

Article

Fatty Acid Conjugation Leads to Length-Dependent Antimicrobial Activity of a Synthetic Antibacterial Peptide (Pep19-4LF)

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Supplementary Data

Refers to: 4.1 Synthesis of peptide conjugates

HPLC/MS analysis of all purified peptides was performed (for Pep19-short see figure S1).

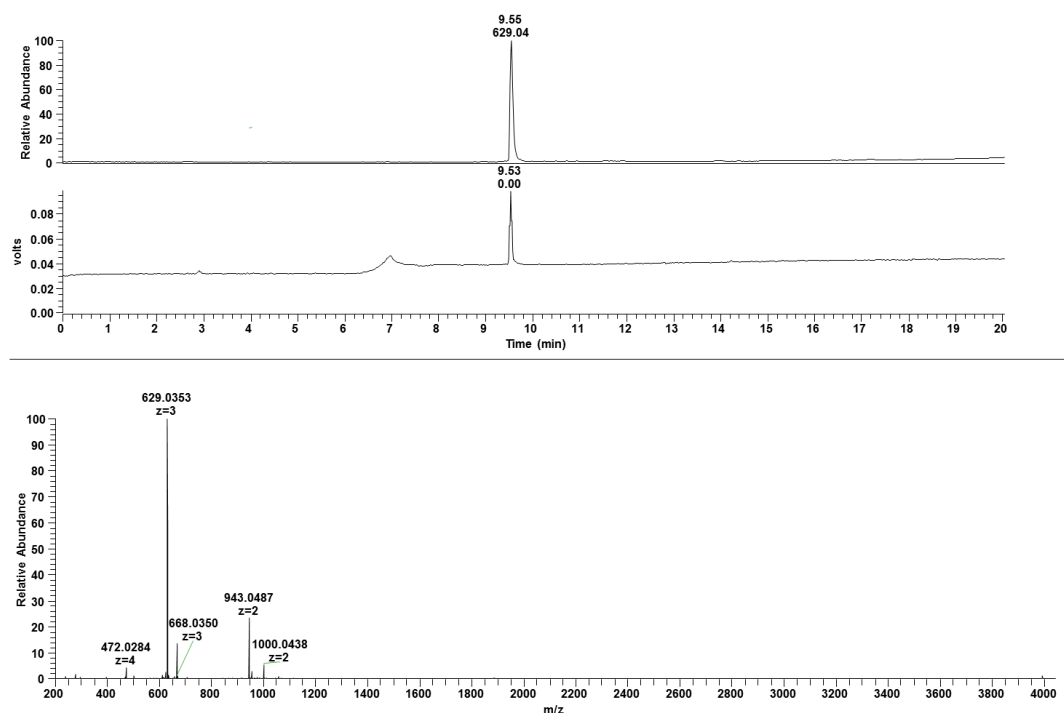


Figure S1. The HPLC/MS analysis of the peptide Pep19-short is shown.

The main signal of the mass spectrum was observed at $m/z = 629.04$ ($z = 3$). This corresponds to the peak of Pep19-short (molecular weight = 1884.13).

HPLC/MS analysis of the purified C₁₁-Pep19-short is shown in figure S2.

