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ANTIBACTERIENS BIODEGRADABLES ET PROCEDES ASSOCIES
(54) Title: NITRIC OXIDE-RELEASING POLYAMINOGLYCOSIDES AS BIODEGRADABLE ANTIBACTERIAL
SCAFFOLDS AND METHODS PERTAINING THERETO

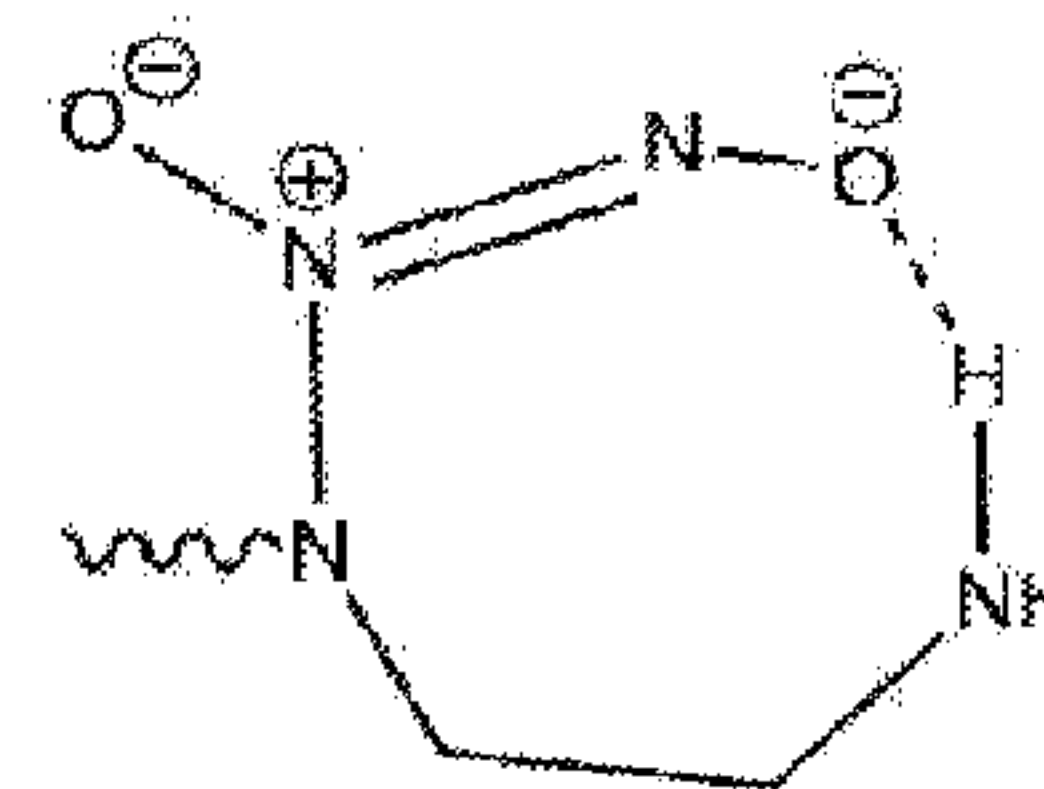
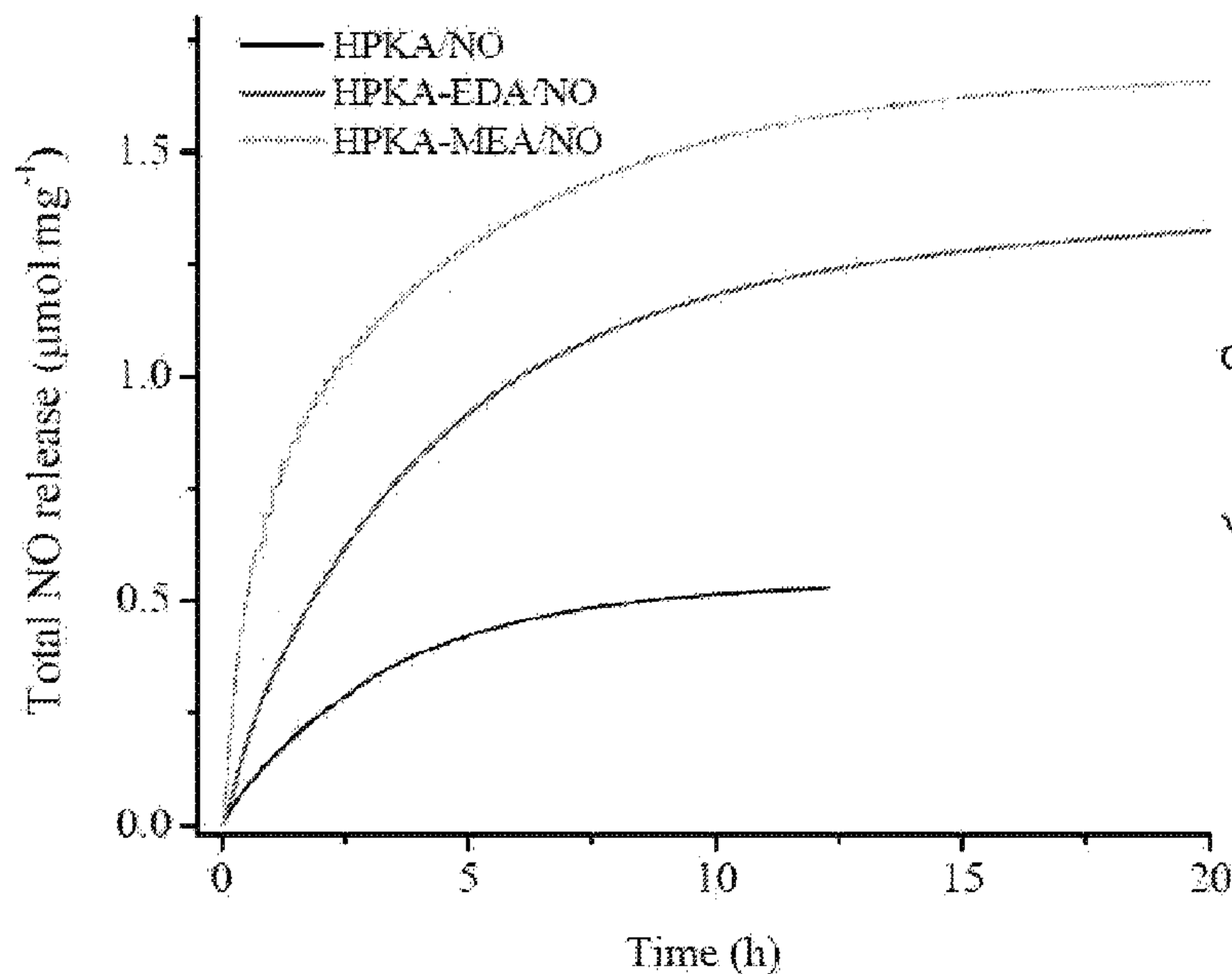


