



Peptoid Inhibition of Bacterial Growth

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Introduction

- There has been an increase in antibiotic resistance in microorganisms over the past decade.¹
- Peptoids have been proposed as a viable solution.
- Peptoids or poly-N-substituted glycines are structural analogs of peptides (short chains of two to fifty amino acids).¹
- The N-substituted amide makes it resistant to proteolytic degradation which is its advantage over peptides.²
- The objective of this project is to analyze existing literature for structural characteristics of effective peptoids.

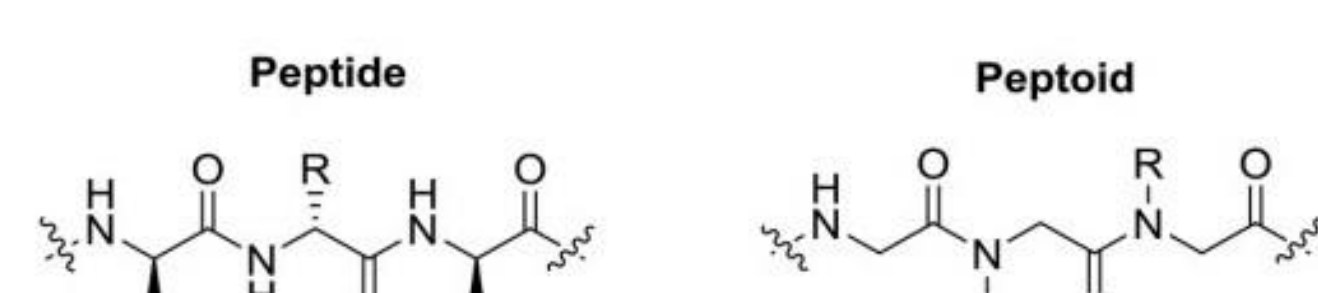
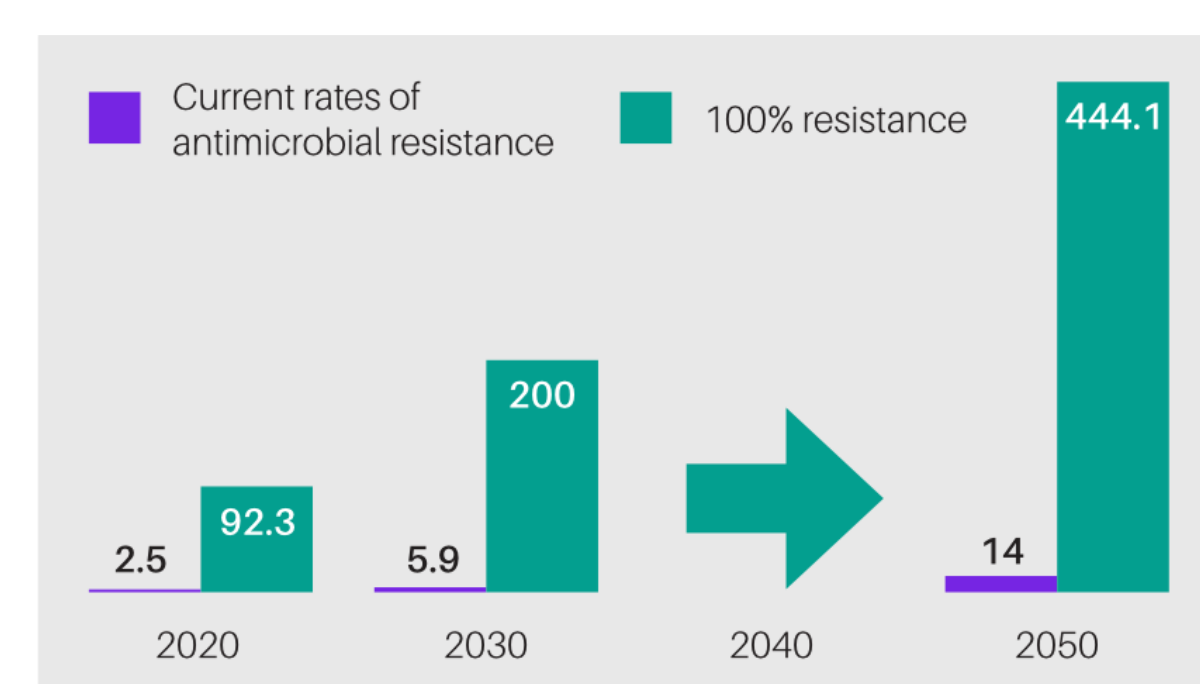
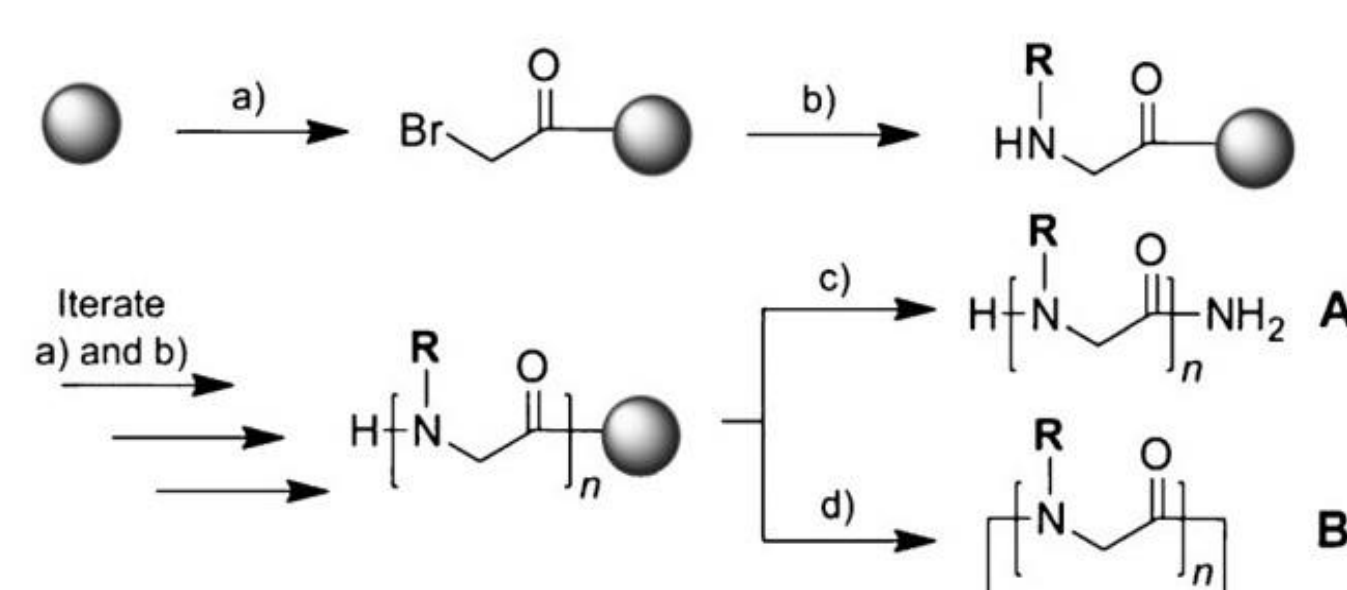
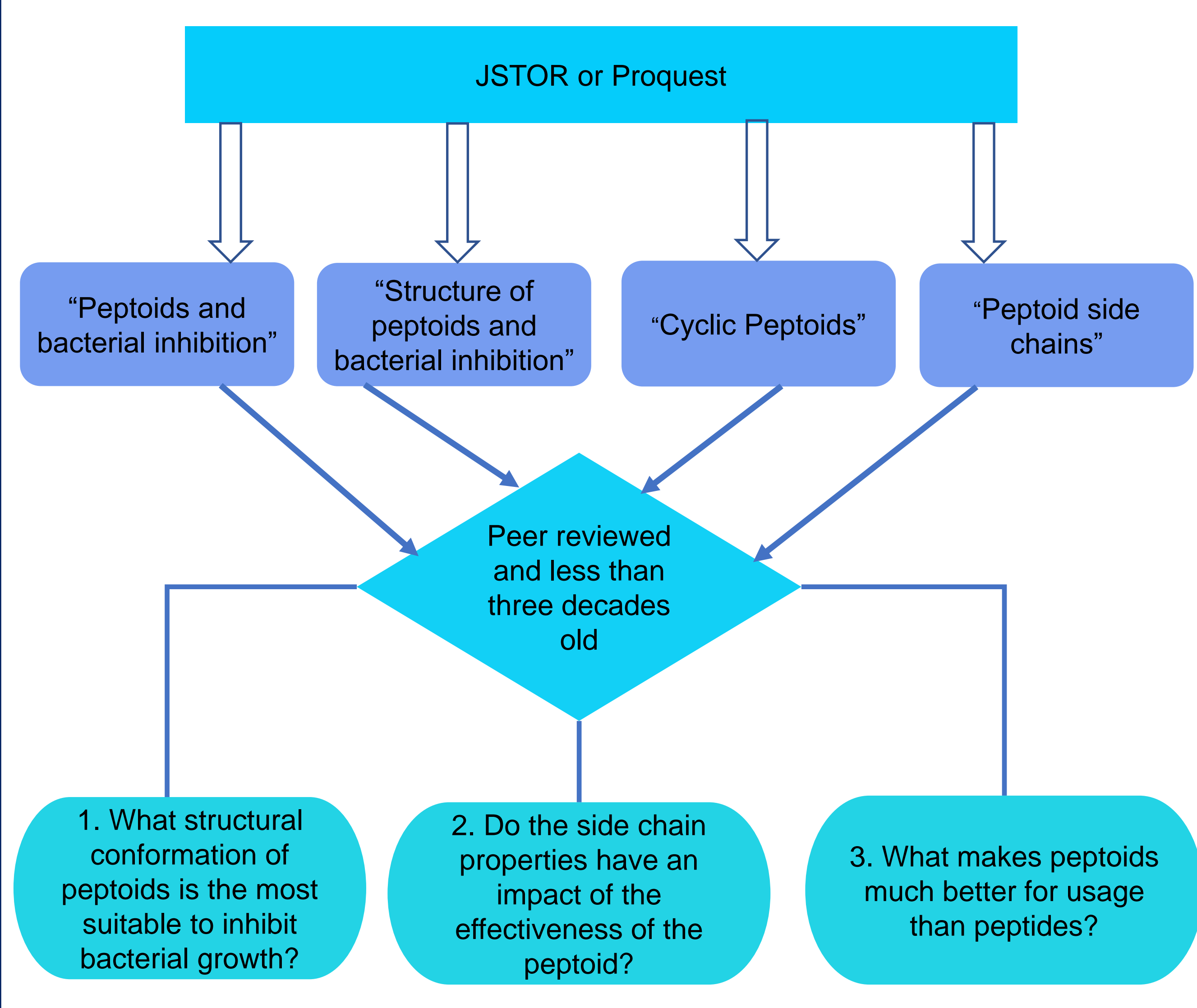