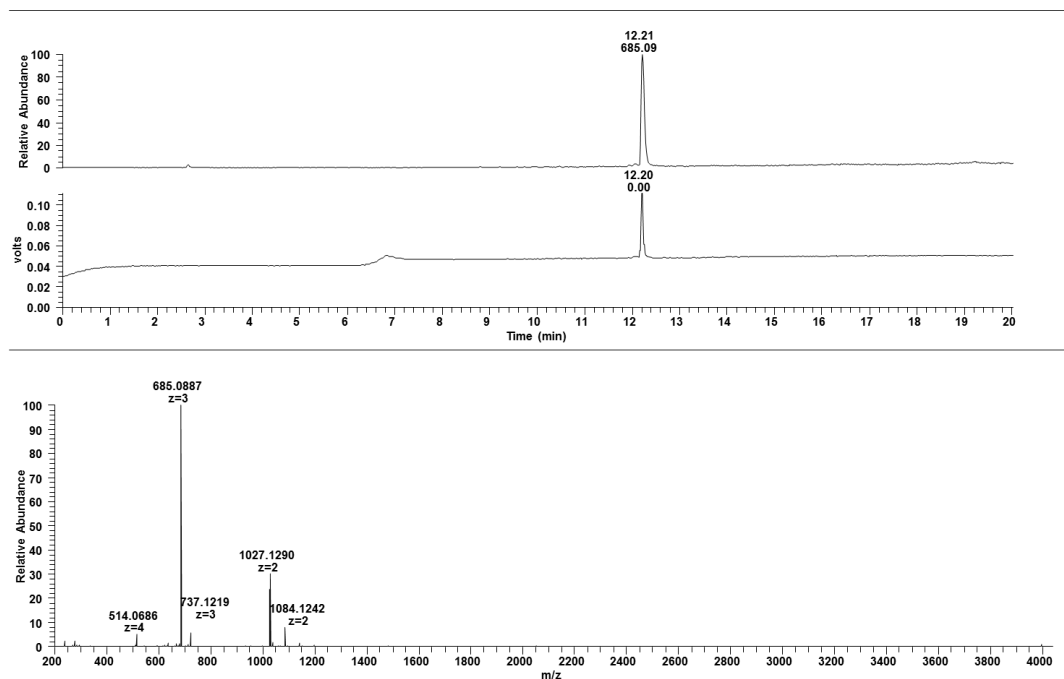


Figure S2. The HPLC/MS analysis of the peptide C₁₁-Pep19-short is shown.

The main signal of the mass spectrum was observed at $m/z = 685.09$ ($z = 3$). This corresponds to the peak of C₁₁-Pep19-short (molecular weight = 2052.43).

HPLC/MS analysis of the purified Pep19-4LF is shown in figure S3.

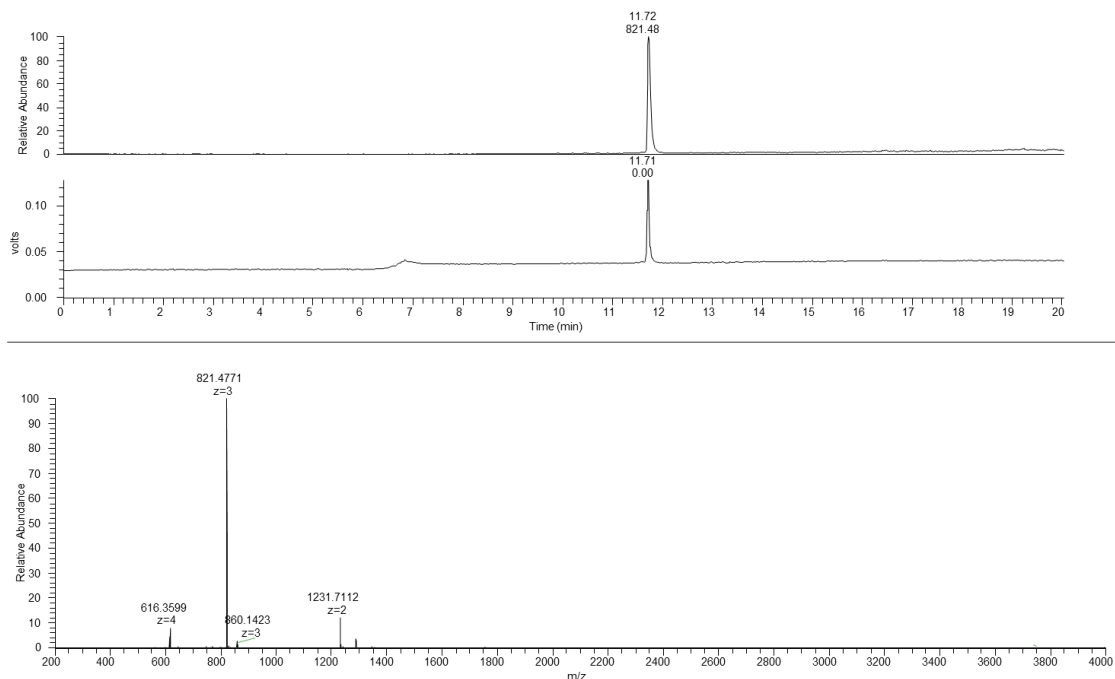


Figure S3. The HPLC/MS analysis of the peptide Pep19-4LF is shown.

The main signal of the mass spectrum was observed at $m/z = 821.48$ ($z = 3$). This corresponds to the peak of Pep19-4LF (molecular weight = 2463.02)

HPLC/MS analysis of the purified C₁₁-Pep19-4LF is shown in figure S4.

