

## Supporting information

### Chirality effects at each amino acid position on tripeptide self-assembly into hydrogel biomaterials

S. Marchesan<sup>\*a,b</sup>, C. D. Easton<sup>a</sup>, K. E. Styan<sup>a</sup>, L. J. Waddington<sup>a</sup>, F. Kushkaki<sup>c</sup>, L. Goodall<sup>a</sup>, K. M. McLean<sup>a</sup>, J. S. Forsythe<sup>d</sup>, and P. G. Hartley<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>a</sup> CSIRO Materials Science and Engineering, Bayview Avenue, Clayton, VIC 3053, Australia

<sup>b</sup> Present address: INSTM, University of Trieste, Via L. Giorgieri 1, 34127 Trieste, Italy

<sup>c</sup> La Trobe University, Department of Chemistry, La Trobe Institute of Molecular Sciences, Kingsbury Drive, Bundoora, Melbourne VIC 3086, Australia.

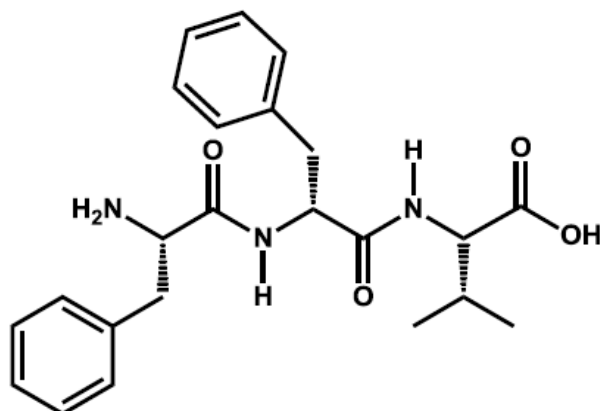
<sup>d</sup> Department of Materials Engineering, Monash University, Victoria 3800, Australia

\* email: marchesan.silvia@gmail.com

#### Table of Contents

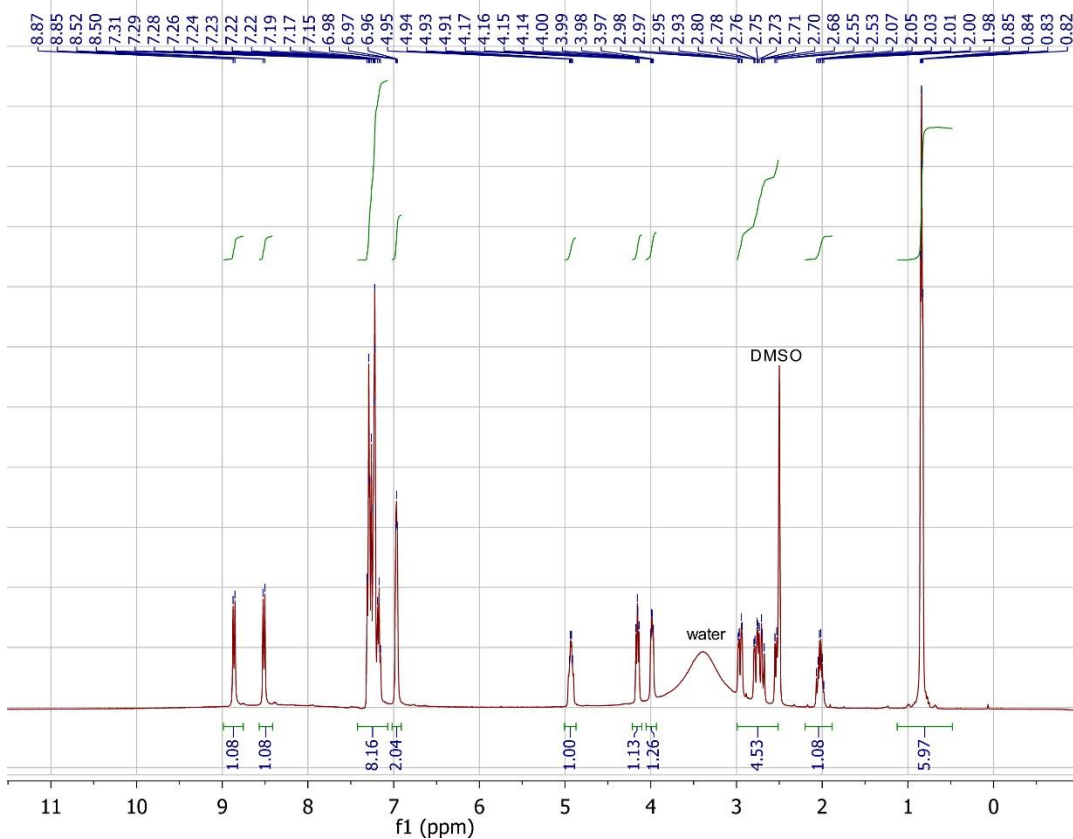
1. Spectroscopic identification of Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe-Val .....	S2
2. Spectroscopic identification of Phe-Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val .....	S4
3. Spectroscopic identification of <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe-Val .....	S7
4. Spectroscopic identification of Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val .....	S9
5. Spectroscopic identification of <sup>D</sup> Phe-Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val .....	S12
6. Spectroscopic identification of <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val.....	S14
7. AFM analysis of homochiral tripeptides.....	S17
8. AFM line scan confirms twisted fibers for Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val.....	S17
9. Cryo-TEM image for twisted fibers of Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val.....	S17
10. Cryo-TEM image for twisted fibers of <sup>D</sup> Phe-Phe-Val.....	S18
11. Rheometry.....	S18
12. Live/dead cell culture images.....	S18
13. BF cell culture images at 72h for Phe- <sup>D</sup> Phe- <sup>D</sup> Val .....	S20
14. BF cell culture images at 72h for <sup>D</sup> Phe-Phe-Val .....	S22
15. Cytotoxicity assay for the two gelling peptides in solution.....	S24

# 1. Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-Val

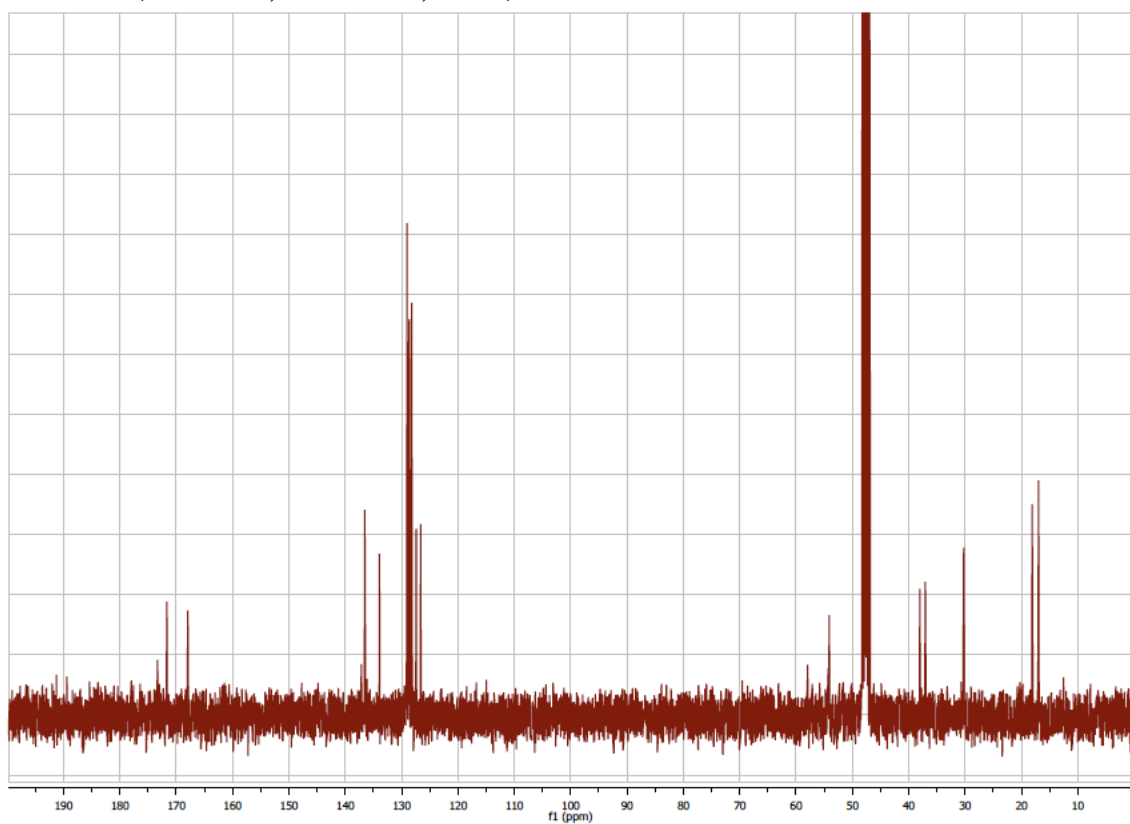


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ 8.86 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.51 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 7.31-7.15 (m, 8H, Ar), 6.97 (m, 2H, Ar), 4.93 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.15 (m, 1H, αCH), 3.98 (m, 1H, αCH), 2.97-2.53 (m, 4H, 2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.00 (m, 1H, βCH), 0.84 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.83 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 173.3, 171.7, 167.9 (3 x CO); 136.5, 133.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 127.6, 126.7 (Ar); 57.9, 54.3, 54.1, (3 x αC); 38.0, 37.1 (2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>); 30.2 (βCH); 18.1, 16.9 (2 x γCH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI): *m/z* 412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

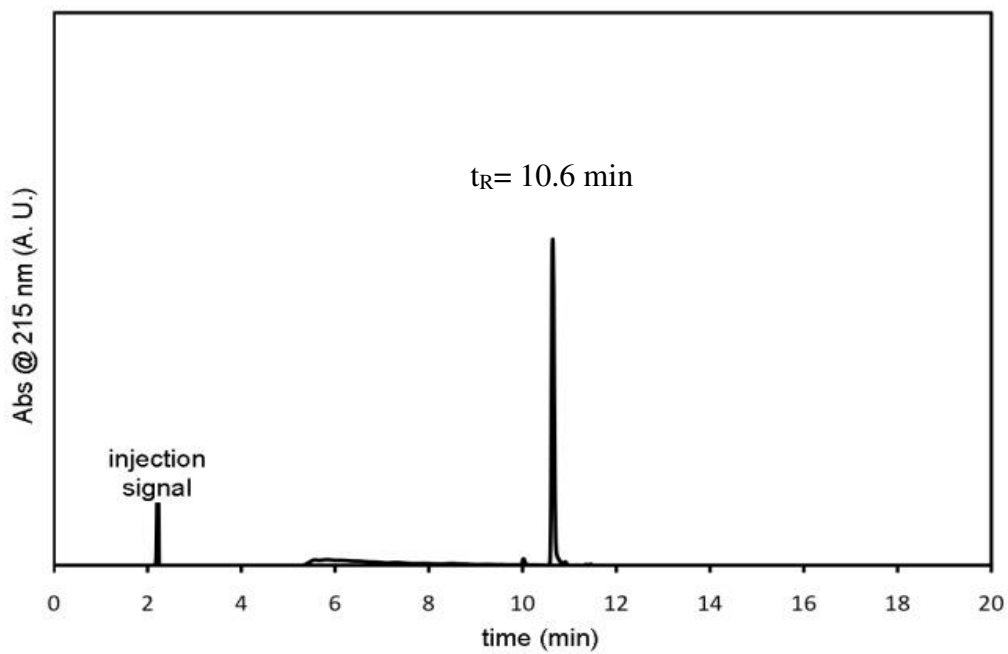
## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



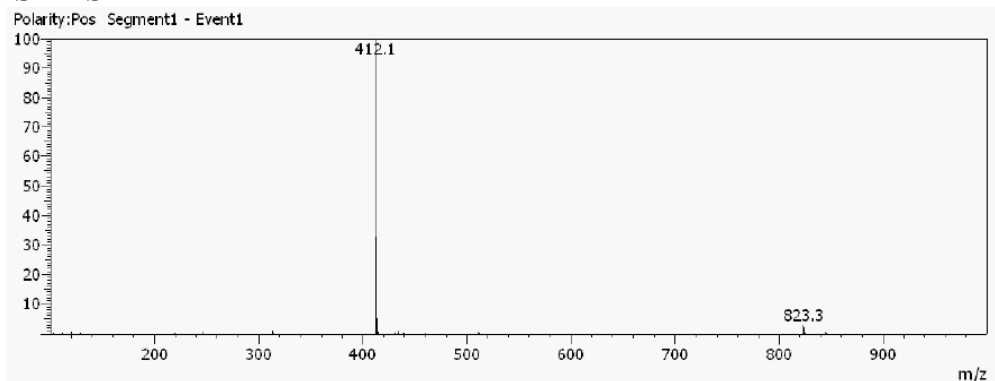
**$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , TMS)**



