by +58.0055 in amino acid-4.



**Figure S29.** Expansion (m/z 330–670) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  at m/z 896.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (**13**) at m/z 970.5 (bottom). Blue lines join peaks differing by m/z +73.9640 (the exact mass difference between  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  and **13**) and contain both amino acid-2 and -4; orange lines join peaks differing by m/z +58.0055 (the difference in exact mass between Ala and Glu) and contain amino acid-4 but not -2; green lines join peaks differing by m/z +15.9585 (the difference in exact mass between Leu and Glu) and contain amino acid-2 but not -4; red lines join peaks that do not differ between the two compounds, and thus contain neither amino acid-2 nor -4. Bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on LeBlanc et al.<sup>2</sup> The results show that **13** and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  differ by +15.9585 Da in amino acid-2 and by +58.0055 in amino acid-4.



**Figure S30.** Expansion (m/z 560–980) of the LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  at m/z 896.5 (top), and of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (**13**) at m/z 970.5 (bottom). Blue lines join peaks differing by m/z +73.9640 (the exact mass difference between  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  and **13**) and contain both amino acid-2 and -4; orange lines join peaks differing by m/z +58.0055 (the difference in exact mass between Ala and Glu) and contain amino acid-4 but not -2; green lines join peaks differing by m/z +15.9585 (the difference in exact mass between Leu and Glu) and contain amino acid-2 but not -4; red lines join peaks that do not differ between the two compounds, and thus contain neither amino acid-2 nor -4. Bold purple numbers indicate the amino acid residue numbers of the amino acids attributed to selected product ions based on LeBlanc et al.<sup>2</sup> The results show that **13** and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LA$  differ by +15.9585 Da in amino acid-2 and by +58.0055 in amino acid-4.



**Figure S31.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectrum (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RW$  (14) at m/z 1054.5.



**Figure S32.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfide conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (15) at m/z 1059.0 recorded with setting z = 1 (top) leading to scanning from m/z 73–1100, and recorded with setting z = 2 leading to scanning from m/z 145–2180 (bottom).



**Figure S33.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfoxide conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (16) at m/z 1067.0 recorded with setting z = 1 (top) leading to scanning from m/z 73–1105, and recorded with setting z = 2 leading to scanning from m/z 146–2195 (bottom).



**Figure S34.** Extracted positive ion LC–MS chromatograms (method B) at m/z 1031.5197 an extract of: A, NIVA-CYA 544, and; B, Lake Victoria bloom sample BSA8,<sup>3</sup> showing co-elution of **17** with a sample containing [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RY (**17**). Panel C shows a weak positive ion mode MS/MS spectrum of **17** from NIVA-CYA 544 showing characteristic product ions for an [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RZ congener (*cf.* Figures S31, S35–37). Panels D1 and D2 show positive and negative ion full scan MS spectra of **17** in a mixture of extracts from an unlabelled culture of NIVA-CYA 544 and a culture grown in medium containing 98% <sup>15</sup>N, showing that **17** contains 10 nitrogen atoms (see also Figure S51 for application of the NRC formula calculator to this data).



**Figure S35.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectrum (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RF$  (18) at m/z 1015.5.



Figure S36. LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectrum (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RCit$  (20) at m/z 1025.5.



**Figure S37.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RF$  (**18**) at m/z 1015.5 (top),  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RCit$  (**20**) at m/z 1025.5 (middle), and  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RW$  (**14**) at m/z 1054.5 (bottom). Note the prominent product ions at m/z 375.1915 (Adda<sup>5</sup>–D-Glu<sup>6</sup>–Mdha<sup>7</sup> minus C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O), and 426.2096 (Dha<sup>7</sup>–D-Ala<sup>1</sup>–Arg<sup>2</sup>-D-Masp<sup>3</sup>) that are characteristic 3-desmethylated MCs containing Arg at position-2 (i.e.  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RZ$ ) (*cf* also spectra of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (**1**)).



**Figure S38.** Extracted ion LC–HRMS chromatograms (method A) of an extract of NIVA-CYA 544 before (blue) and after (red) esterification with diazomethane. Left, extracted for m/z corresponding to  $[M + H]^+$  for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) and its mono-, di-, and tri-methyl esters; right, extracted for m/z corresponding to  $[M + H]^+$  for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (13) and its mono-, di-, and tri-methyl esters. Results confirmed the presence of one extra carboxylic acid group in 12, and two extra carboxylic acid groups in 13, relative to  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4), which was converted almost completely to its mono-methyl ester in the same experiment. Earlier retention times (compared to those ones reported in Table 1 and Table S1) result from use of an older column for monitoring this reaction.