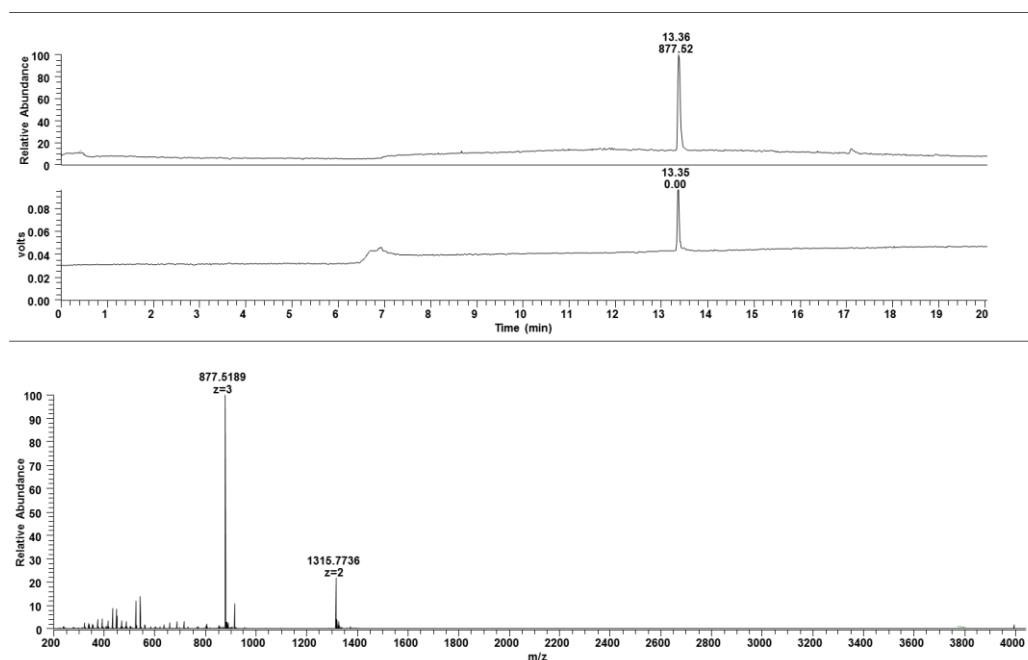


Figure S4. The HPLC/MS analysis of the peptide C₁₁-Pep19-4LF is shown.

The main signal of the mass spectrum was observed at $m/z = 877.52$ ($z = 3$). This corresponds to the peak of C₁₁-Pep19-4LF (molecular weight = 2629.76).

HPLC/MS analysis of the purified Pep19-2.5 is shown in figure S5.