Figure 1: Typical peptide vs peptoid.¹



Scheme 1: Solid phase synthesis of N-acetylated linear (A) and cyclic peptoids (B) where n = 6, 8 or 10.²

Methods



Results

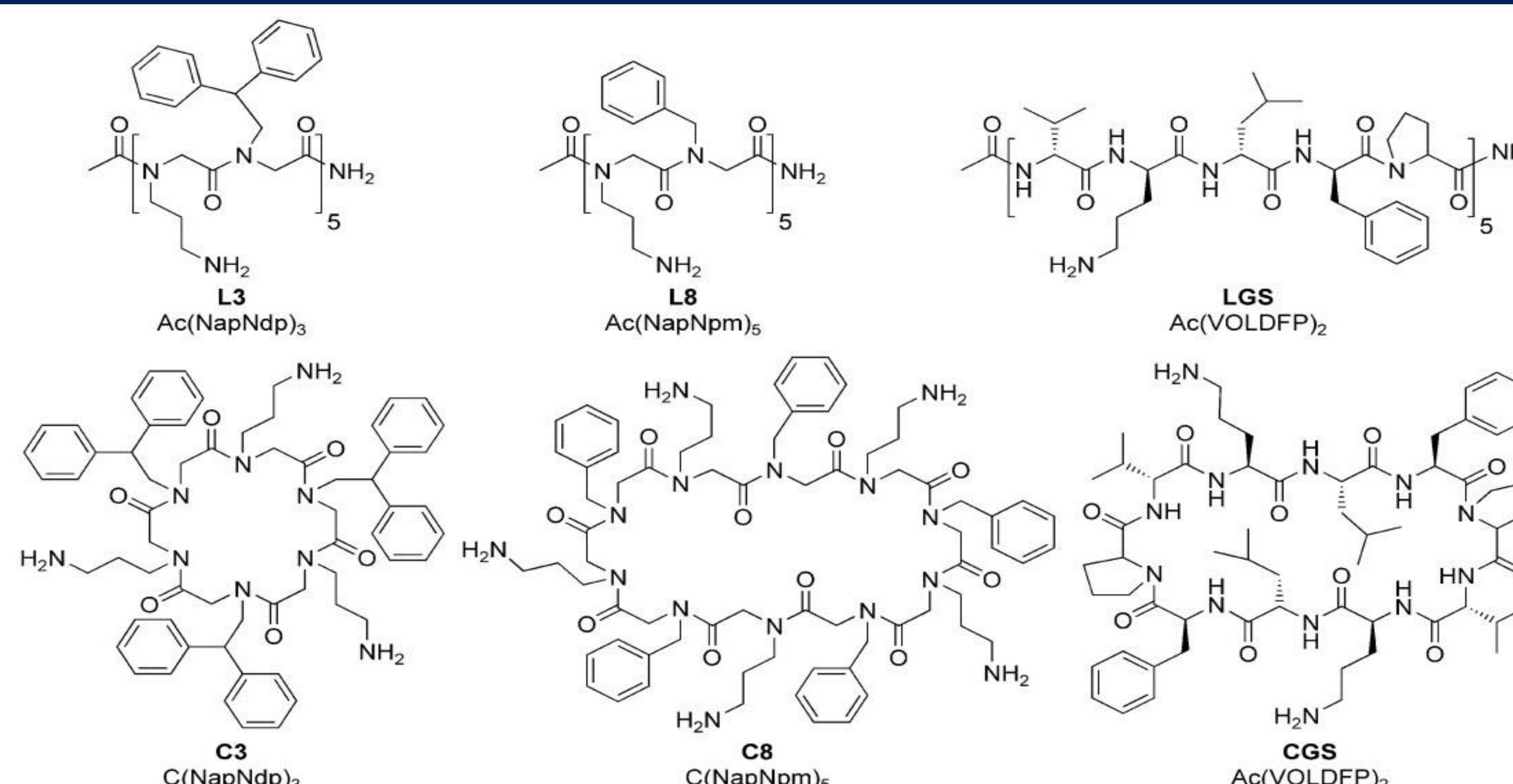


Figure 3: Structure of linear (L) and cyclic peptide and peptoids (C) utilized in the study. Cyclic decapeptide gramicidin S (CGS) and its N-acetylated linear counterpart LGS are peptides utilized as positive control.²