Fig. 7

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

Provided herein are hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides, where in some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are covalently modified to store and release nitric oxide. Some embodiments pertain to methods of making and use of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the covalently modified hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides may be tailored to release nitric oxide in a controlled manner and are useful for eradication of both gram positive and gram negative bacteria as well as other microbes.

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(54) Title: NITRIC OXIDE-RELEASING POLYAMINOGLYCOSIDES AS BIODEGRADABLE ANTIBACTERIAL SCAFFOLDS AND METHODS PERTAINING THERETO

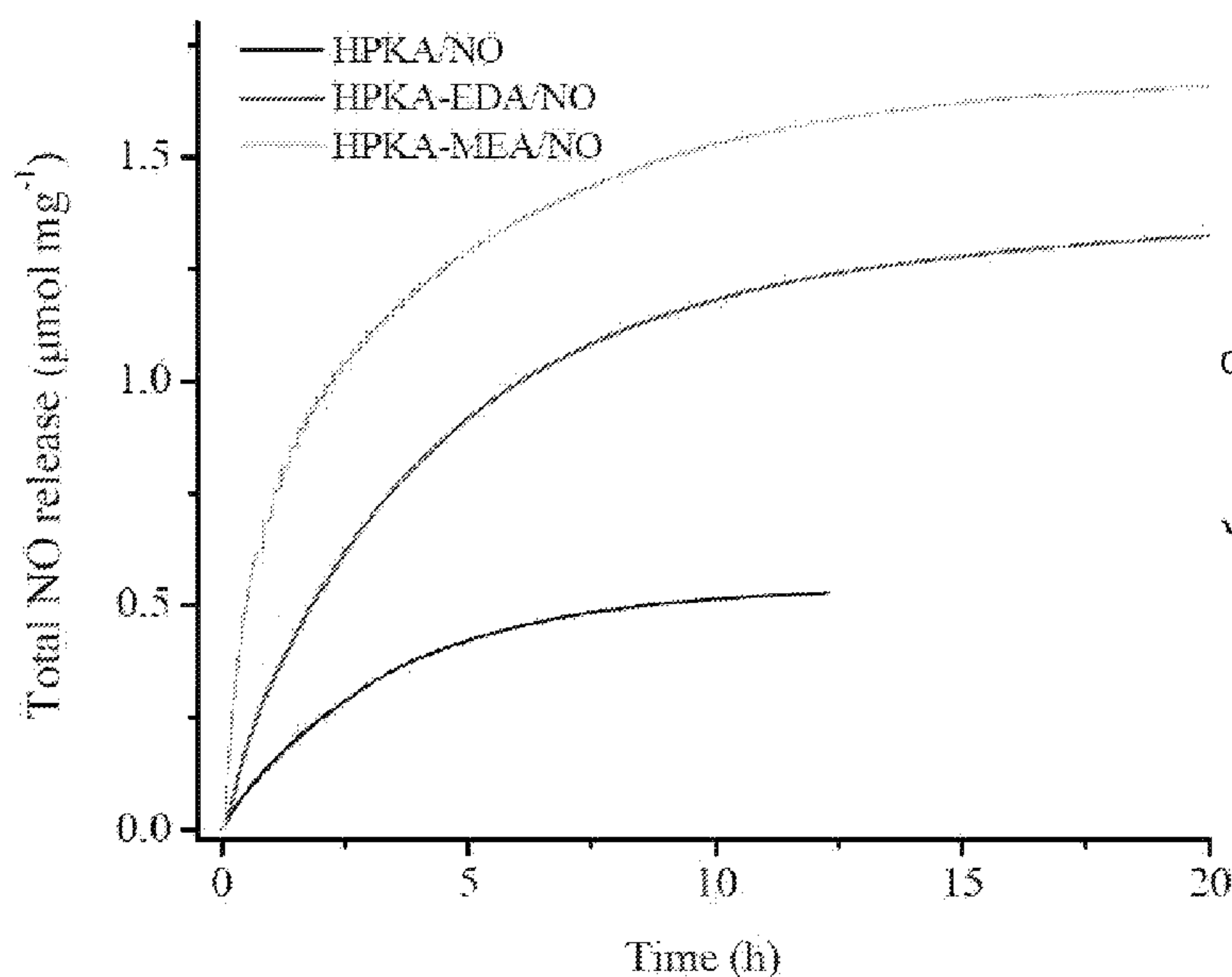
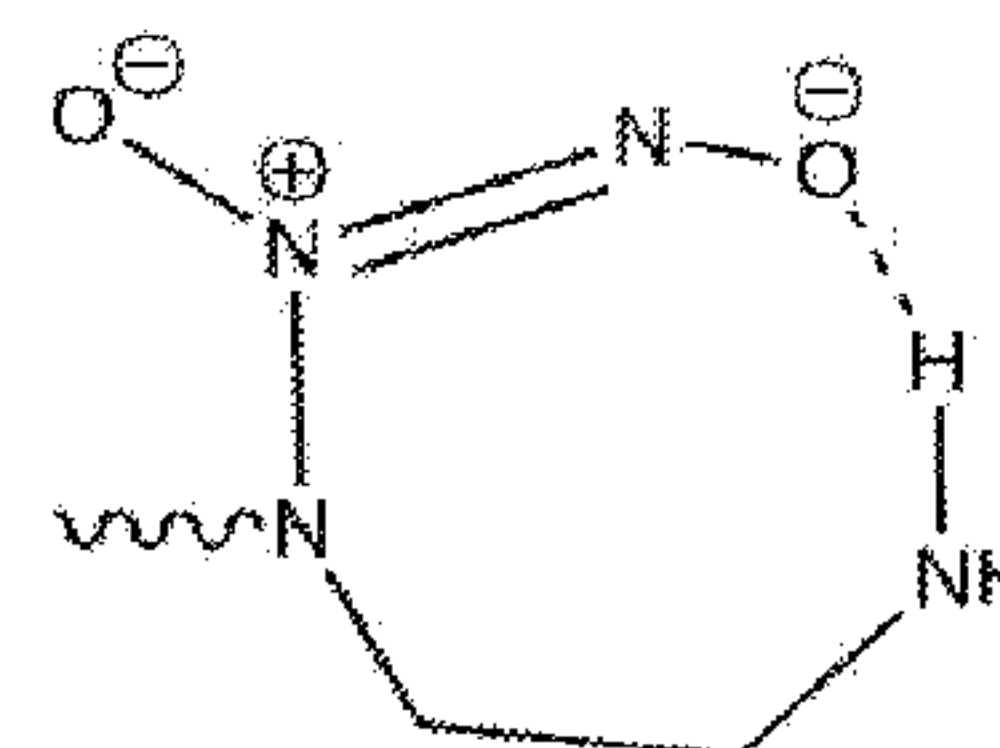


Fig. 7



(57) Abstract: Provided herein are hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides, where in some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are covalently modified to store and release nitric oxide. Some embodiments pertain to methods of making and use of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the covalently modified hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides may be tailored to release nitric oxide in a controlled manner and are useful for eradication of both gram positive and gram negative bacteria as well as other microbes.