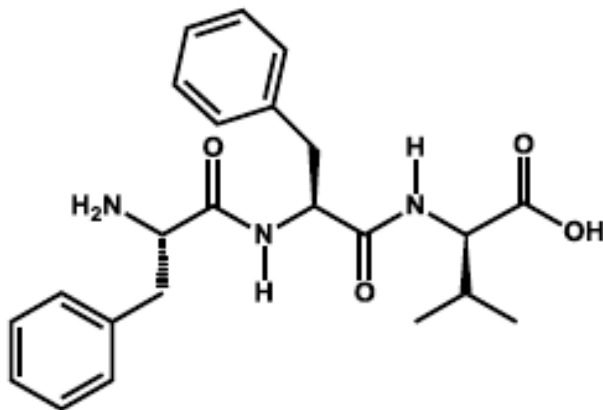
**HPLC**



## ESI-MS

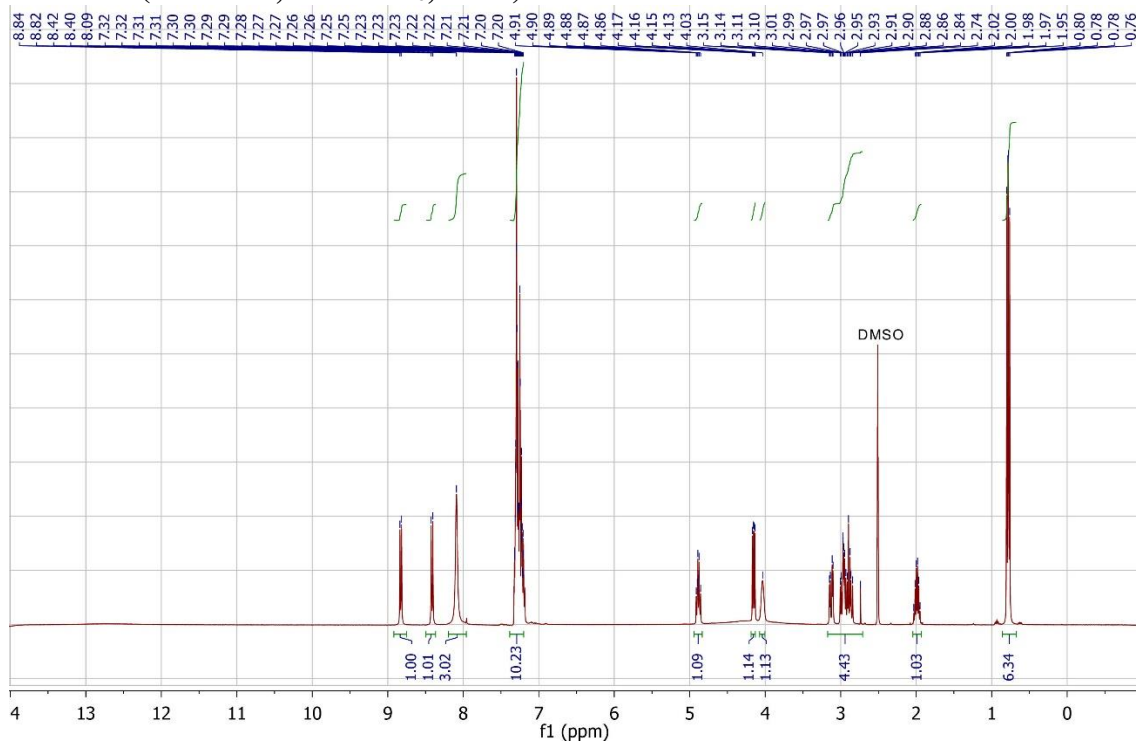


## 2. Phe-Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val

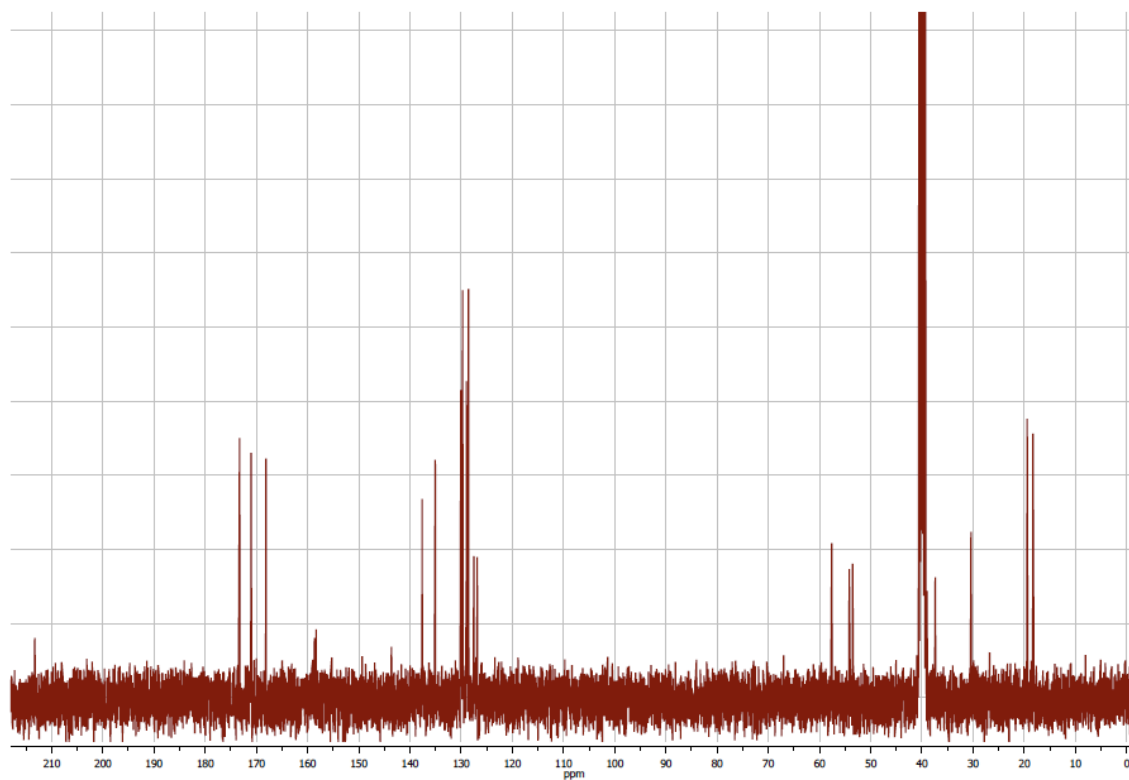


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 8.83 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.09 (s (br), 3H, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 7.32-7.20 (m, 10H, Ar), 4.88 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.17-4.13 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.03 (m, 1H, αCH), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 4 and 16 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.85 (m, *J* = 4 and 16 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.97 (m, 1H, βCH), 0.79 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.77 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 173.7, 171.3, 168.2 (3 x CO); 137.5, 134.9, 129.9, 129.8, 128.8, 128.6, 127.4, 126.8 (Ar); 57.6, 54.0, 53.5, (3 x αC); 39.0, 37.4 (2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>); 30.4 (βCH); 19.4, 18.3 (2 x γCH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI): m/z 412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

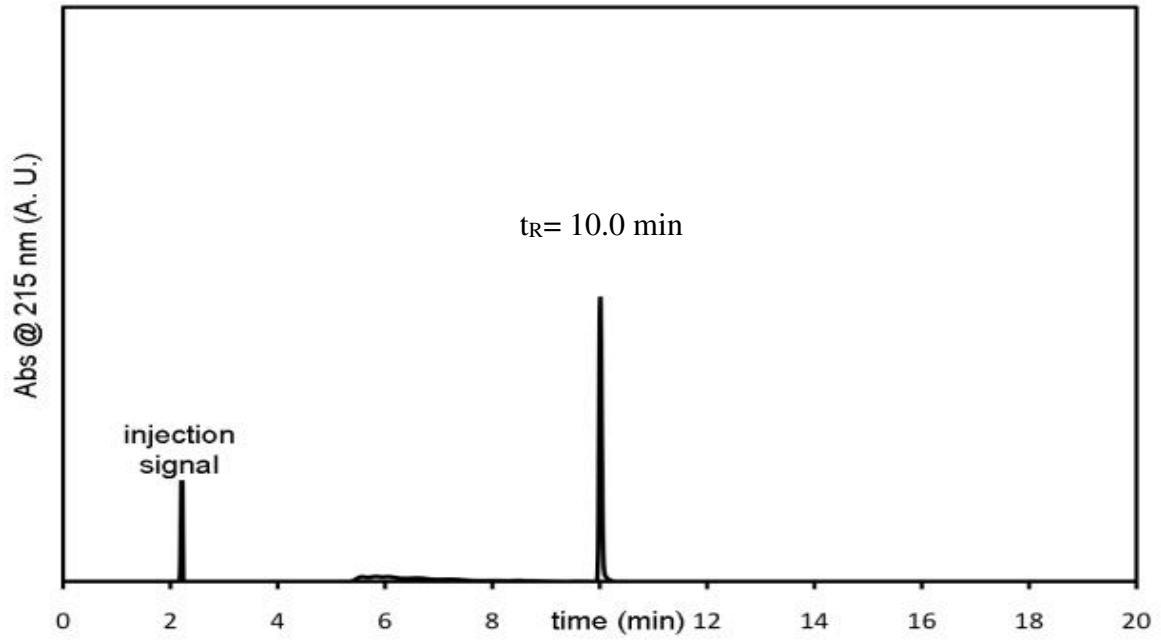
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)**



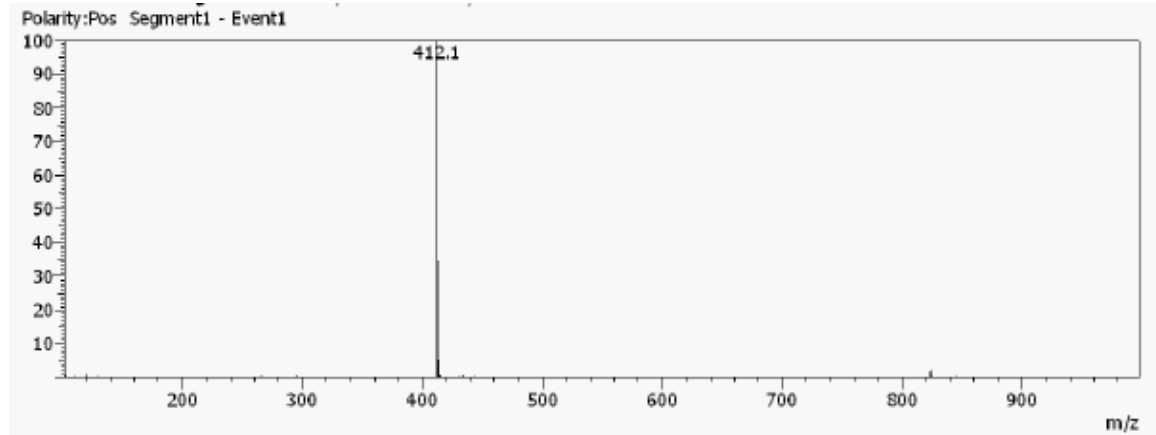
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)**