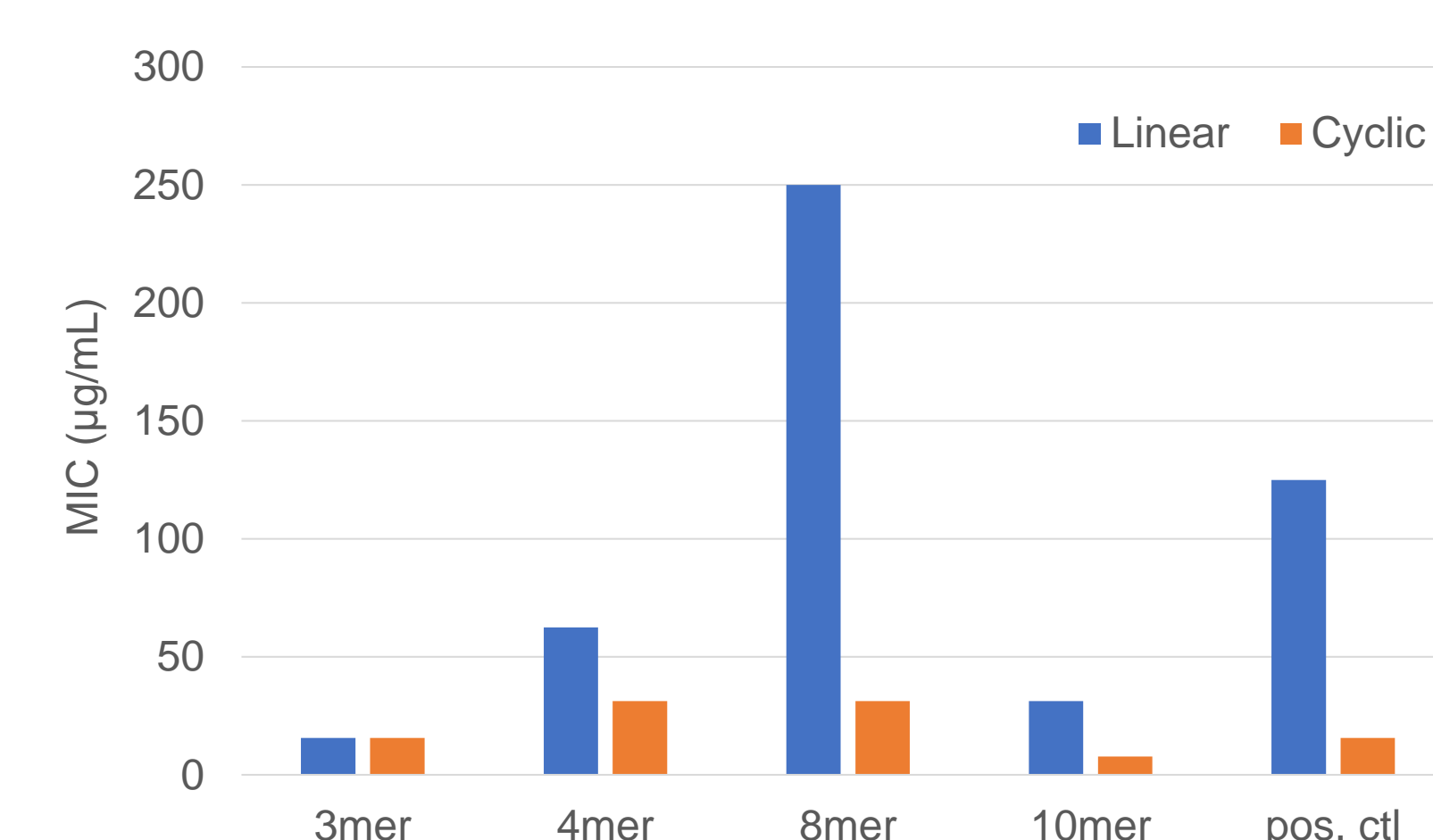


Figure 4: MIC values for the six compared linear and cyclic peptoids against *E. coli*.²