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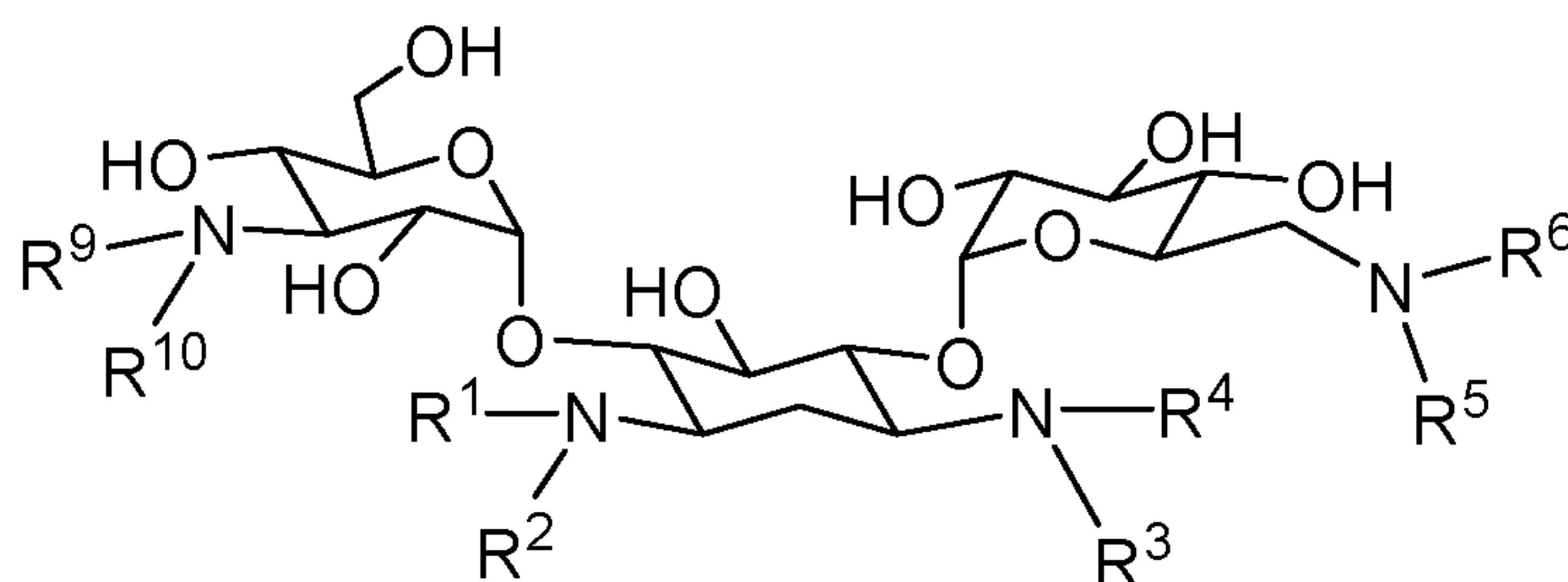
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Nitric oxide (NO) plays a variety of physiological roles as a signaling molecule and, as disclosed herein, can also play significant roles in treating or ameliorating pathophysiology, for example as a therapeutic agent. NO as a therapeutic has heretofore been underused, based at least in part on limited NO payloads of therapeutic compositions,

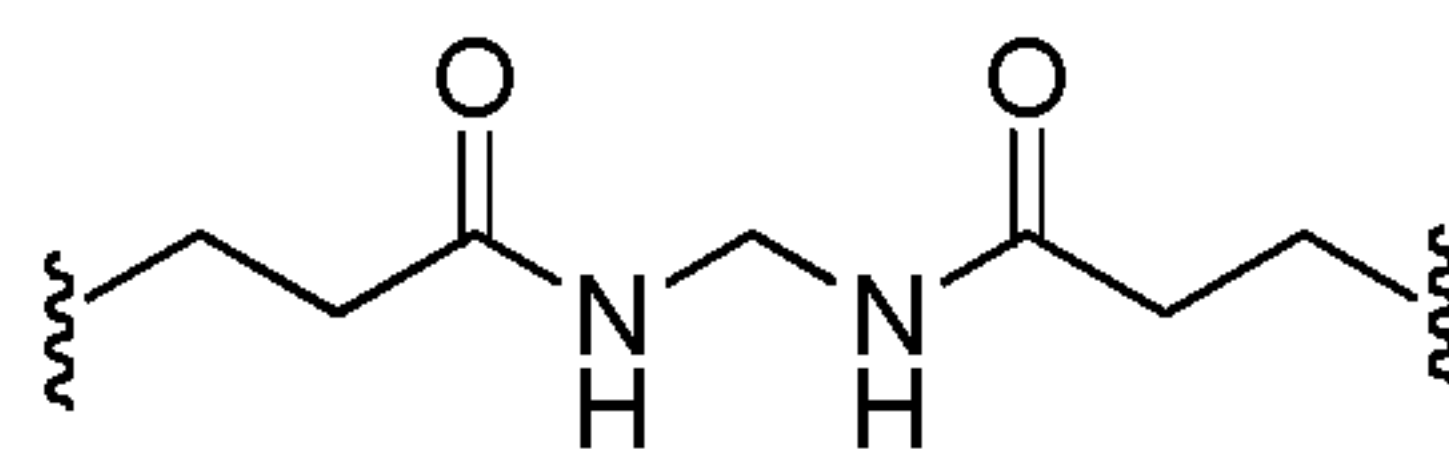
NO release rates that are more rapid than desired, and the lack of targeted NO delivery. Provided herein are NO-releasing constructs, methods of producing such constructs, and methods of treating various pathophysiologies using such constructs that leverage the enhanced NO-release characteristics and harness the abundant potential of NO-releasing
 5 pharmacological compounds. In particular, provided herein are compounds that are highly efficacious as antimicrobials.

For example, in several embodiments there are provided polyaminoglycosides that release NO and exhibit potent antimicrobial characteristics. In several embodiments, the polyaminoglycosides are functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In several
 10 embodiments, such functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprise a first aminoglycoside unit comprising the structure of Formula II:



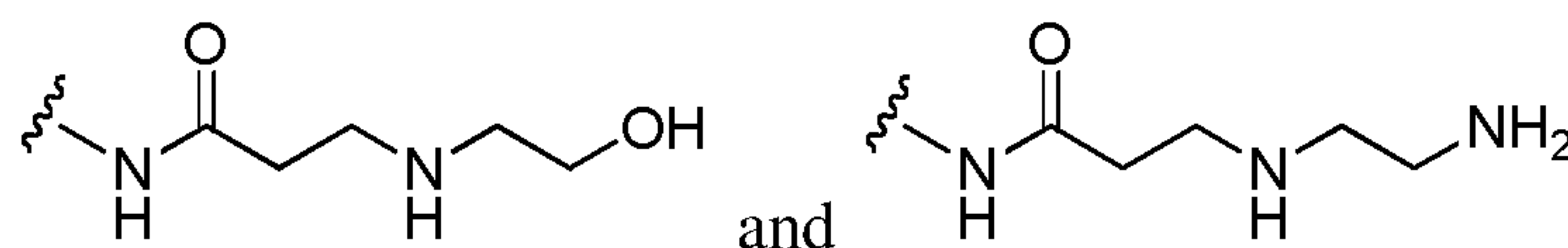
Formula II

In several embodiments, each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^9 , and R^{10} is independently selected from -H or represents a covalent bond to one or more linking units. In several
 15 embodiments, the linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following structure:

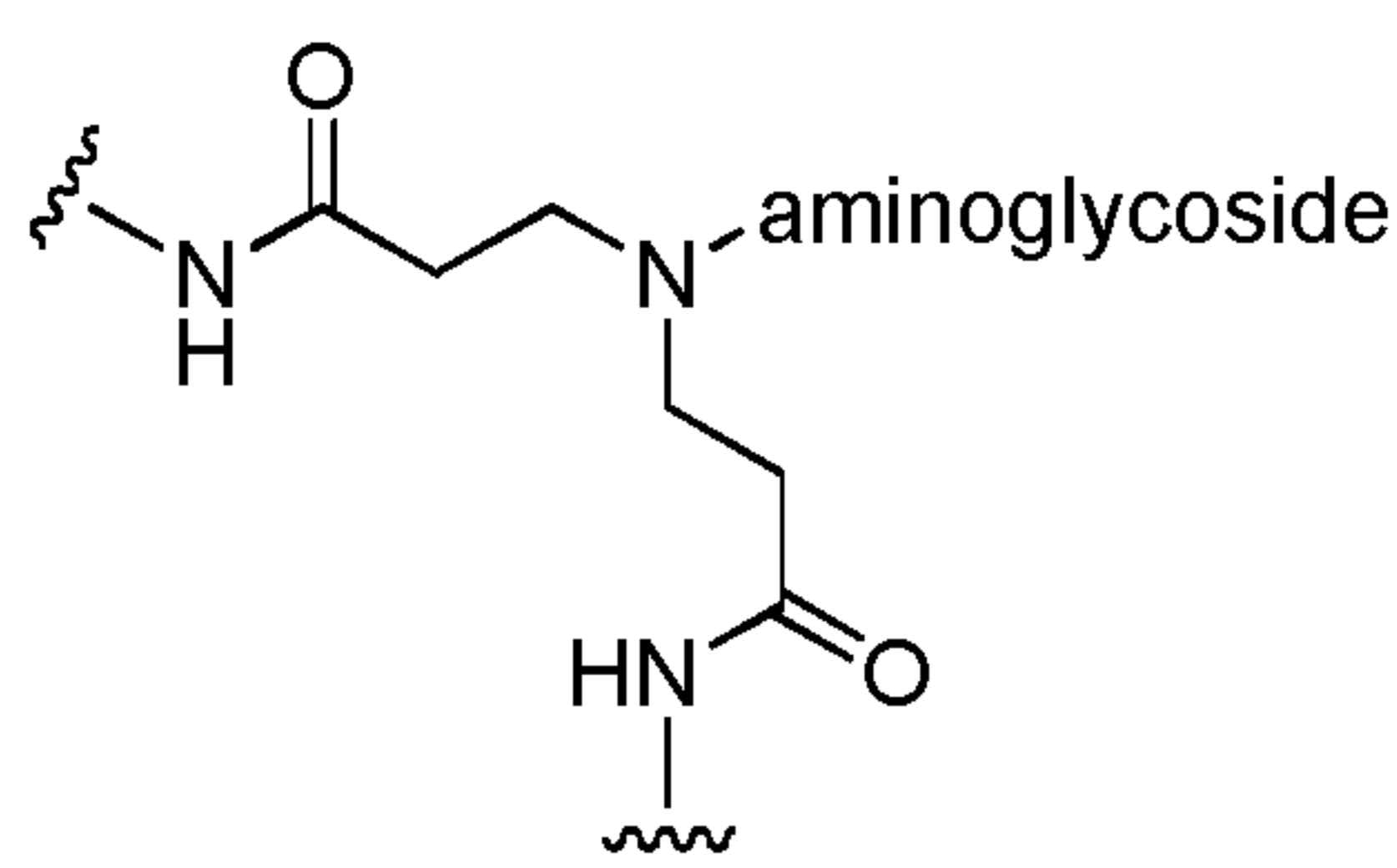


and the linking unit of the one or more linking units forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit. In several embodiments, the
 20 aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is derived from kanamycin. In several embodiments, streptomycin, tobramycin, gentamicin, and/or neomycin can also be used as one or both of the aminoglycoside units.