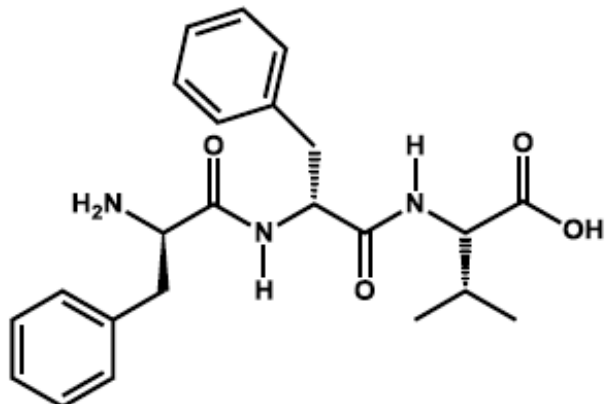
## HPLC



## ESI-MS

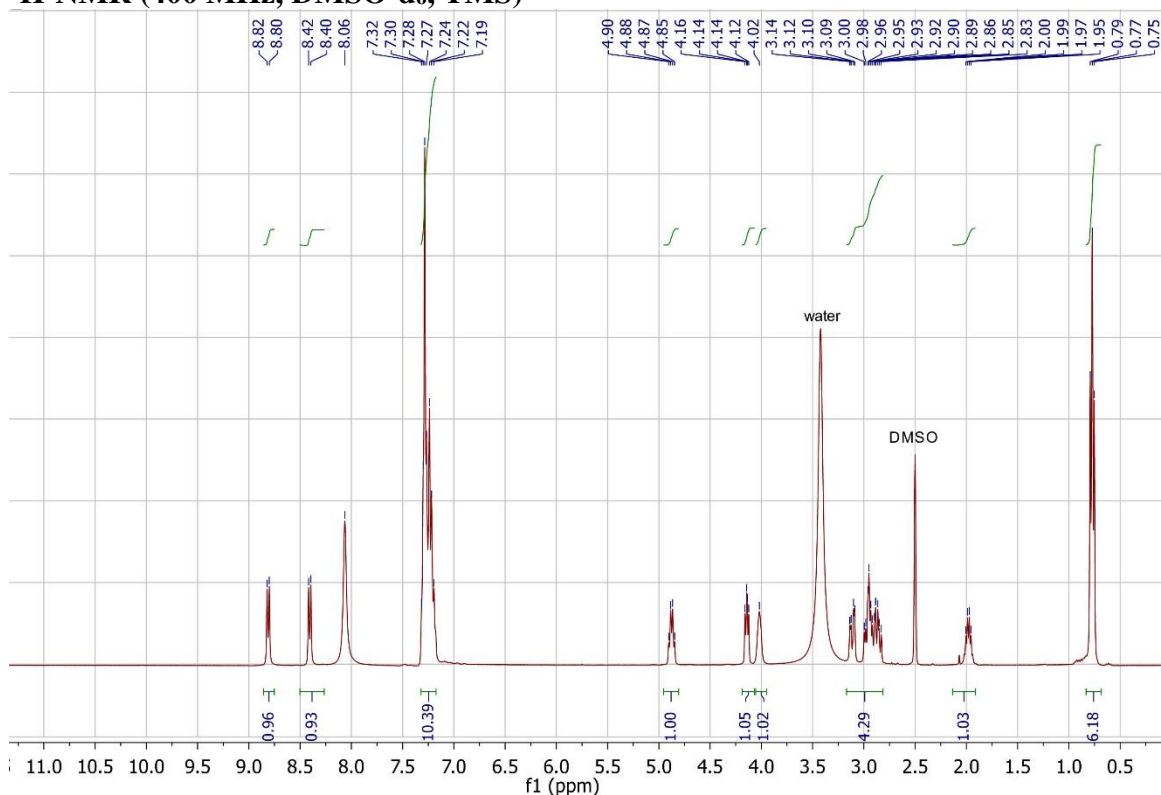


### 3. <sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-Val

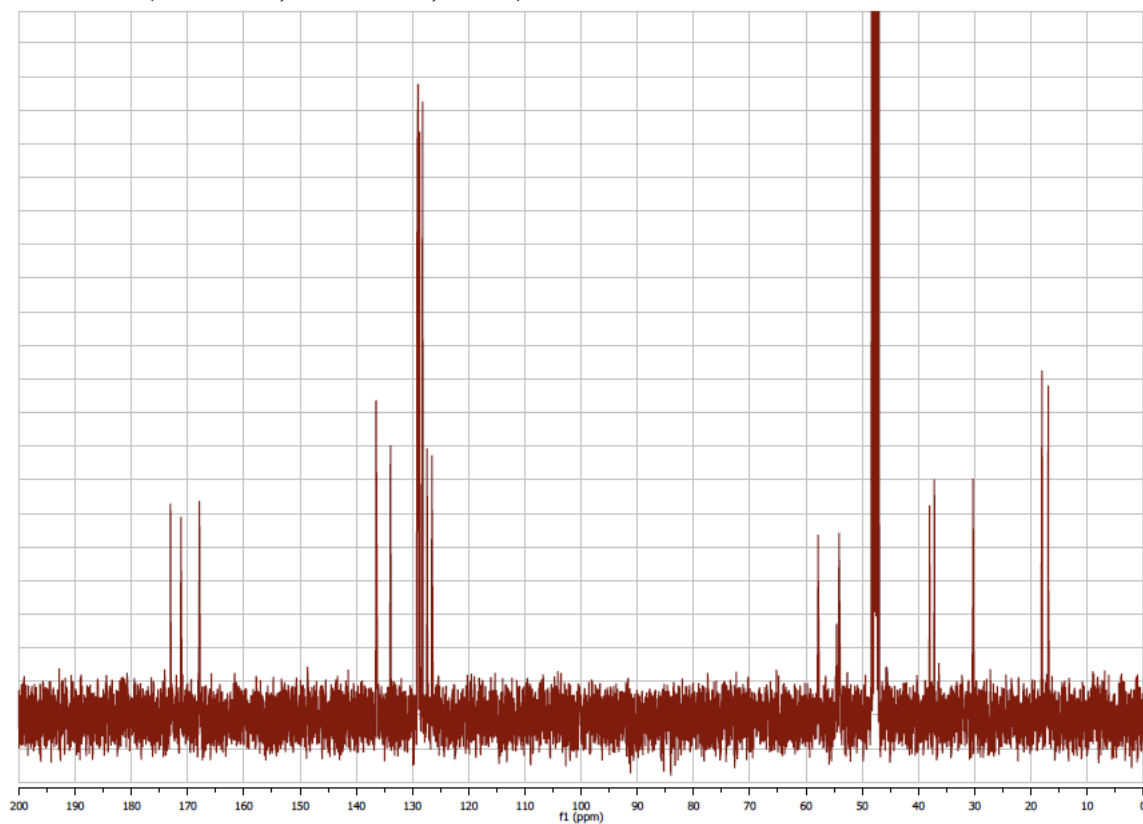


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 8.77 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.37 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.03 (s (br), 3H, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 7.25-7.16 (m, 10H, Ar), 4.84 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.12-4.09 (m, 1H, αCH), 3.98 (m, 1H, αCH), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 4 and 16 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.82 (m, *J* = 4 and 16 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.94 (m, 1H, βCH), 0.75 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.72 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 173.3, 171.0, 168.1 (3 x CO); 137.6, 135.0, 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.6, 127.5, 126.9 (Ar); 57.6, 54.2, 53.5, (3 x αC); 39.0, 37.4 (2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>); 30.4 (βCH); 19.4, 18.3 (2 x γCH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI): *m/z* 412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

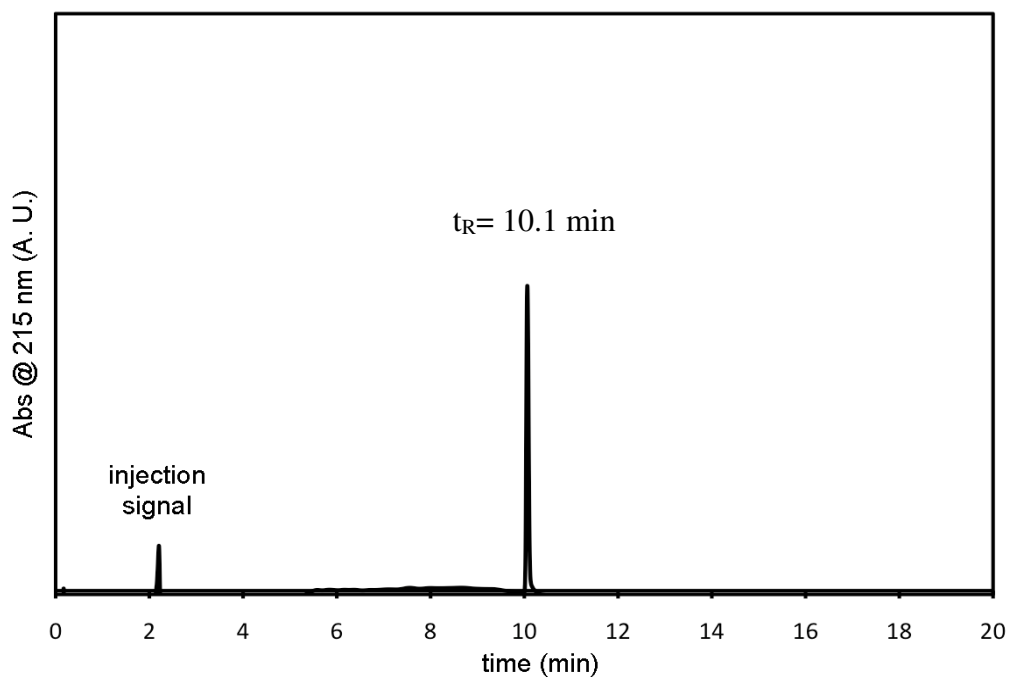
#### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