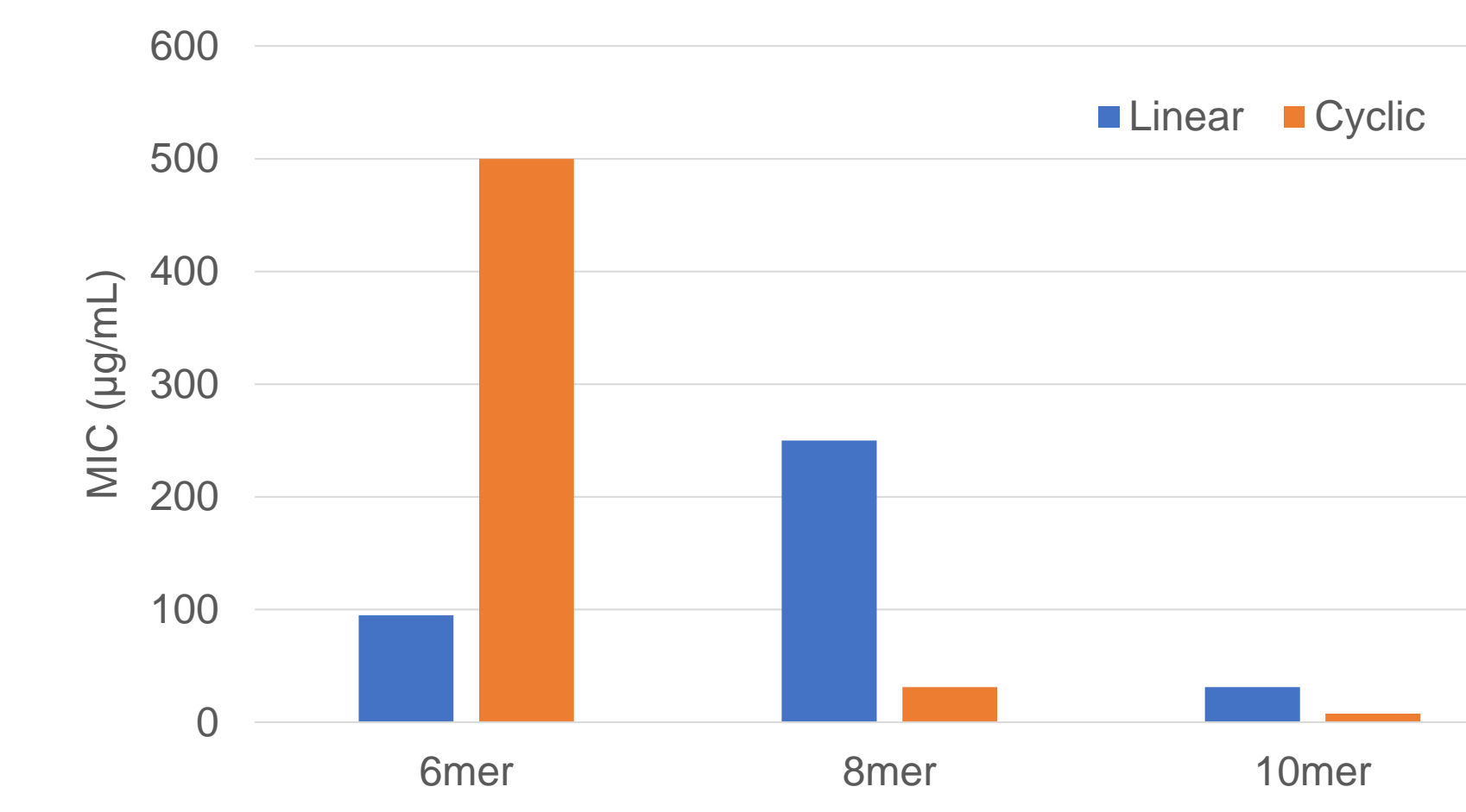


Figure 5: MIC values for three compared linear and cyclic peptoids against *E. coli* comparing length where C6 & L6 are 6mers, C7 and L7 are 8mers and C8 and L8 are 10mers.²

- Cyclic peptoids have been shown to have improved antibacterial activity in comparison to their linear counterparts. Lengthening the cyclic side chains will also help to boost activity.

Table 1: MIC values of fluorinated peptoids against SA = *S. aureus* [ATCC 29213], MRSP = methicillin-resistant isolate of *S. pseudintermedius*, PA = *P. aeruginosa*, EC = *E. coli*.³

Compound	# of residues	MIC (µg/mL)				# of Fluorines present
		SA	MRSP	PA	EC	
1	12	32	2	16	8	0
2	12	2	1	4	4	3
3	10	4	1	16	8	2
4	8	32	4	>32	>32	2
5	6	>32	>32	>32	>32	1
6	12	2	2	4	4	6
7	10	2	1	8	8	5
8	8	8	2	>32	32	4
9	6	>32	32	>32	>32	3