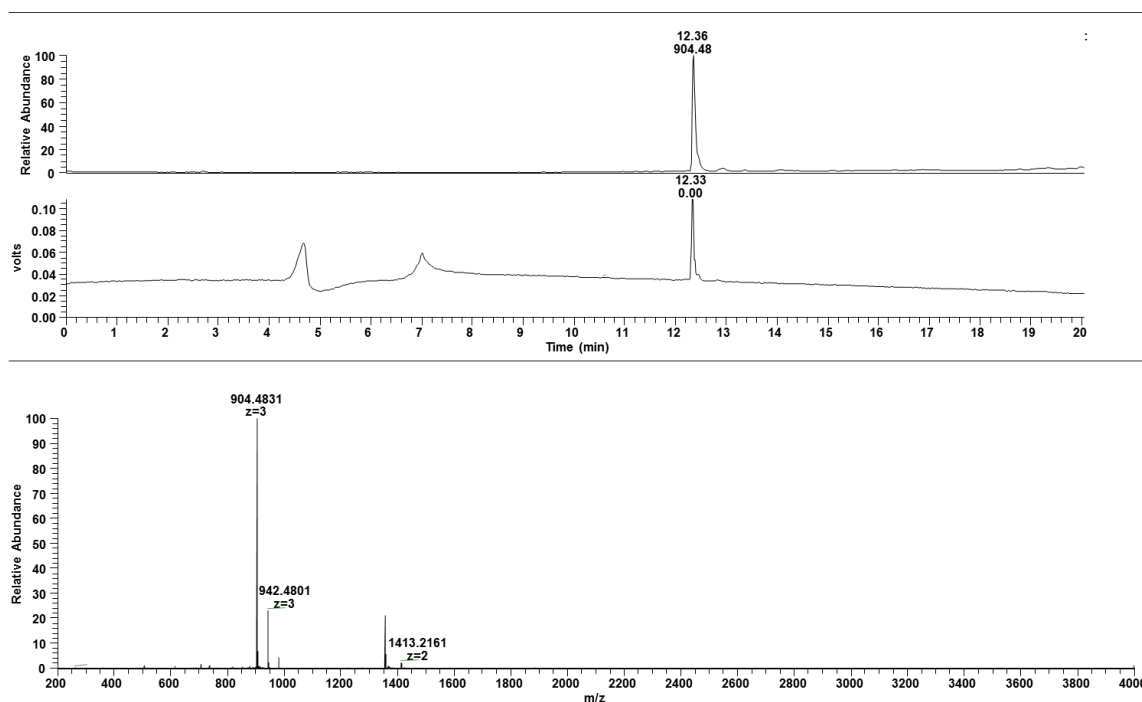


Figure S5. The HPLC/MS analysis of the peptide Pep19-2.5 is shown.

The main signal of the mass spectrum was observed at $m/z = 904.48$ ($z = 3$). This corresponds to the peak of Pep19-2.5 (molecular weight = 2710.46).

Refers to 4.4: Digestion of C₁₁-Pep19-short with S9 fraction from human liver

Table S1. Calculated amount of peptide fragments after incubation of C₁₁-Pep19-short with S9 mix from human liver.

Detected Mass [g/mol]	Corresponding Amino Acid Sequence	Calculated Amount [%]
685.1 [$z = 3$]	C11-GKKYRRFRWKFKGK (intact Peptide)	59.3
642.3 [$z = 3$]	C11-GKKYRRFRWKFKG	13.6
796.9 [$z = 2$]	C11-GKKYRRFRWK	15.6
488.7 [$z = 2$]	C11-GKKYRR	4.7
410.2 [$z = 2$]	C11-GKKYR	6.8

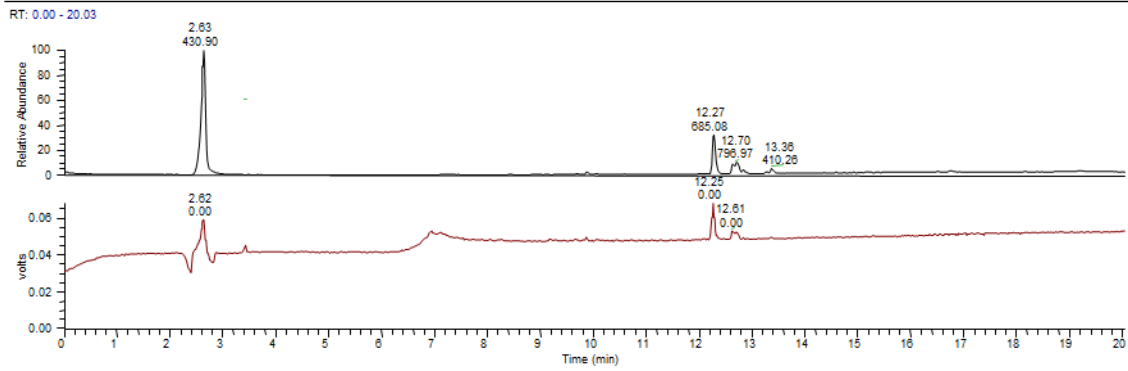


Figure S6. HPLC/MS analysis after incubation of C11-Pep19-short with S9 mix from human liver. After one hour of incubation, about 60 % of the entire peptide was still intact.