**$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , TMS)**

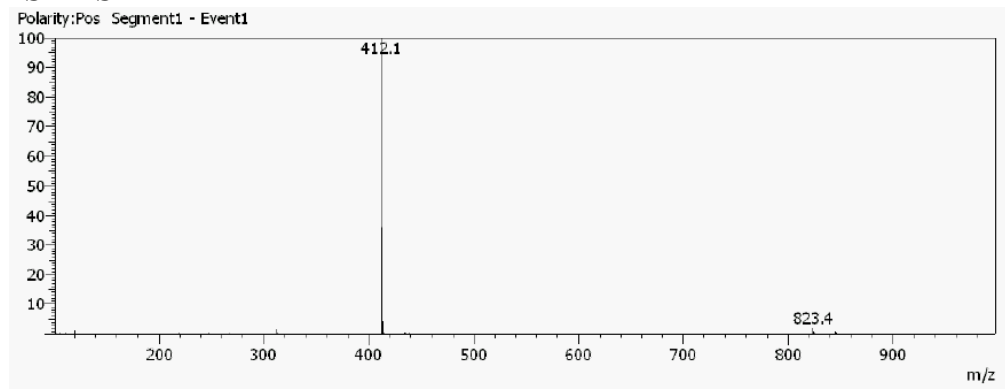


**HPLC**

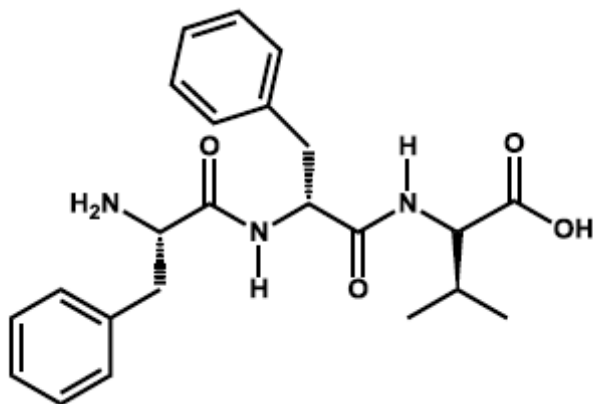




## ESI-MS

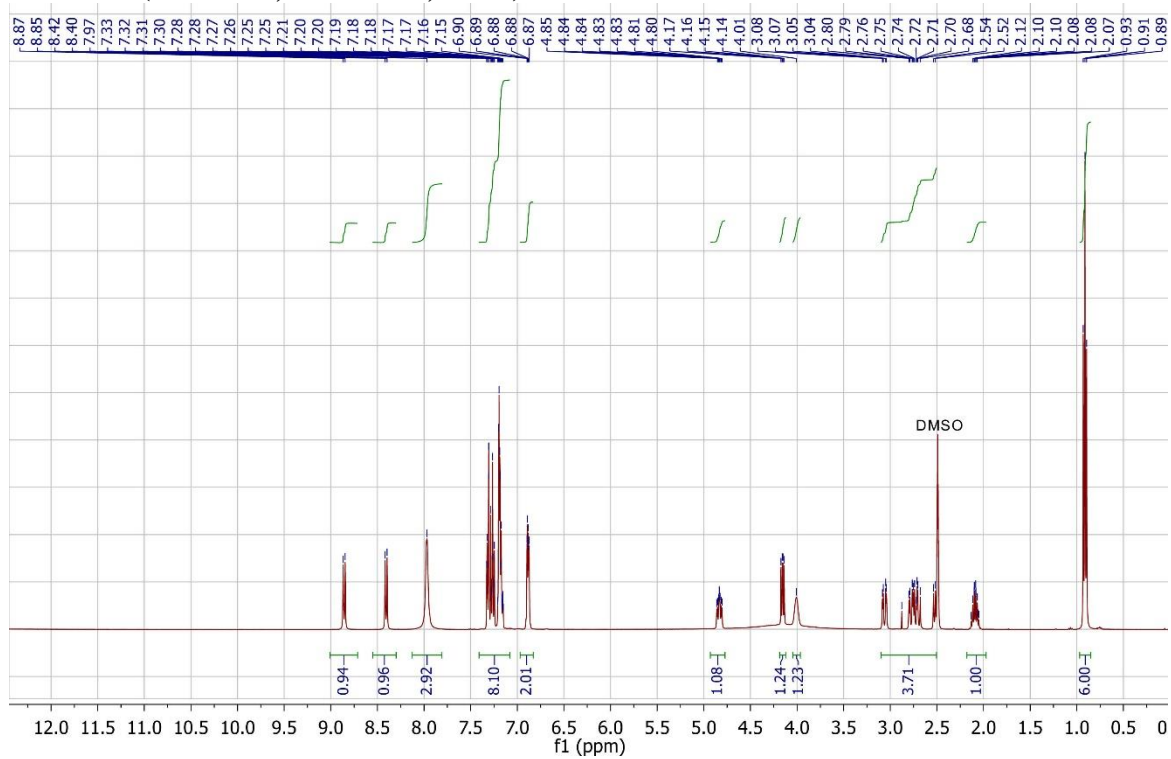


## 4. Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val

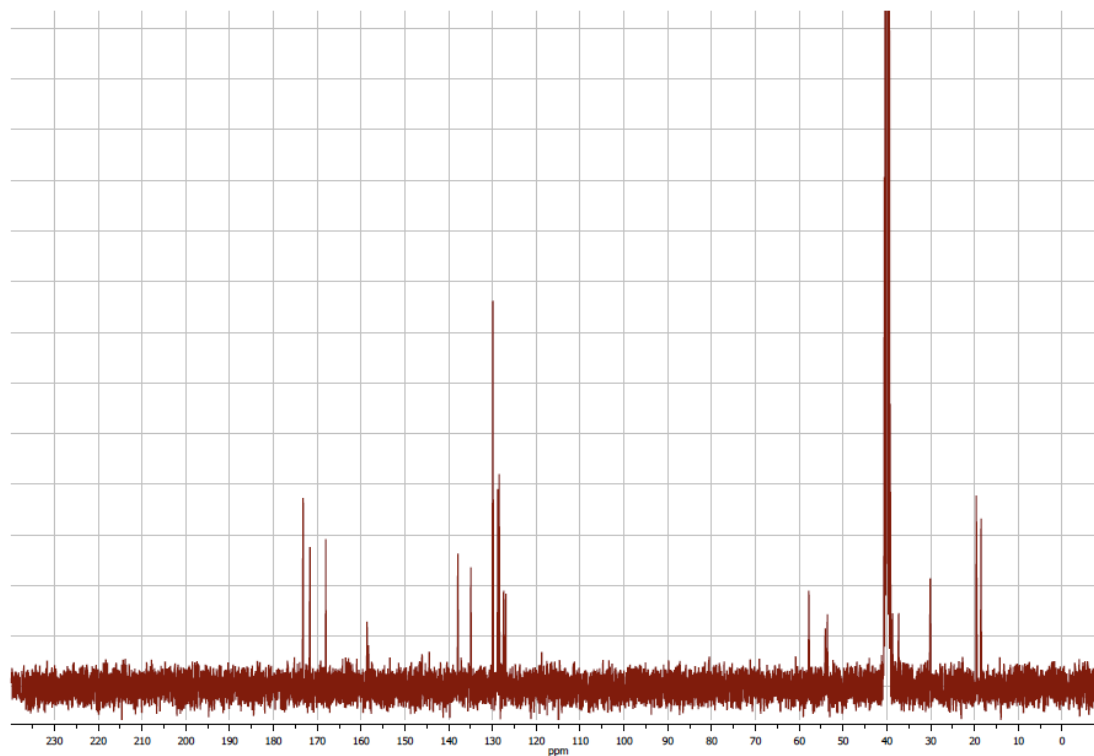


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 8.86 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 7.97 (s (br), 3H, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 7.33-7.15 (m, 8H, Ar), 6.88 (m, 2H, Ar), 4.83 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.17-4.14 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.01 (m, 1H, αCH), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.78 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 8 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.51 (dd, *J* = 8 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.09 (m, 1H, βCH), 0.92 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.90 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 173.2, 171.7, 168.0 (3 x CO); 137.9, 135.0, 129.9, 128.8, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0 (Ar); 57.8, 54.1, 53.6, (3 x αC); 38.7, 37.3 (2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>); 30.1 (βCH); 19.6, 18.5 (2 x γCH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI): m/z 412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

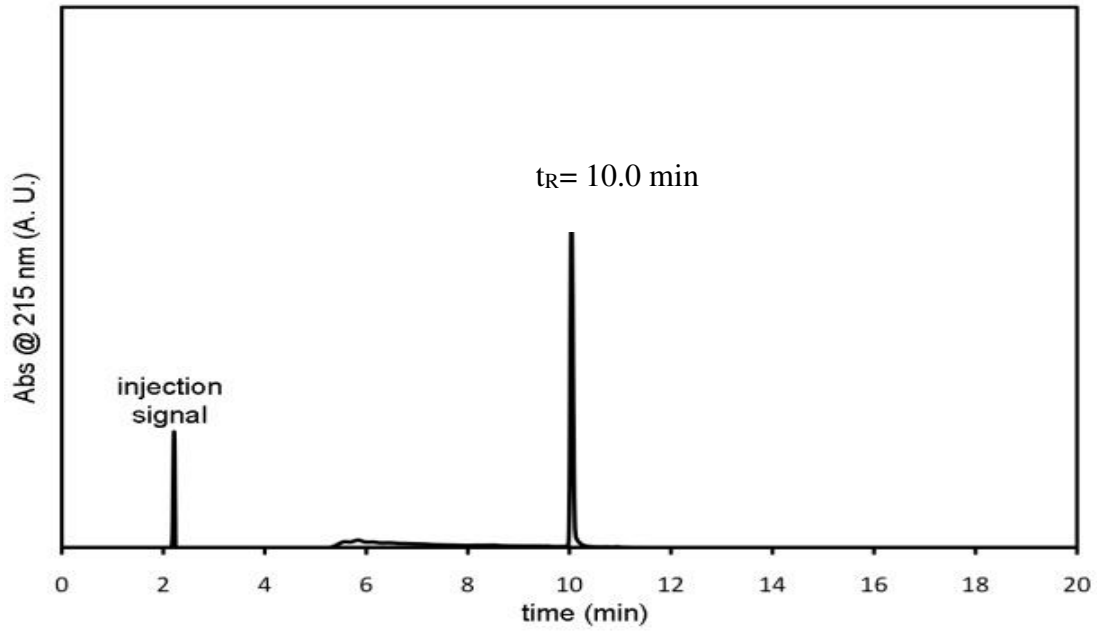
### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



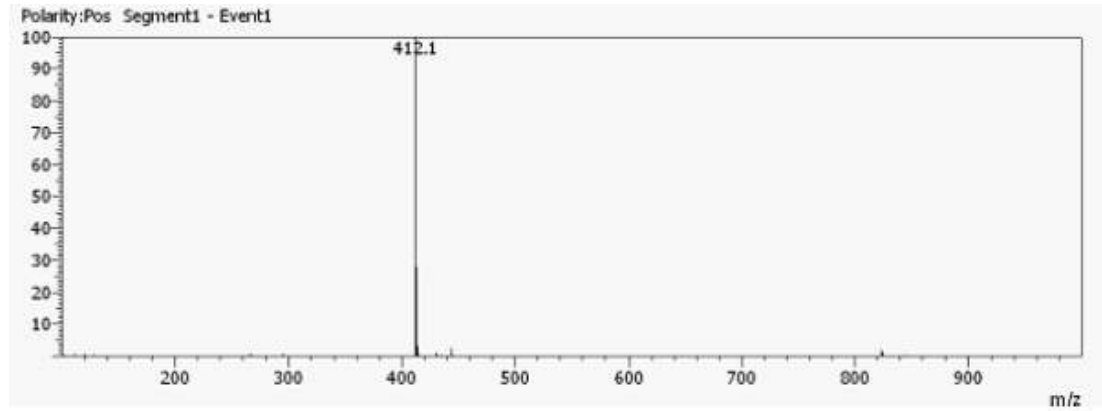
### <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