In several embodiments, there are provided hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides that further include one or more terminal units. Depending on the embodiment, the one or
 25 more terminal units are selected from:

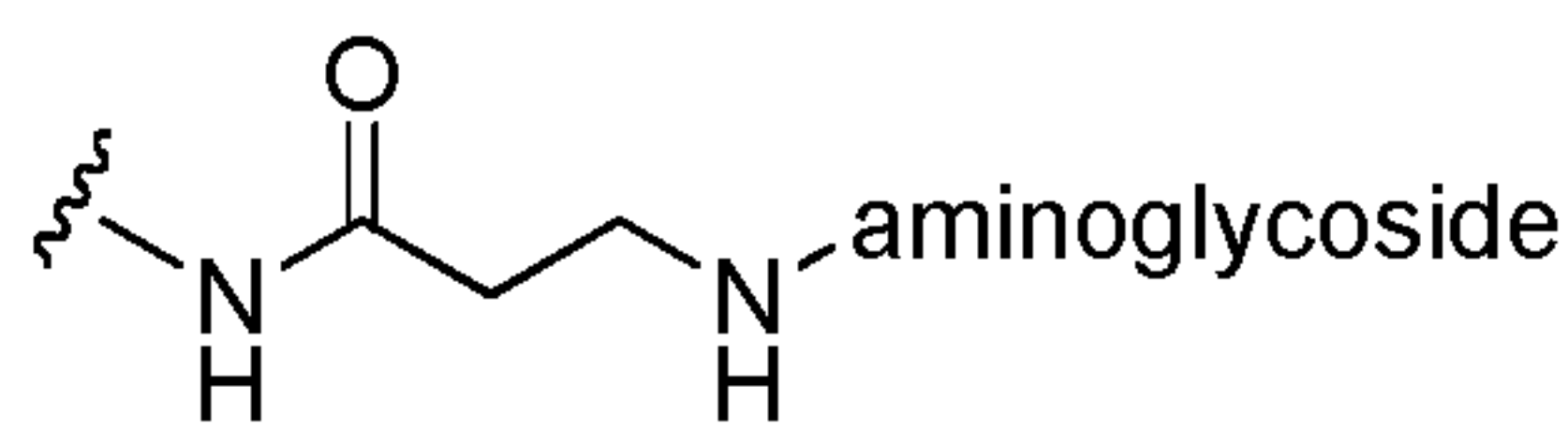


In several embodiments, there are provided hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides that further include one or more dendritic units. Depending on the embodiments, the one or more dendritic units are selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

In several embodiments, there are provided hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides that further include or more linear units selected from:

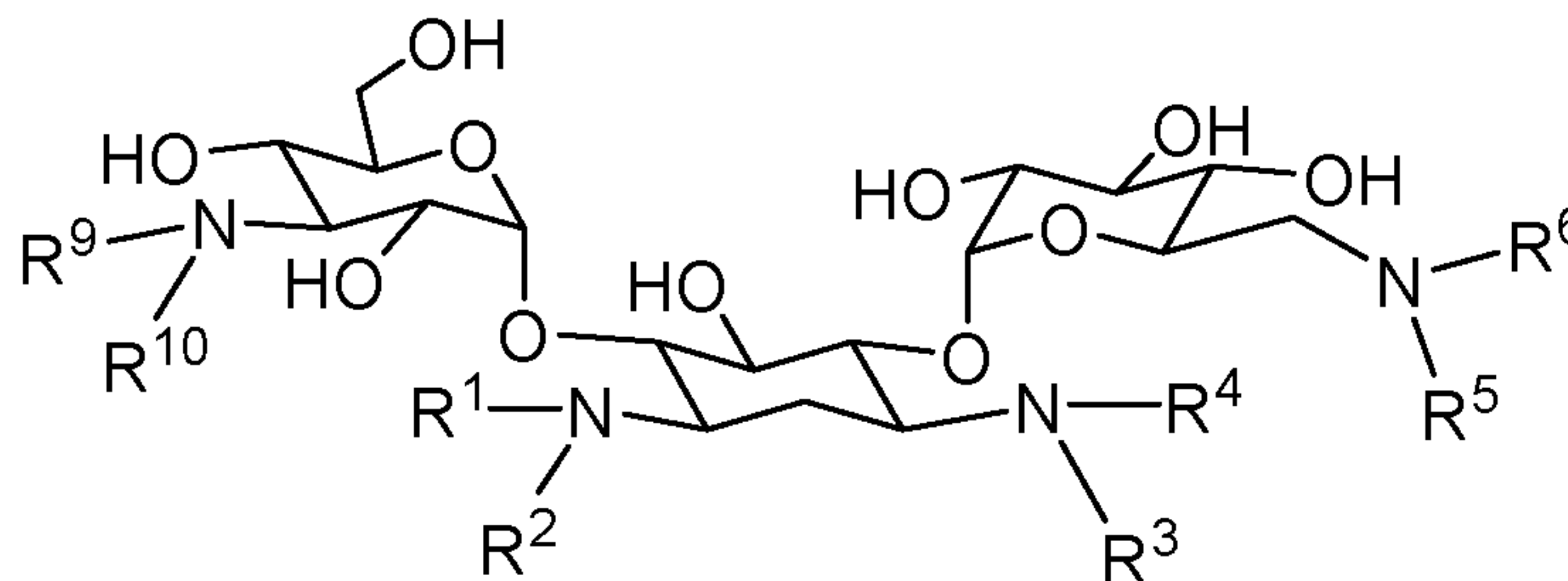


where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

In several embodiments, there are provided hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides wherein at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises - a NO donor. In several embodiments, at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor. In additional