Refers to: 4.5: In vivo experiments in female Wistar rats

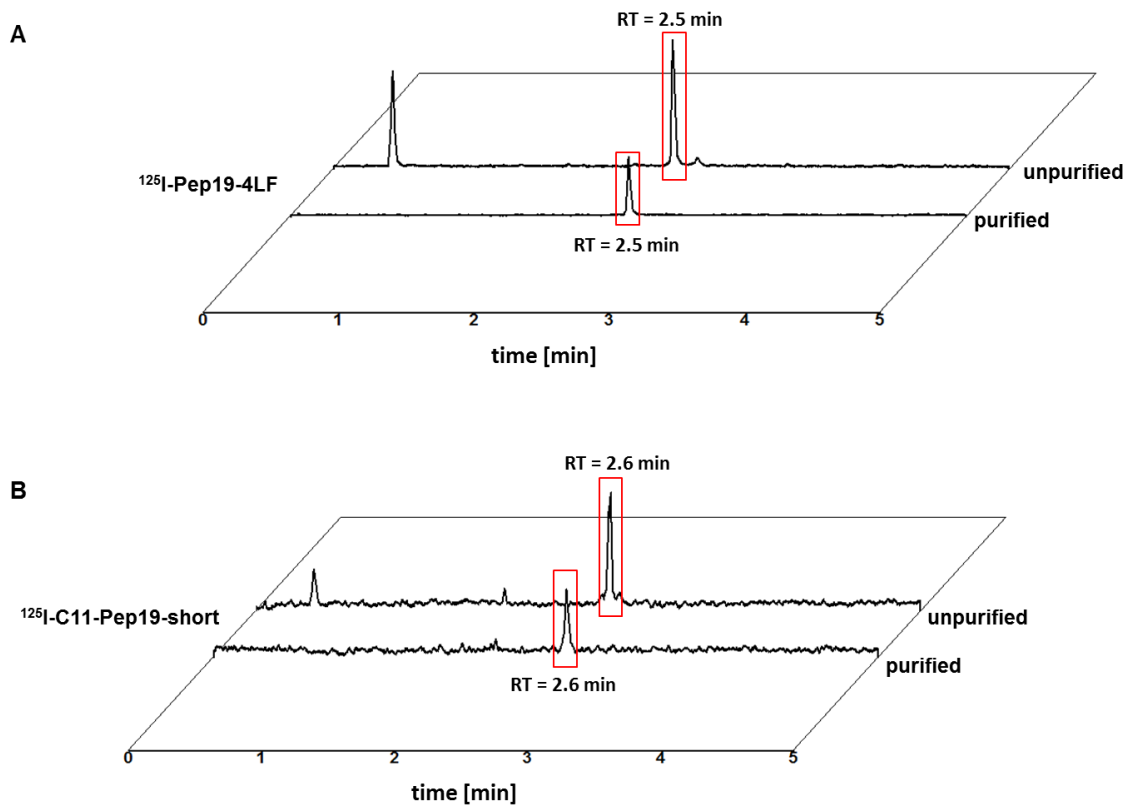


Figure S7. Radio-HPLC diagrams of ^{125}I -labeled (A) Pep19-4LF and (B) C11-Pep19-short.

Refers to: 3.1: Antibacterial activity

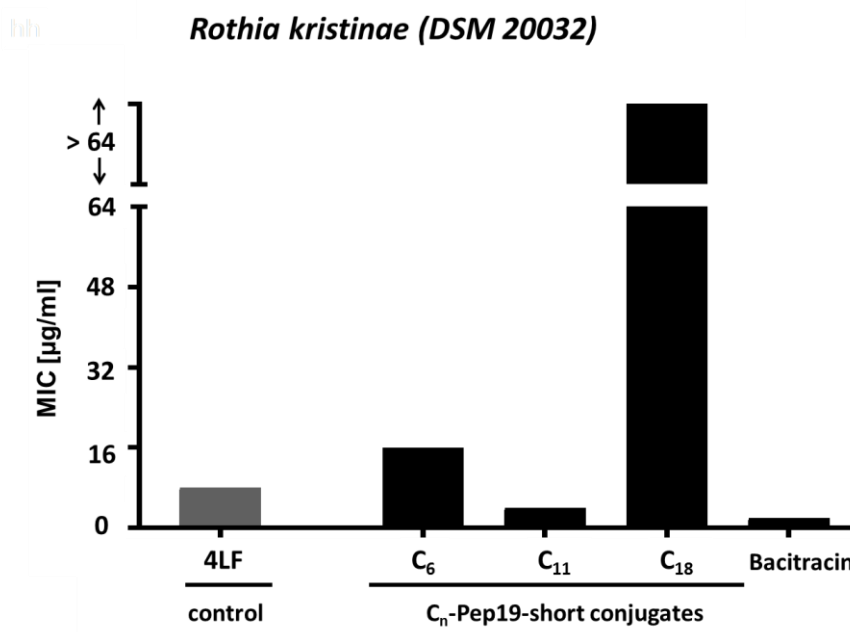


Figure S8. MIC values of Bacitracin and Pep19-short conjugated to different fatty acids. The MIC values were determined for the subsequent MBC and time-kill studies (n=3).