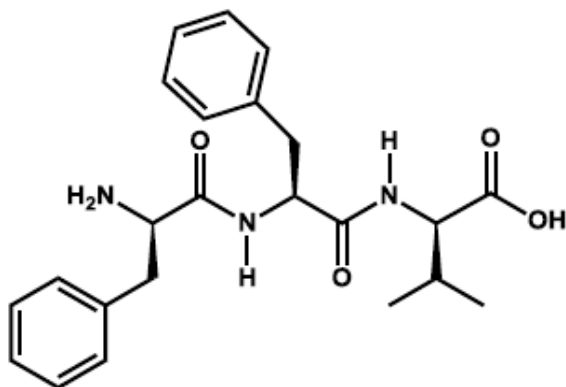
## HPLC



## ESI-MS

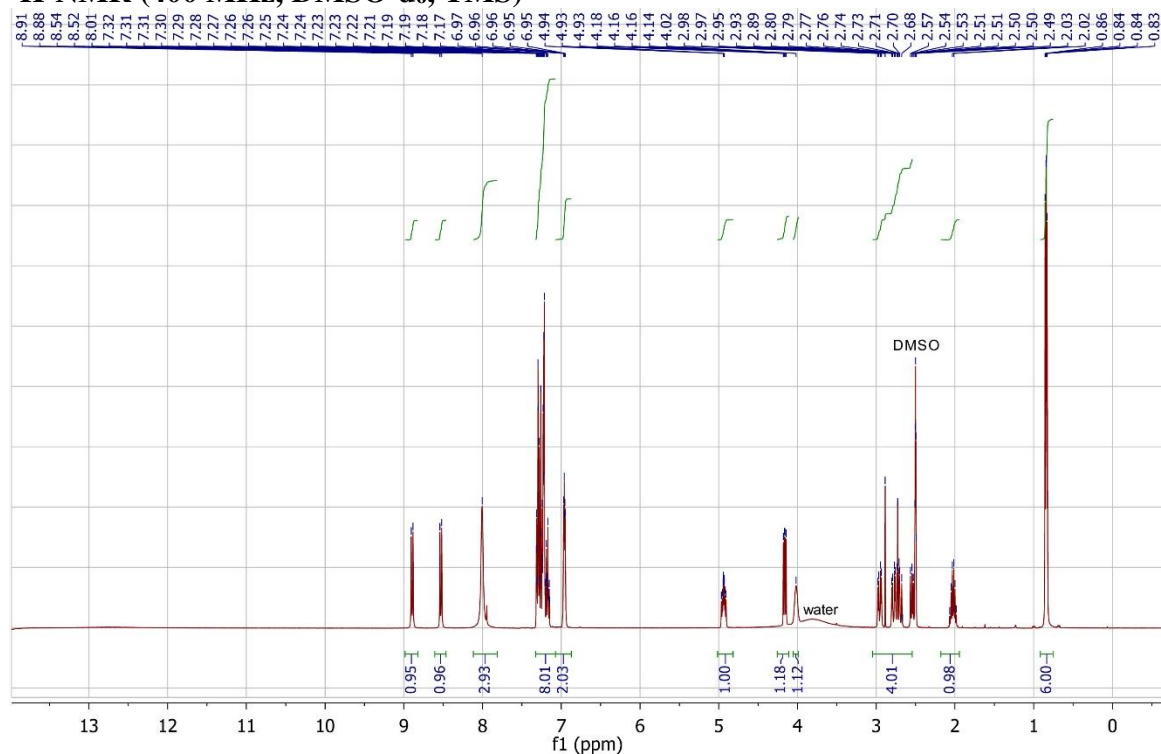


## 5. <sup>D</sup>Phe-Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val

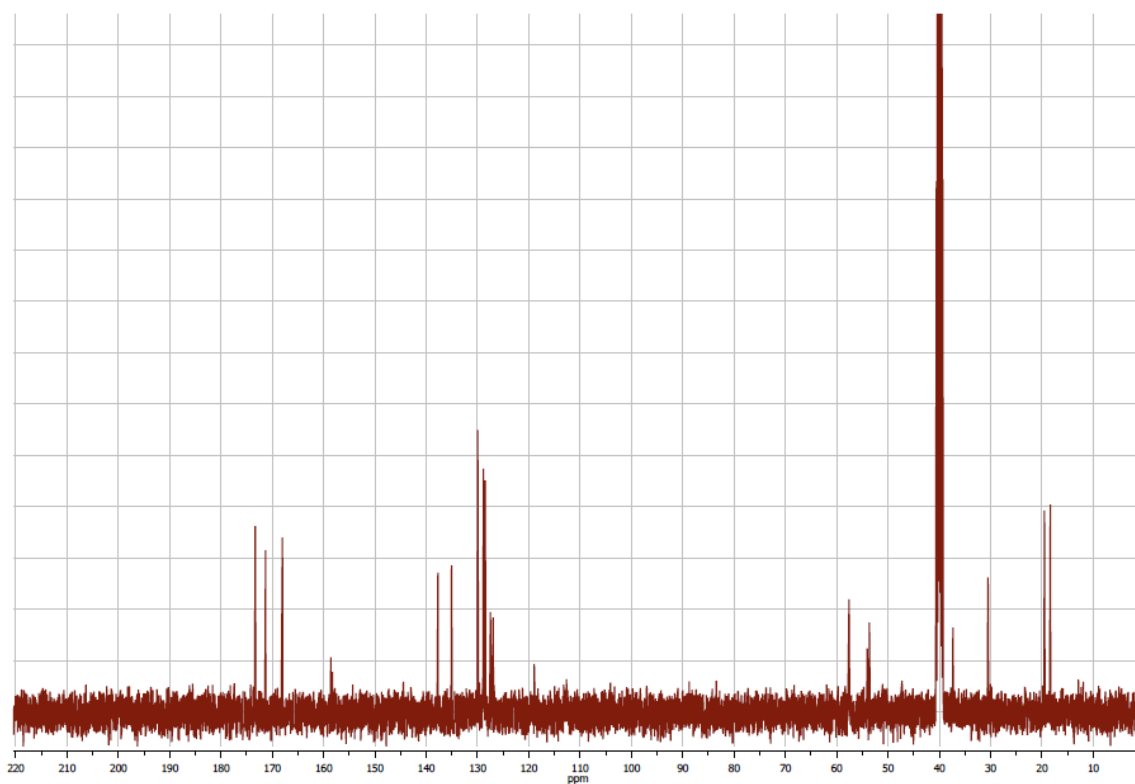


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 8.90 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.53 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 8.01 (s (br), 3H, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 7.32-7.17 (m, 8H, Ar), 6.96 (m, 2H, Ar), 4.93 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.18-4.14 (m, 1H, αCH), 4.02 (m, 1H, αCH), 2.96 (dd, *J* = 4 and 12 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.80-2.66 (m, 2H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.53 (dd, *J* = 4 and 16 Hz, 1H, βCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.02 (m, 1H, βCH), 0.85 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.83 (d, 3H, γCH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS): δ (ppm) 173.3, 171.3, 168.0 (3 x CO); 137.7, 135.0, 130.0, 129.9, 128.8, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0 (Ar); 57.6, 54.0, 53.6, (3 x αC); 39.3, 37.3 (2 x βCH<sub>2</sub>); 30.5 (βCH); 19.5, 18.4 (2 x γCH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI): *m/z* 412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

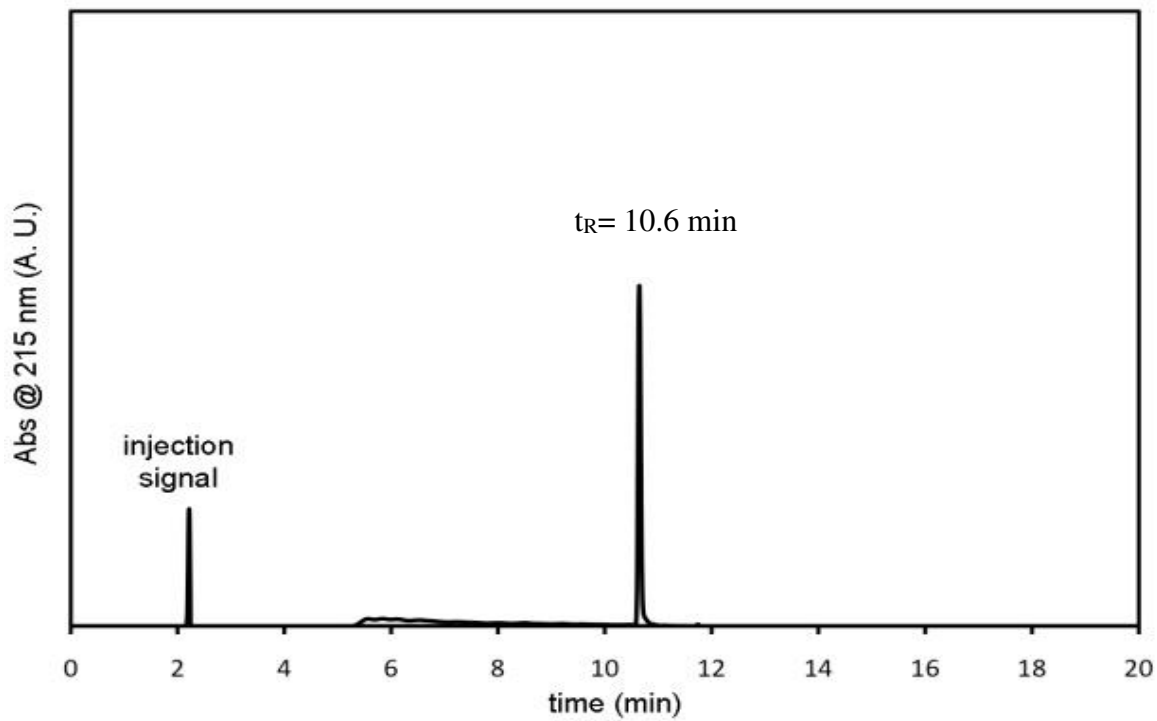
### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



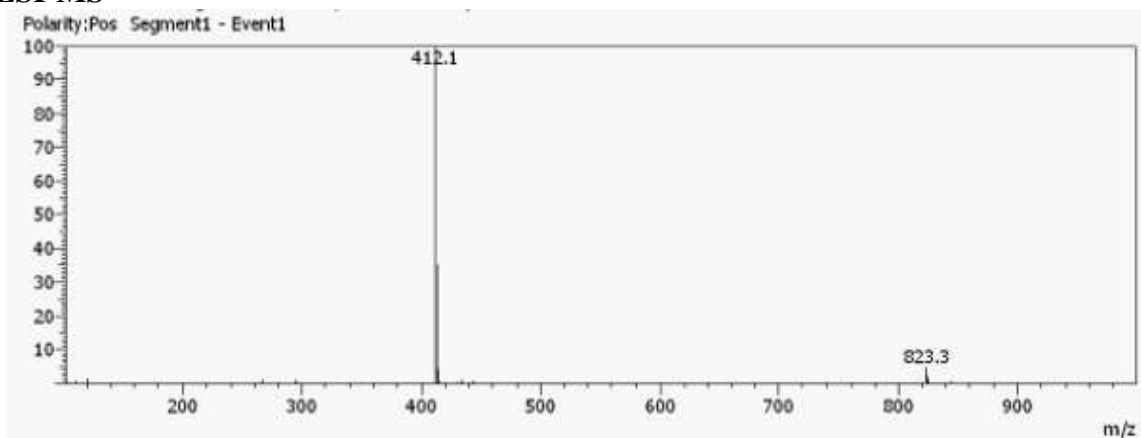
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)**