**Figure S39.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method A) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of putative GSH-conjugate of **1** (**19**) extracted at m/z 666.3. Top, in an extract of NIVA-CYA 544; bottom, in the product obtained from the reaction of a standard of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**1**) with glutathione (Figure S15). The mass range has been split into two segments with different vertical scales because of the dominance of the Adda-fragment (m/z 135.0804) in the spectra. The low mass range (m/z 70–150) is shown at full vertical scale (0–100%), whereas an expanded vertical scale (0–13%) was used in the range m/z 150–700 to allow visualization of the low-intensity fragments.



**Figure 40.** LC-HRMS (method B) spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) in negative ionization mode ( $[M - H]^{-}$ ) from a sample containing a mixture of an extract from an unlabelled culture of *P. prolifica* NIVA-CYA 544 and from the same culture grown for an extended period in <sup>15</sup>N-enriched (>98% <sup>15</sup>N) culture medium. Peaks are labelled with their elemental compositions, with all mass errors  $\Delta \le 1.0$  ppm. The measured level of <sup>15</sup>N-incorporation for the labelled **1** was 98% (see Figure 3). The *m/z* values and isotopomer peak intensities were used in the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator to obtain candidate elemental compositions for **1** (see Figure S42). Similar data was used with the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator to obtain candidate elemental compositions for other microcystins in the culture (see Figures S43–57).



**Figure 41.** LC-HRMS (method B) spectrum of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) in positive ionization mode ( $[M + 2 H]^{2+}$ ) from a sample containing a mixture of an extract from an unlabelled culture of *P. prolifica* NIVA-CYA 544 and from the same culture grown for an extended period in <sup>15</sup>N-enriched (>98% <sup>15</sup>N) culture medium. Peaks are labelled with their elemental compositions, with all mass errors  $\Delta \le 2.0$  ppm. The measured level of <sup>15</sup>N-incorporation for the labelled **1** was 98% (see Figure 3). The *m/z* values and isotopomer peak intensities were used in the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator to obtain candidate elemental compositions for **1** (see Figure S42). Similar data was used with the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator to obtain candidate elemental compositions for other microcystins in the culture (see Figures S43–57).



**Figure S42.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines. For original data, see Figures S40 and S41.



**Figure S43.** Most probable elemental compositions for oxidized [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1-oxide) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S44.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-LR$  (4) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S45.** Most probable elemental compositions for [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>,Mser<sup>7</sup>]MC-RR (**11**) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S46.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-ER$  (12) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) ionization mode using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S47.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-EE$  (13) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) ionization mode using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S48.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RW$  (14) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S49.** Most probable elemental compositions for the sulfide conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (15) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S50.** Most probable elemental compositions for the sulfoxide conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (16) (i.e. 15-oxide) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S51.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RY$  (17) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S52.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RF$  (**18**) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S53.** Most probable elemental compositions for the glutathione conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (19) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S54.** Most probable elemental compositions for  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RCit$  (**20**) based on full-scan LC–MS (method B) data for normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S55.** Left, LC-HRMS (method B) chromatograms of the  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  cysteine conjugate in unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled cultures of *P. prolifica* NICA-CYA 544 in positive and negative modes extracted at m/z for  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  and  $[M - H]^-$ . Note the presence of a major and a minor isomer. Centre, positive mode mass spectra of the major isomer in the unlabelled (top) and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled cultures (bottom). Right, negative mode mass spectra of the major isomer in the unlabelled cultures (bottom). Analysis of the isotope patterns with the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator is shown in Figure S57.



**Figure S56.** Left, LC-HRMS (method B) chromatograms of the  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  cysteine conjugate in unlabelled and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled cultures of *P. prolifica* NICA-CYA 544 in positive and negative modes extracted at m/z for  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  and  $[M - H]^-$ . Note the presence of a major and a minor isomer. Centre, positive mode mass spectra of the minor isomer in the unlabelled (top) and <sup>15</sup>N-labelled cultures (bottom). Right, negative mode mass spectra of the minor isomer in the unlabelled cultures (bottom).