Table S2. Results of MIC and MBC studies on the gram-negative *Acinetobacter bohemicus* (DSM 100419) (n=3).

Conjugate	MIC value	MBC value
C ₆ -Pep19-short	16	16
C ₈ -Pep19-short	8	8
C ₁₀ -Pep19-short	4	4
C ₁₁ -Pep19-short	4	4
C ₁₂ -Pep19-short	4	4
C ₁₄ -Pep19-short	8	8
C ₁₆ -Pep19-short	> 64	> 64
C ₁₈ -Pep19-short	> 64	> 64
Pep19-short	64	64
Pep19-4LF	8	8
Pep19-2.5	> 64	> 64

All MIC values were comparable to the MBC values indicating a bactericidal mode of action of the peptide conjugates.

Table 3. Results of MIC and MBC studies on the gram-positive *Rothia kristinae* (DSM 20032) (n=3).

Conjugate	MIC value	MBC value
C ₆ -Pep19-short	16	32
C ₁₁ -Pep19-short	4	4
C ₁₈ -Pep19-short	> 64	> 64
Pep19-4LF	8	8

The obtained MIC values were comparable to the MBC values indicating a bactericidal mode of action of the peptide conjugates. Only C₆-Pep19-short showed a discrepancy between MIC and MBC in the range of one dilution step. This can be explained by a fluctuation of the test itself.

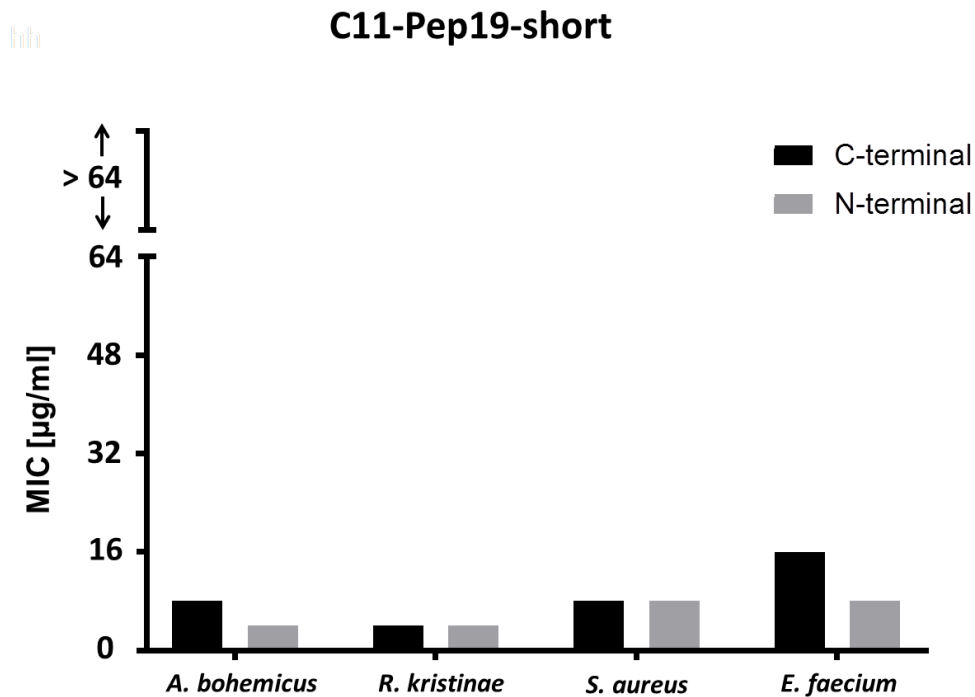


Figure S9. Comparison of MIC-values for N-terminal and C-terminal modified C11-Pep19-short. Here, undecanoic acid (C11:0) was either located at the N-terminal or C-terminal side of the peptide. The results were comparable compared to the N-terminal variant of C11-Pep19-short on all tested strains. Thus, undecanoic acid can be coupled to the N-terminal side, achieving low MICs and a simplified peptide synthesis.