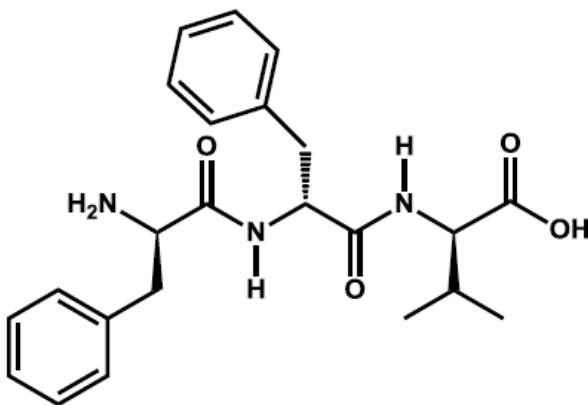
**HPLC**



## ESI-MS

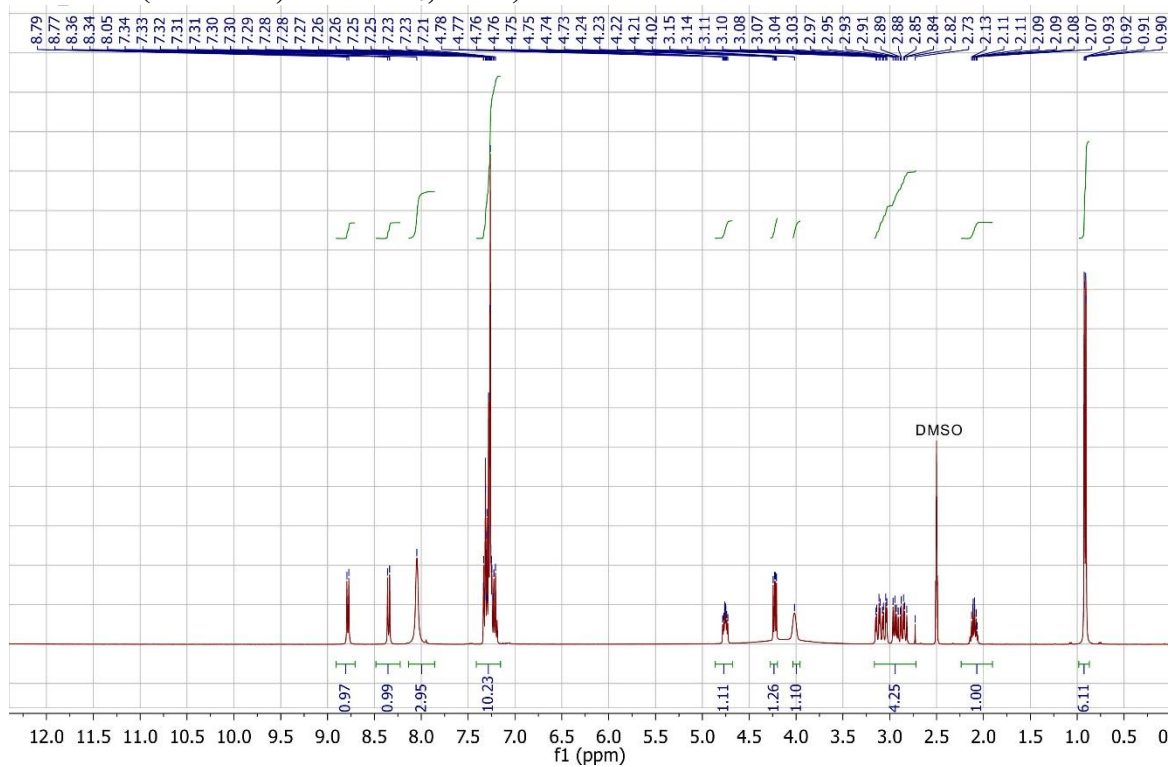


## 6. <sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val

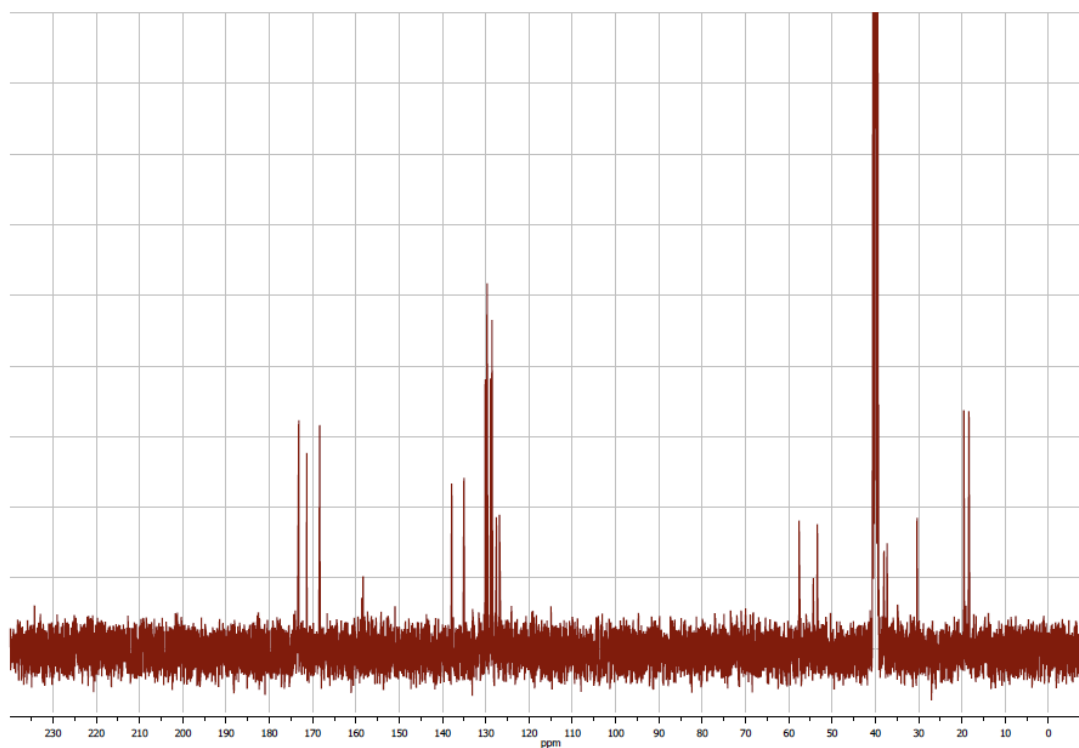


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.78 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, NH), 8.35 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, NH), 8.05 (s (br), 3H, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>), 7.34-7.21 (m, 10H, Ar), 4.78-4.73 (m, 1H,  $\alpha$ CH), 4.24-4.21 (m, 1H,  $\alpha$ CH), 4.02 (m, 1H,  $\alpha$ CH), 3.12 (dd,  $J = 4$  and 16 Hz, 1H,  $\beta$ CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.05 (dd,  $J = 4$  and 16 Hz, 1H,  $\beta$ CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.94 (dd,  $J = 8$  and 16 Hz, 1H,  $\beta$ CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.85 (dd,  $J = 8$  and 16 Hz, 1H,  $\beta$ CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.10 (m, 1H,  $\beta$ CH), 0.92 (d, 3H,  $\gamma$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.90 (d, 3H,  $\gamma$ CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, TMS):  $\delta$  (ppm) 173.3, 171.3, 168.0 (3 x CO); 137.7, 135.0, 130.0, 129.9, 128.8, 128.5, 127.5, 127.0 (Ar); 57.6, 54.0, 53.6, (3 x  $\alpha$ C); 39.3, 37.3 (2 x  $\beta$ CH<sub>2</sub>); 30.5 ( $\beta$ CH); 19.5, 18.4 (2 x  $\gamma$ CH<sub>3</sub>). MS (ESI):  $m/z$  412.1 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> requires 412.2.

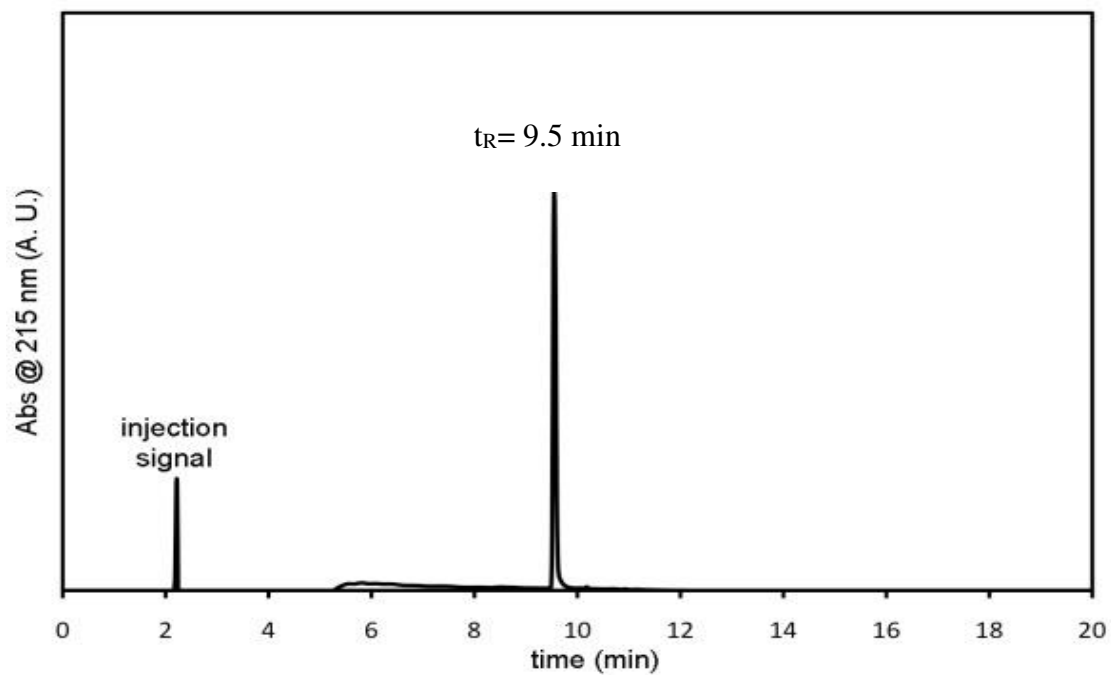
### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



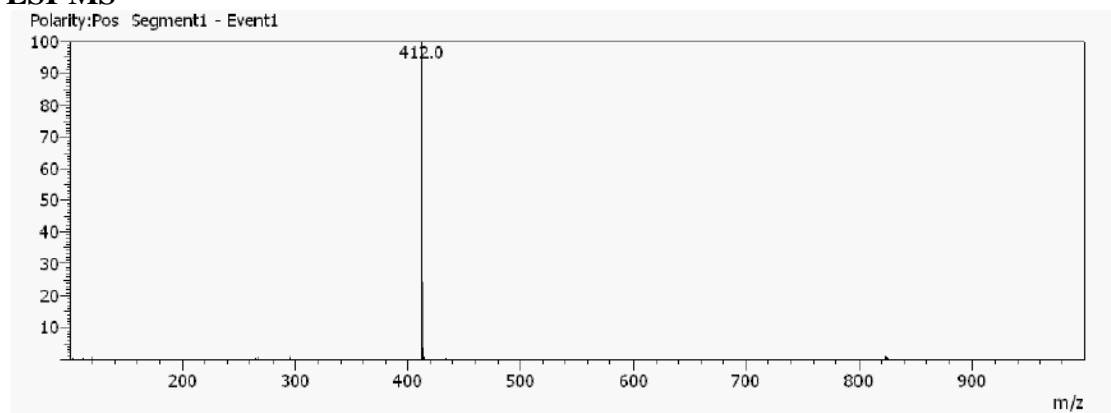
### <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS)



## HPLC



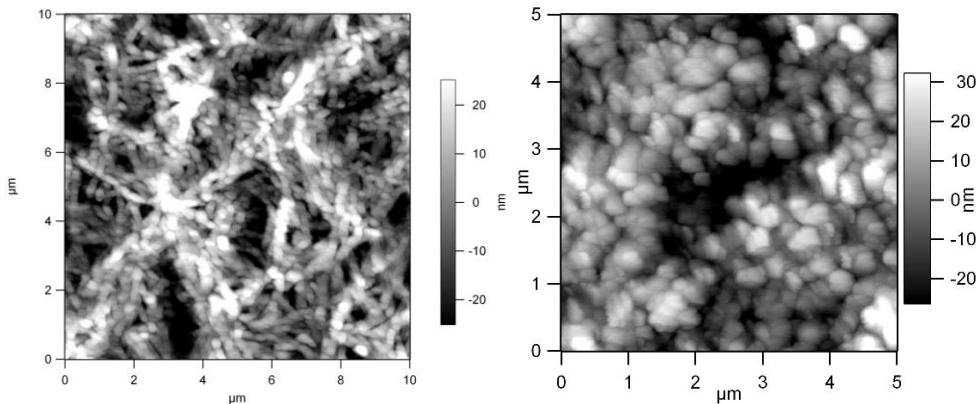
## ESI-MS





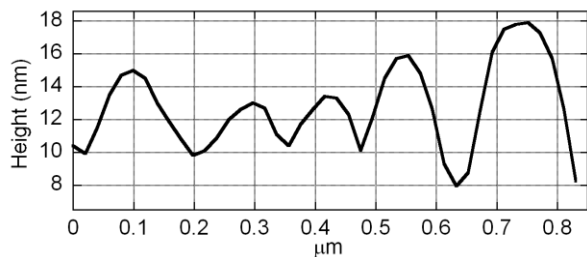
## 7. AFM analysis of homochiral tripeptides.

AFM images for  $^D\text{Phe-}^D\text{Phe-}^D\text{Val}$  (left) and  $\text{Phe-Phe-Val}$  (right). The image on the right is reproduced from “S. Marchesan *et al.*, *Chem. Commun.* **2012**, 48 (16), 2195” with permission from The Royal Society of Chemistry.

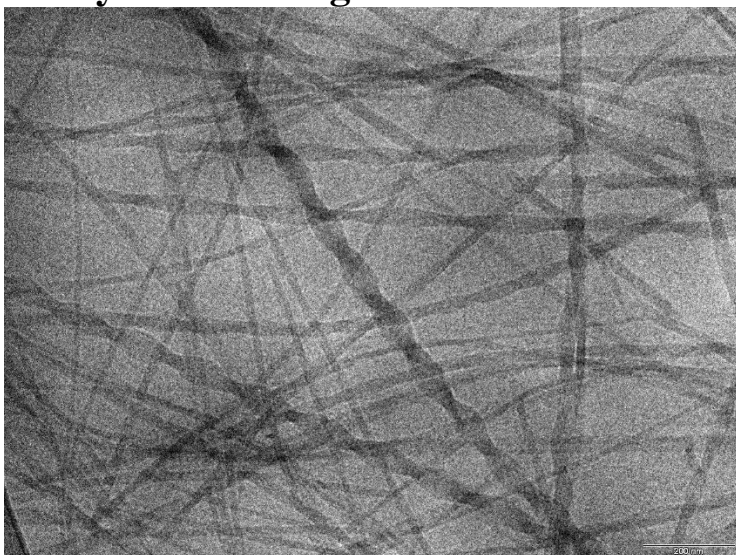


## 8. AFM line scan confirms twisted fibers for $\text{Phe-}^D\text{Phe-}^D\text{Val}$

AFM analysis of  $\text{Phe-}^D\text{Phe-}^D\text{Val}$  confirmed twisted fibers as observed for its enantiomer  $^D\text{Phe-Phe-Val}$  (see S. Marchesan *et al.*, *Chem. Commun.* **2012**, 48 (16), 2195).