C<sub>51</sub>H<sub>79</sub>N<sub>14</sub>O<sub>14</sub>S score: 1.000

**Figure S57.** Most probable elemental compositions for the major isomer of the cysteine conjugate of  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  based on the full-scan LC–MS (method B) data shown in Figure S55. The panels show normalized <sup>15</sup>N-labelled (red) and natural abundance (black) mass spectra for cultures in negative (left) and positive (right) ionization modes using the NRC Molecular Formula Calculator. Candidate formulae and their scores are shown above the pairs of spectra in each panel, with the measured m/z and intensities indicated by the circles and the calculated values shown with vertical lines.



**Figure S58.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfide conjugate of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (15) at m/z 1059.0 recorded with setting z = 1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 15 at m/z 1069.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) in conjugate-15.



**Figure S59.** Expansion of LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfide conjugate (see Figure S58) of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**15**) at *m*/*z* 1059.0 recorded with setting *z* =1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **15** at *m*/*z* 1069.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**1**) in conjugate-**15**.



**Figure S60.** Expansion of LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfide conjugate (see Figure S58) of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**15**) at *m/z* 1059.0 recorded with setting *z* =1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **15** at *m/z* 1069.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**1**) in conjugate-**15**.



**Figure S61.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfoxide conjugate of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (16) at m/z 1067.0 recorded with setting z = 1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 16 at m/z 1077.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (1) in conjugate-16.



**Figure S62.** Expansion of LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfoxide conjugate (see Figure S61) of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**16**) at m/z 1067.0 recorded with setting z = 1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **15** at m/z 1077.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**1**) in conjugate-**16**.



**Figure S63.** Expansion of LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + 2H]^{2+}$  of the sulfoxide conjugate (see Figure S61) of the: top, unlabelled [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**16**) at m/z 1067.0 recorded with setting z = 1; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **15** at m/z 1077.5. Note the characteristic product ions indicating the presence of [D-Asp<sup>3</sup>]MC-RR (**1**) in conjugate-**16**.



**Figure S64.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of: top, unlabelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RCit$  (**20**) at m/z 1025.5, and; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **20** at m/z 1037.5. Note the prominent neutral loss of isocyanic acid (HNCO, 43.0058 Da) in unlabelled **20**, which characteristic of citrulline residues in peptides.<sup>4</sup>



**Figure S65.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of: top, unlabelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RW$  (14) at m/z 1054.5, and; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 14 at m/z 1069.5.



**Figure S66.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of: top, unlabelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RF$  (**18**) at m/z 1015.5, and; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled **18** at m/z 1025.5.



**Figure S67.** LC–HRMS/MS PRM spectra (method B) of  $[M + H]^+$  of: top, unlabelled  $[D-Asp^3]MC-RR$  (1) at m/z 1024.5, and; bottom, <sup>15</sup>N-labelled 1 at m/z 1037.5. Note the presence of the characteristic singly-charged product ions at m/z 135.0804 (derived from Adda<sup>5</sup>), 426.2096 (derived from Mdha<sup>7</sup>–Ala<sup>1</sup>–Arg<sup>2</sup>–Asp<sup>3</sup>), and 599.3552 (derived from Arg<sup>4</sup>–Adda<sup>5</sup>–Glu<sup>6</sup>) that were also observed in the MS/MS spectra of 15 and 16 (Figures S32–33 and S58–63).

## **Literature Cited**

1. Yilmaz, Y.; Foss, A. J.; Miles, C. O.; Özen, M.; Demir, N.; Balci, M.; Beach, D. G., Comprehensive multi-technique approach reveals the high diversity of microcystins in field collections and an associated isolate of *Microcystis aeruginosa* from a Turkish lake. *Toxicon* **2019**, *167*, 87–100.

2. LeBlanc, P.; Merkley, N.; Thomas, K.; Lewis, N. I.; Békri, K.; LeBlanc Renaud, S.; Pick, F. R.; McCarron, P.; Miles, C. O.; Quilliam, M. A., Isolation and characterization of [D-Leu<sup>1</sup>]microcystin-LY from *Microcystis aeruginosa* CPCC-464. *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **2019**, (submitted).

3. Miles, C. O.; Sandvik, M.; Nonga, H. E.; Rundberget, T.; Wilkins, A. L.; Rise, F.; Ballot, A., Identification of microcystins in a Lake Victoria cyanobacterial bloom using LC-MS with thiol derivatization. *Toxicon* **2013**, *70*, 21–31.

4. Hao, G.; Wang, D.; Gu, J.; Shen, Q.; Gross, S. S.; Wang, Y., Neutral loss of isocyanic acid in peptide CID spectra: a novel diagnostic marker for mass spectrometric identification of protein citrullination. J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom. 2009, 20, 723–727.