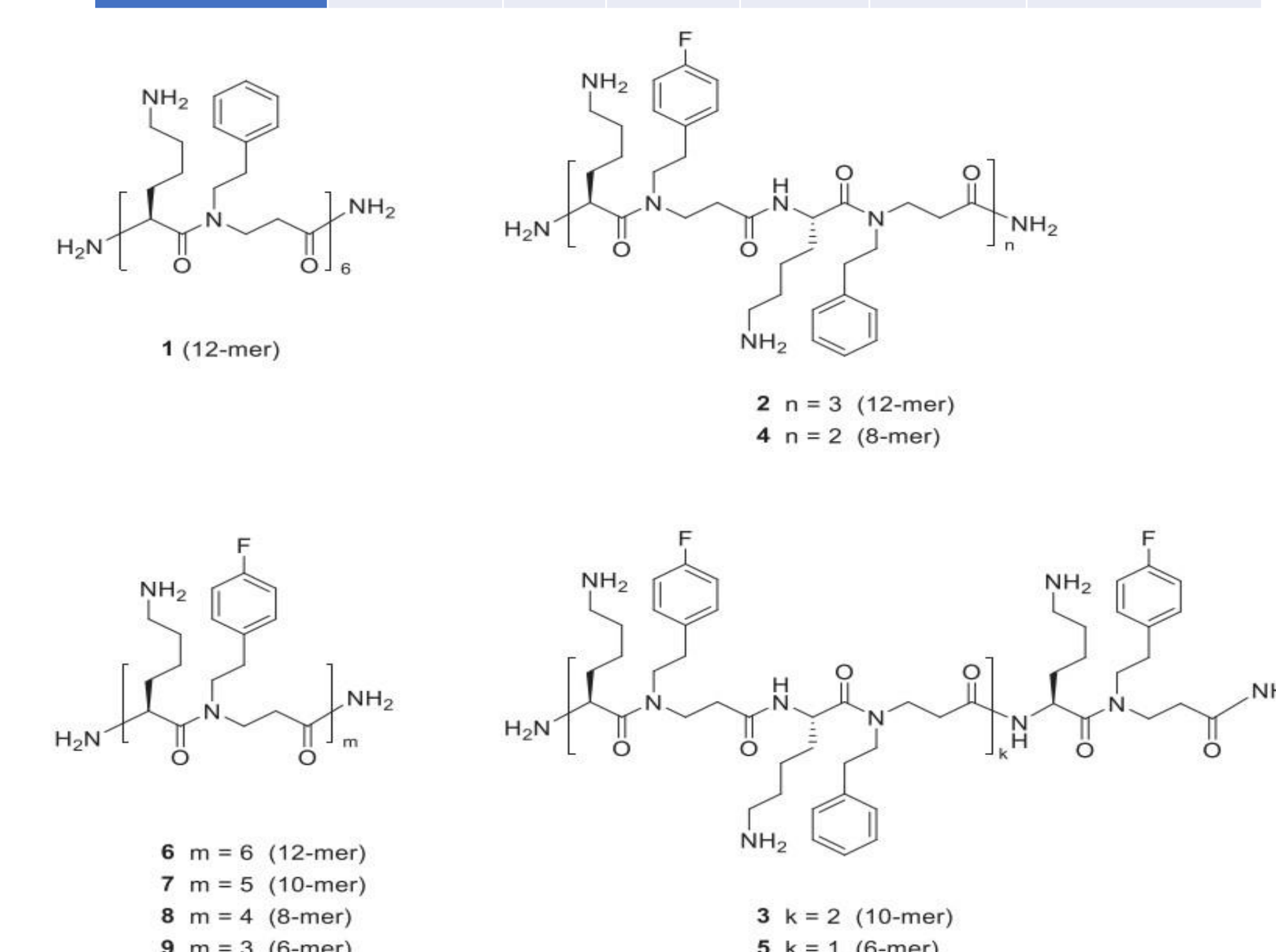


Figure 6: Structures of fluorinated and non-fluorinated peptoids used in the study.³

- Adding fluorine to the side chain increases antibacterial activity.
- Compound 2 is most effective at inhibiting the growth of the four bacterial strains.

Discussion/Conclusion

- Cyclization enforces conformational rigidity that increases specificity.⁴
- Sidechains between 6 to 12 residues increase antimicrobial activity.⁷
- Cyclic peptoids have improved cell penetration and enhanced antimicrobial activity compared to their linear precursors.⁵
- A combination of fluorination and elongated hydrophobic side chains constitute the most optimal design.^{1, 4}
- Fluorine increases the hydrophobicity and antimicrobial activity until saturation.⁶

References

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