## 9. Cryo-TEM image for twisted fibers of $\text{Phe-}^D\text{Phe-}^D\text{Val}$

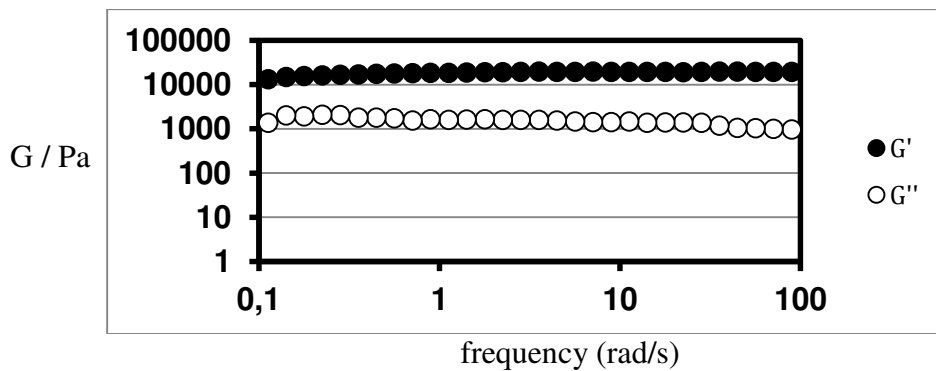


## 10. Cryo-TEM image for twisted fibers of <sup>D</sup>Phe-Phe-Val



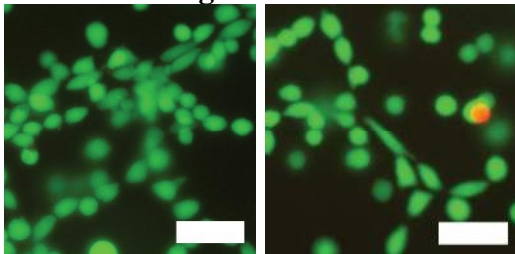
## 11. Rheometry

Frequency sweeps for Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val gels confirmed independence of the viscoelastic modulus from the frequency applied, as expected for hydrogels, and as observed for its enantiomer <sup>D</sup>Phe-Phe-Val (see S. Marchesan *et al.*, *Chem. Commun.* **2012**, 48 (16), 2195).



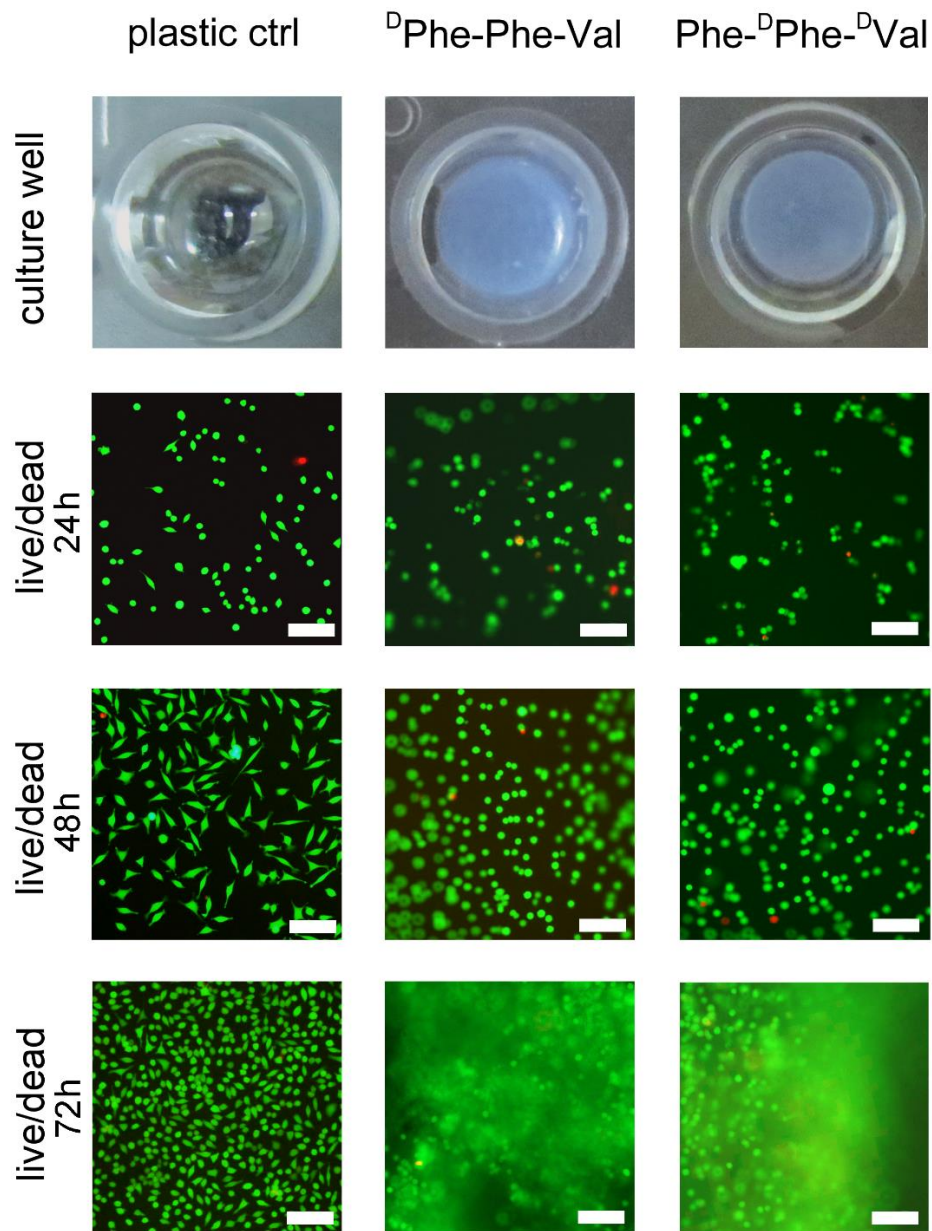
## 12. Live/dead cell culture images

Live/dead images at 72h for Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val showing details of spreading cells.

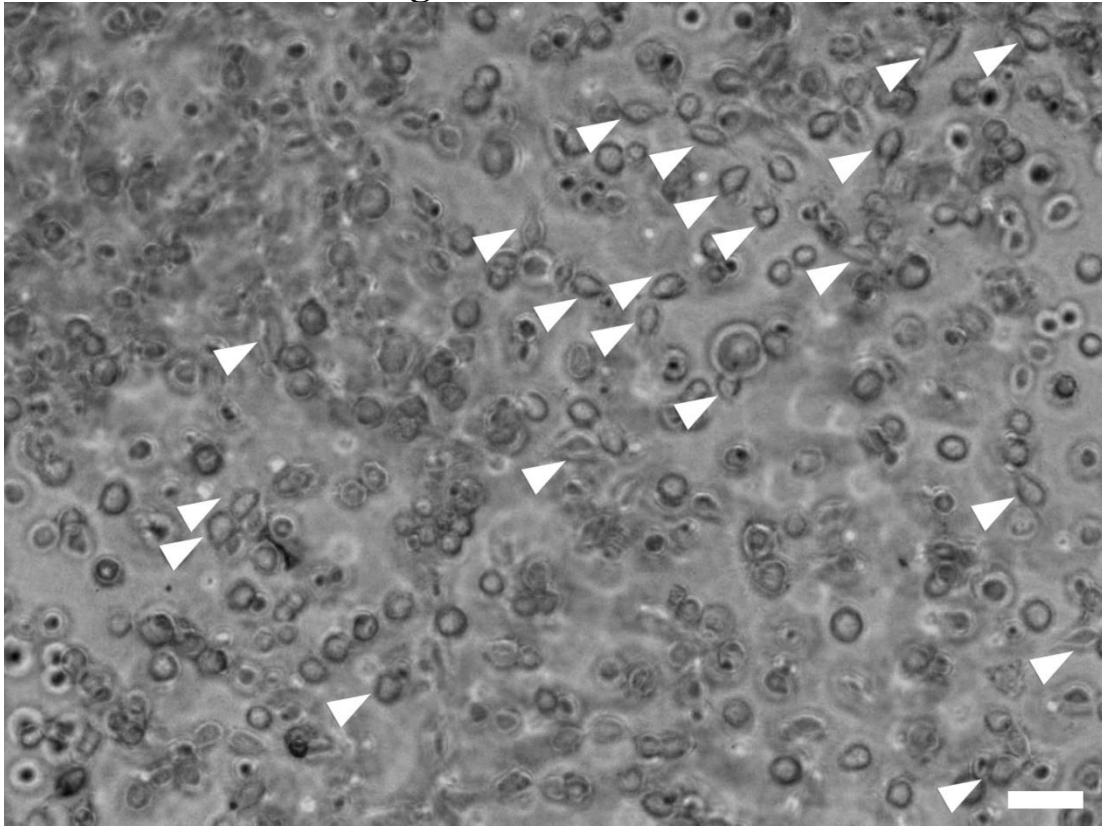


Scale bar = 50 microns.

Enlargement of Fig.8.