Time-kill study

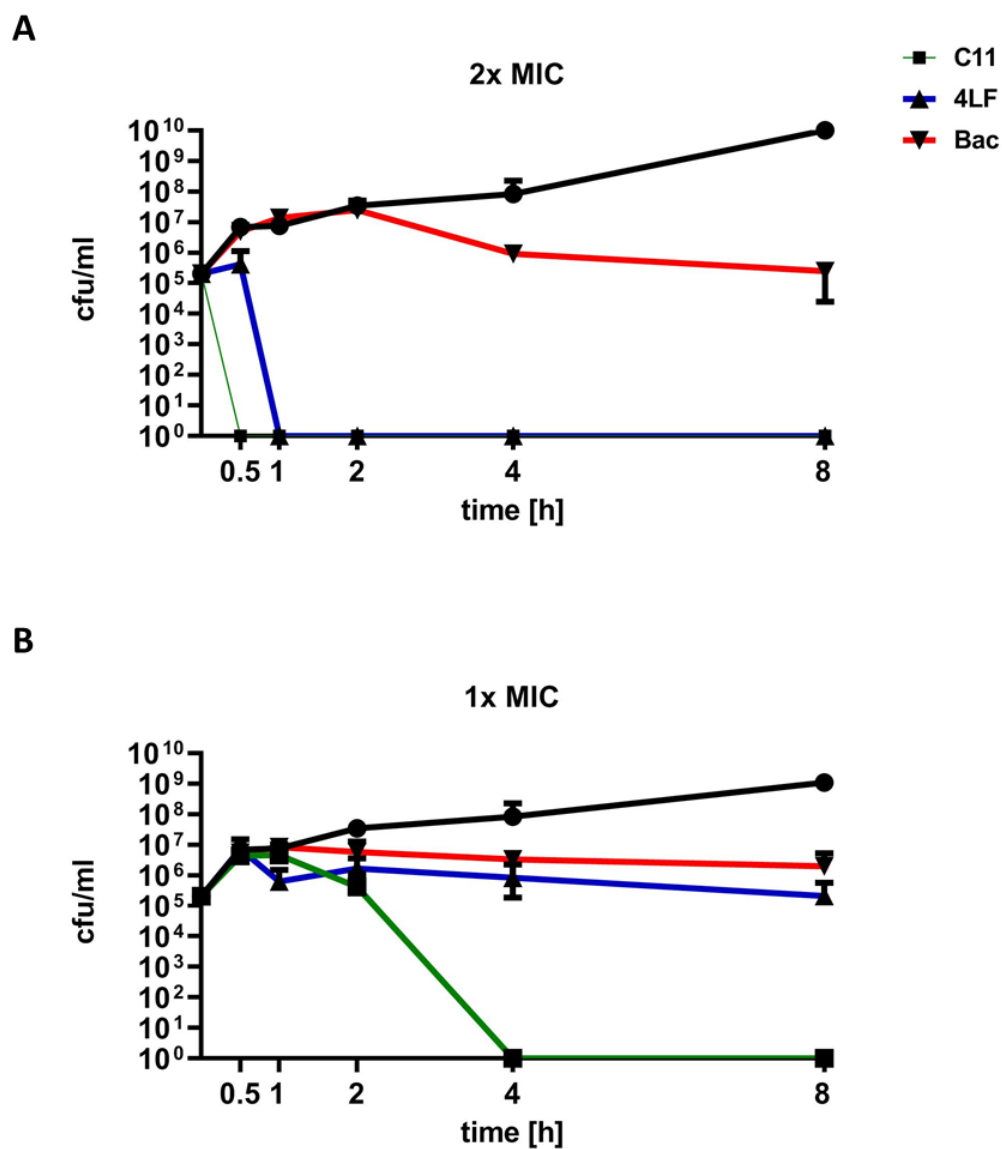


Figure S10. Time-kill curves on *Rothia kristinae* (DSM 20032) for C₁₁-Pep19-short, Pep19-4LF and Bacitracin at a concentration of 2 × MIC (A) and 1 × MIC (B) (n=3). For a concentration of 2 × MIC all bacteria were killed by C₁₁-Pep19-short after 30 minutes and by Pep19-4LF after 1 h. Bacitracin showed a bacteriostatic mode of action at this concentration with slowly decreasing numbers of cfu/ml. For a concentration of 1 × MIC, all bacteria were killed by C₁₁-Pep19-short after 4 hours. However, in this case, the concentration was not high enough to kill all bacteria with Pep19-4LF within 8 hours.