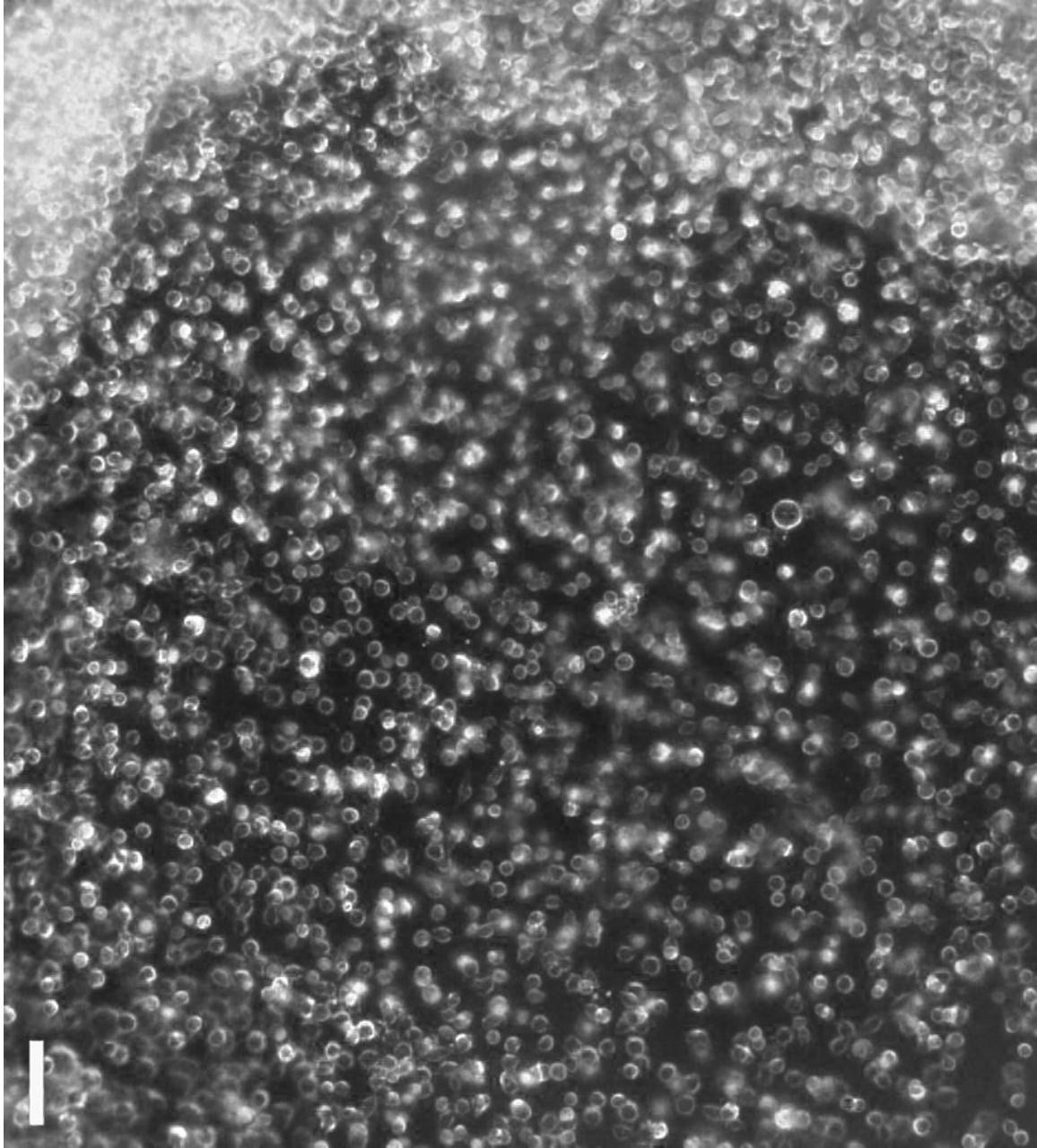


**13. BF cell culture images at 72h for Phe-<sup>D</sup>Phe-<sup>D</sup>Val**



**BF image. Scale bar = 50 microns.**

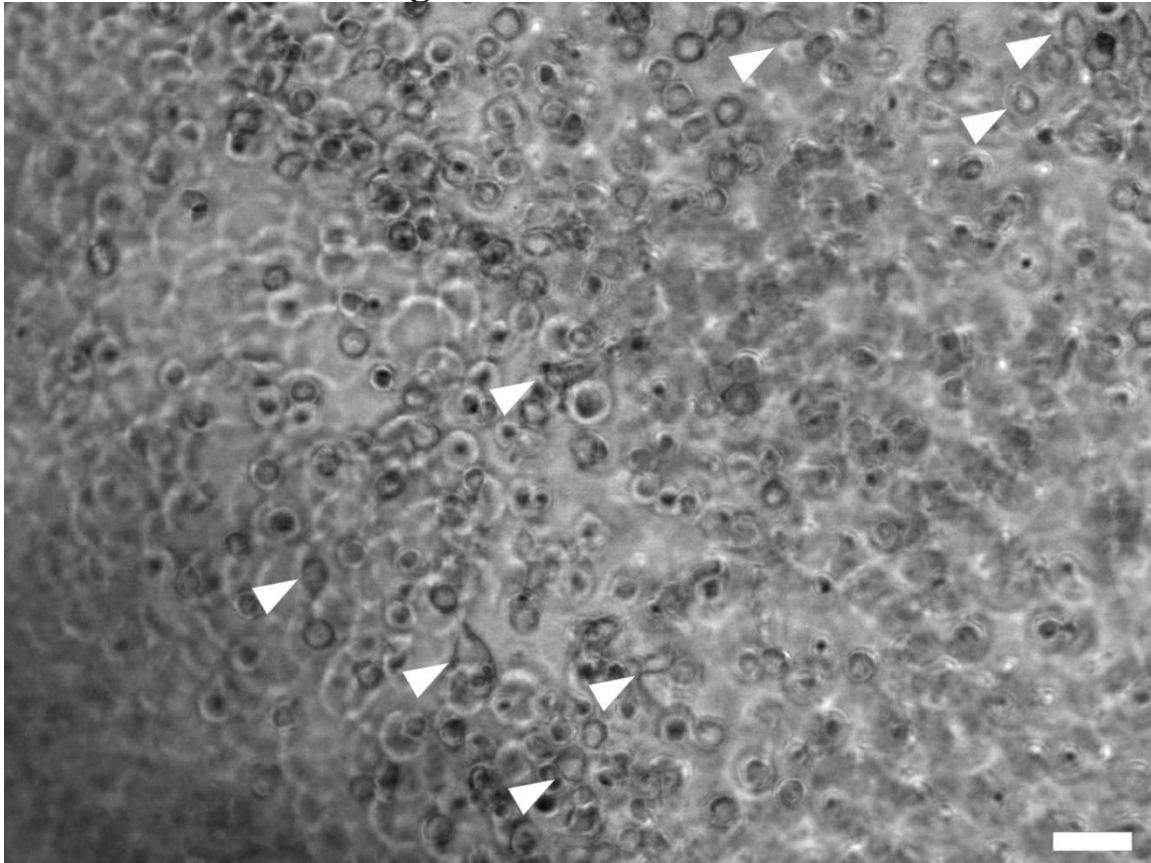
**White arrowheads point to spreading cells**



**BF image. Scale bar = 100 microns.**

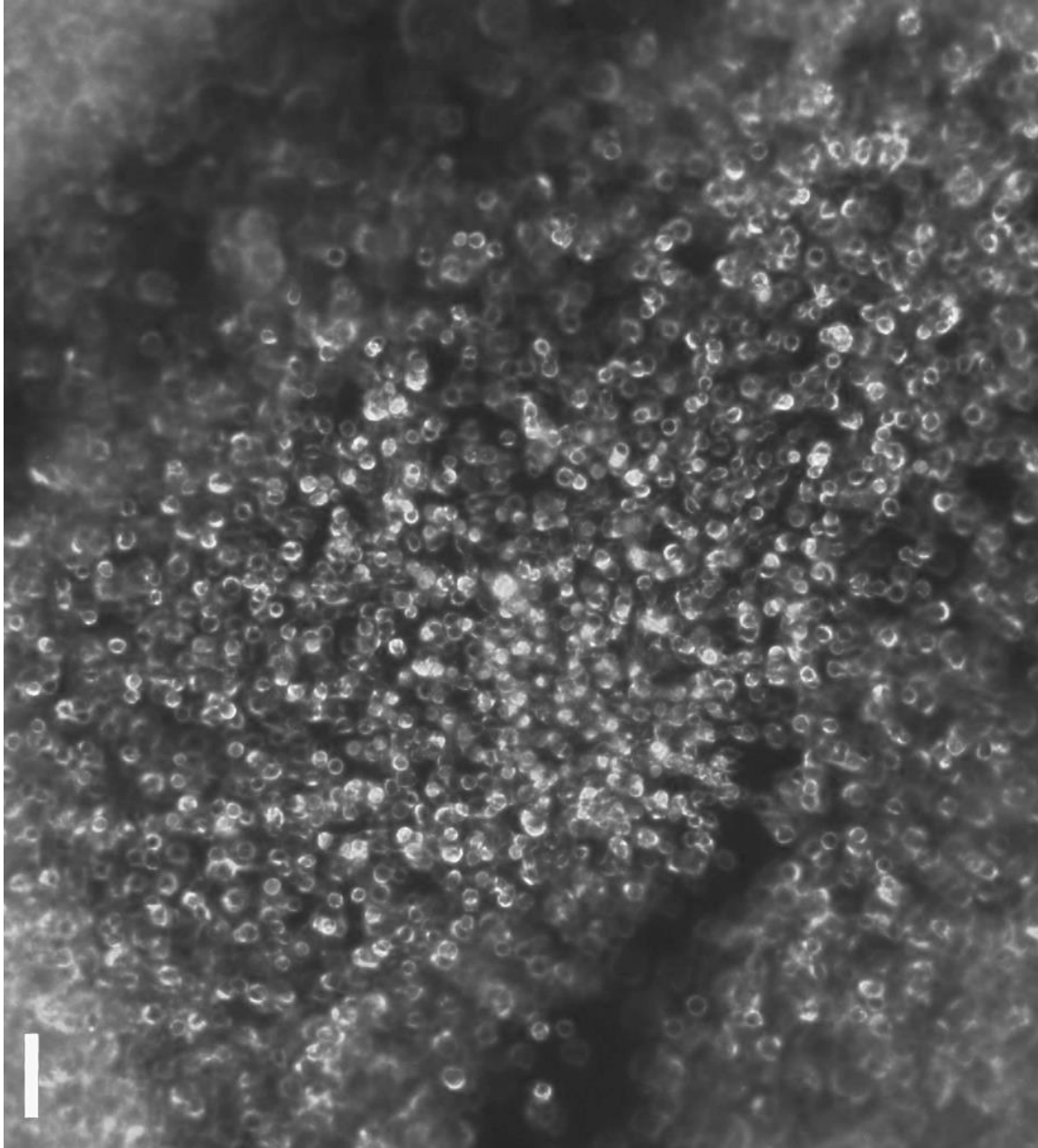


**14. BF cell culture images at 72h for <sup>D</sup>Phe-Phe-Val**



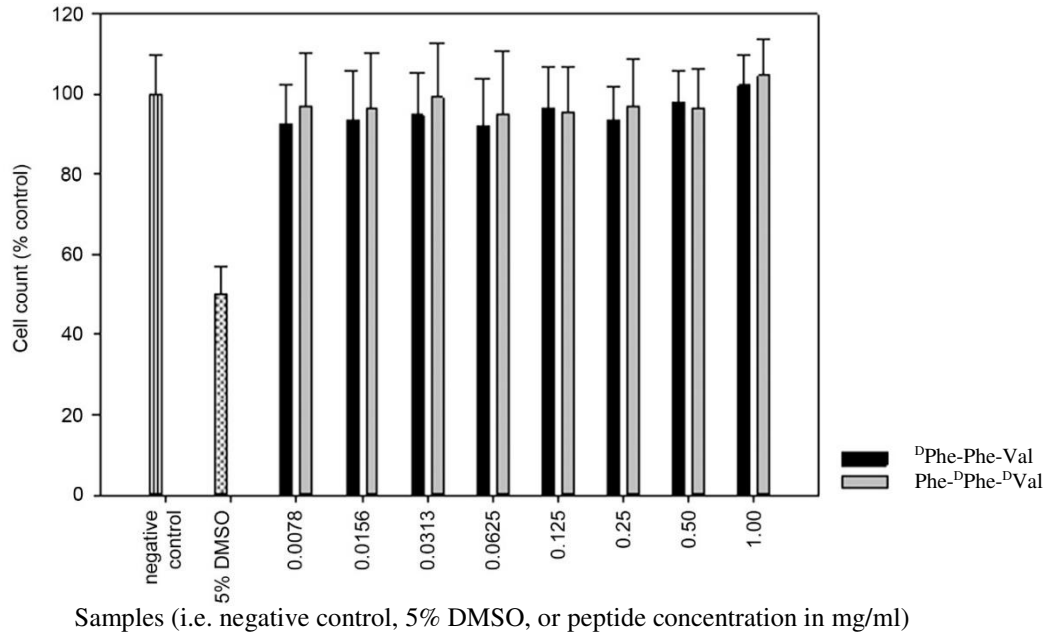
**Scale bar = 50 microns.**

**White arrowheads point to spreading cells.**



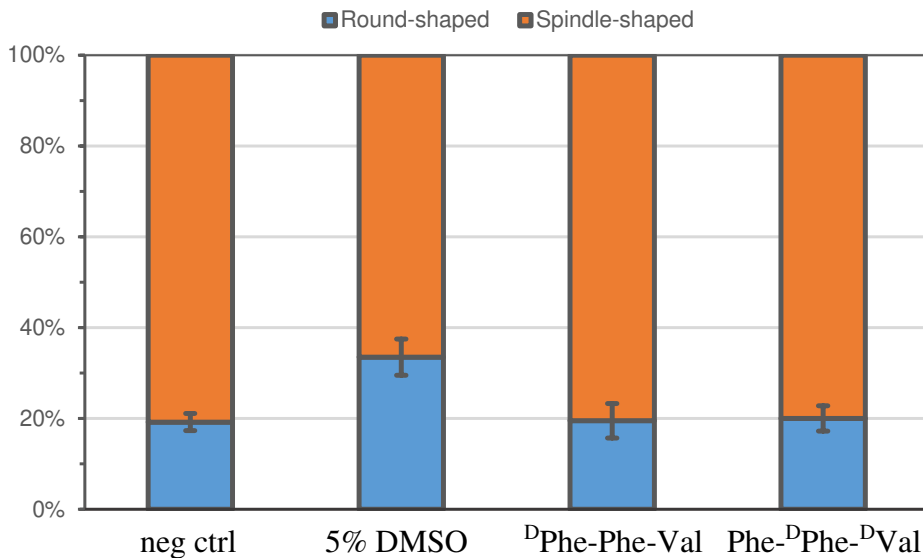
**BF image. Scale bar = 100 microns.  
Note: black areas represent gel fractures.**

## 15. Cytotoxicity assay for the two gelling peptides in solution



Cytotoxicity assay according to ISO 10993 shows that the dissolved tripeptides are non-toxic to fibroblast cells. Average values  $\pm$  SD are shown.

### Cell morphology in cytotoxicity test



Quantification of round-shaped versus spindle-shaped cells as visualized by BF microscopy in the cytotoxicity test. Measurements were done on microscopy images ( $n = 6$ ) showing an average of  $>500$  cells each. Average values  $\pm$  SD are shown. No significant difference was seen between the negative control and samples with either peptide at the concentration of 1mg/ml (peptide solubility limit). Samples with 5% DMSO were the only ones with significantly lower numbers of cells per surface area.