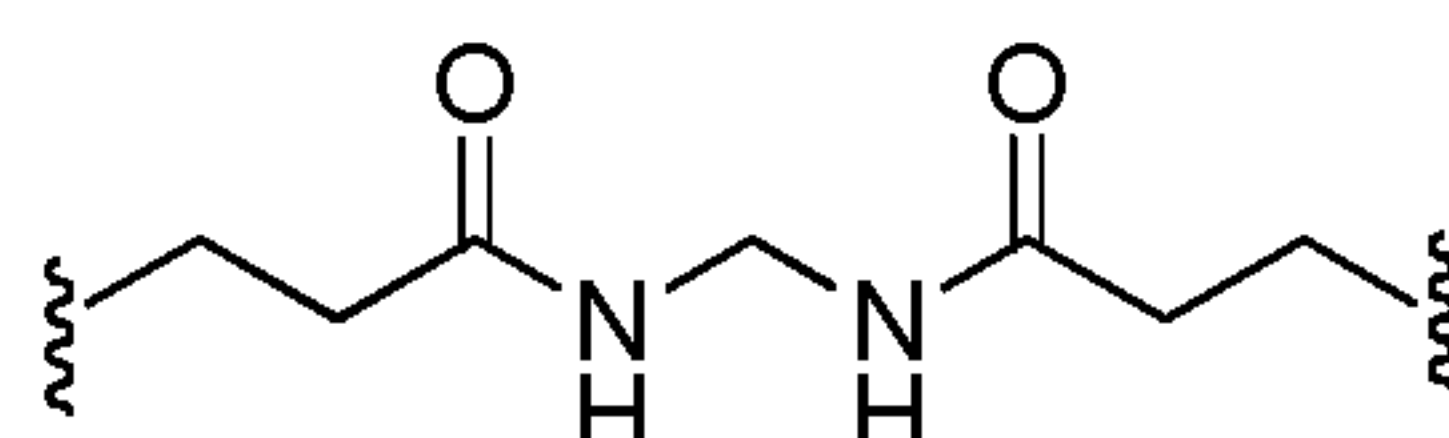
embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a weight average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 7 kDa. In several embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a number average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 4 kDa. In several embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a NO storage capacity of greater than or equal to 0.4 μmol NO/mg hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside. In several embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside provides greater than or equal to 90% (e.g., 90%, 95%, 97%, 98%, 99% or 100%) bacterial reduction of bacterial viability against one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans*. In several embodiments, such a reduction is achieved at a concentration of less than or equal to 2 mg / mL of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

Some embodiments pertain to a functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside. In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises a first aminoglycoside unit comprising the structure of Formula II:



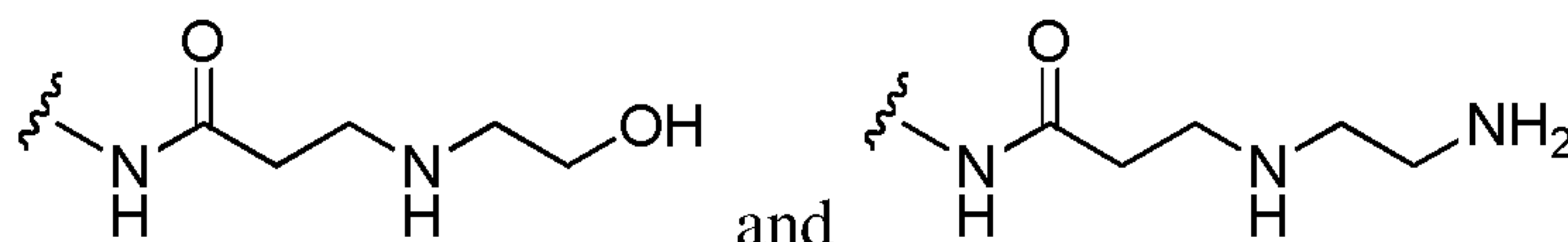
Formula II

5 wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^9 , and R^{10} is independently selected from the -H or represents a covalent bond to one or more linking units; wherein a linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following structure:

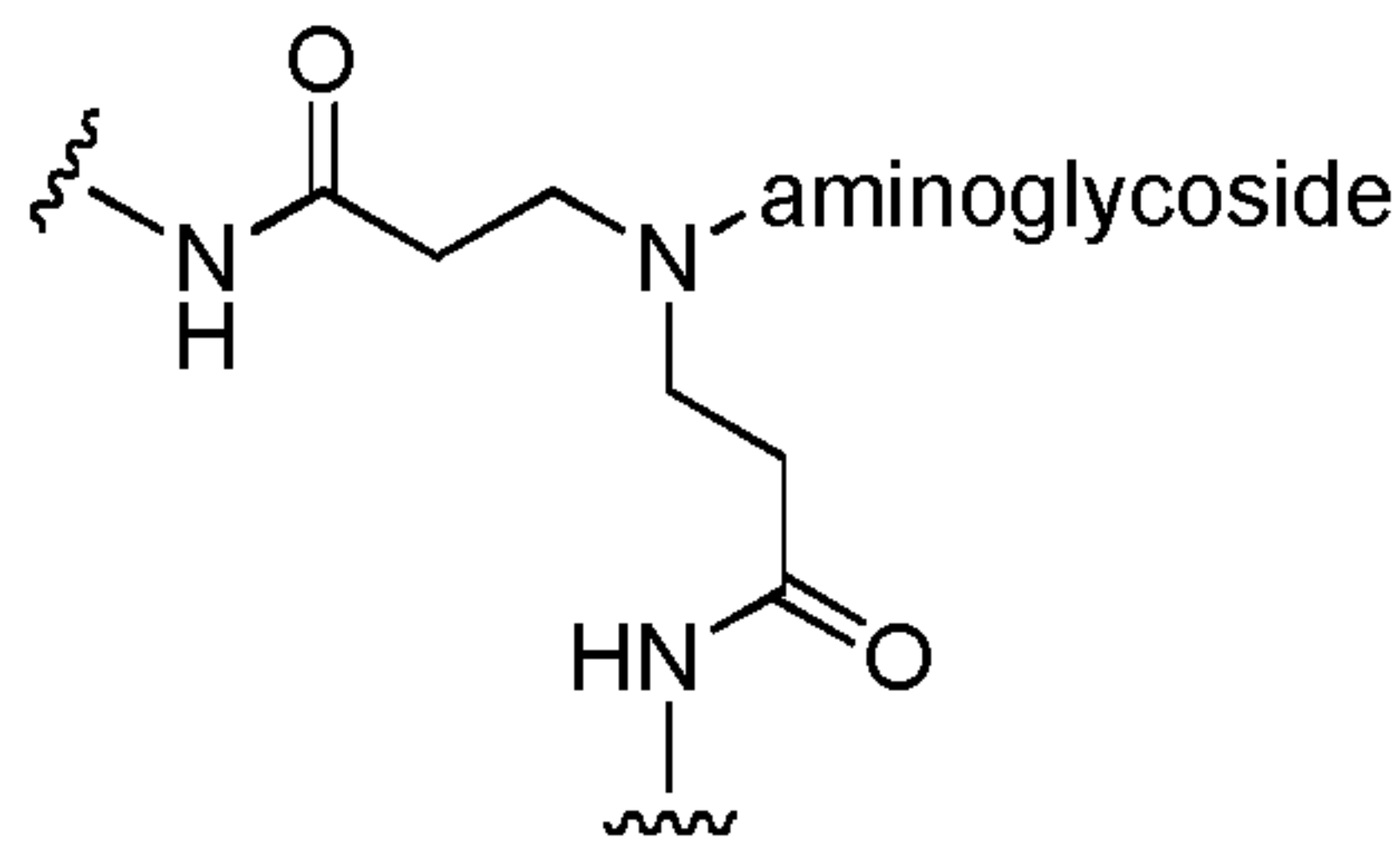


10 wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and wherein at least one aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is derived from kanamycin.

In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprising one or more terminal units is selected from:

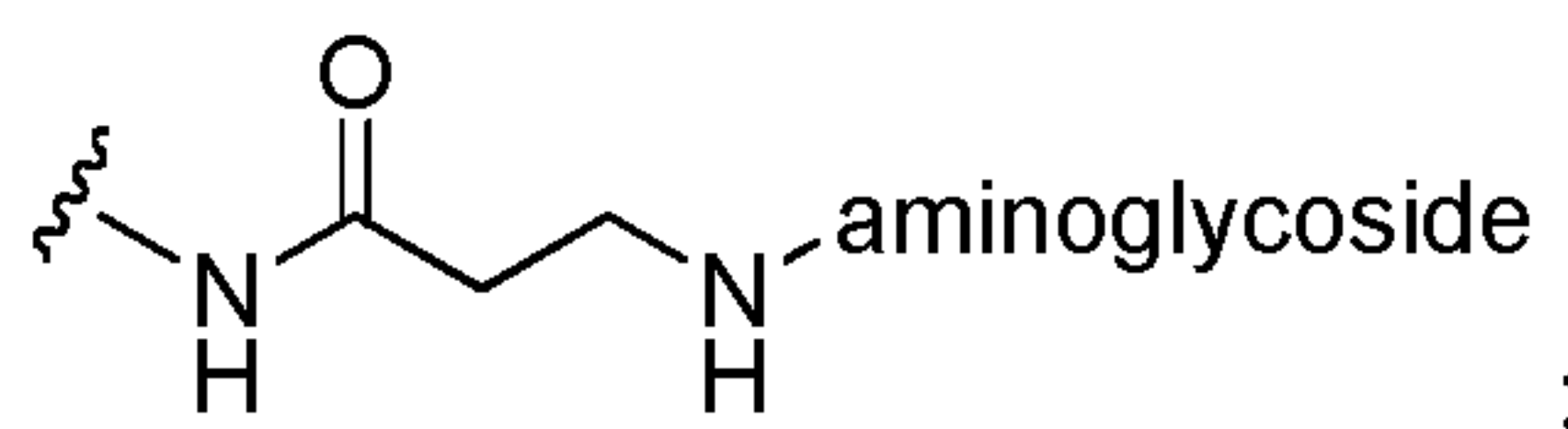


15 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more dendritic units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

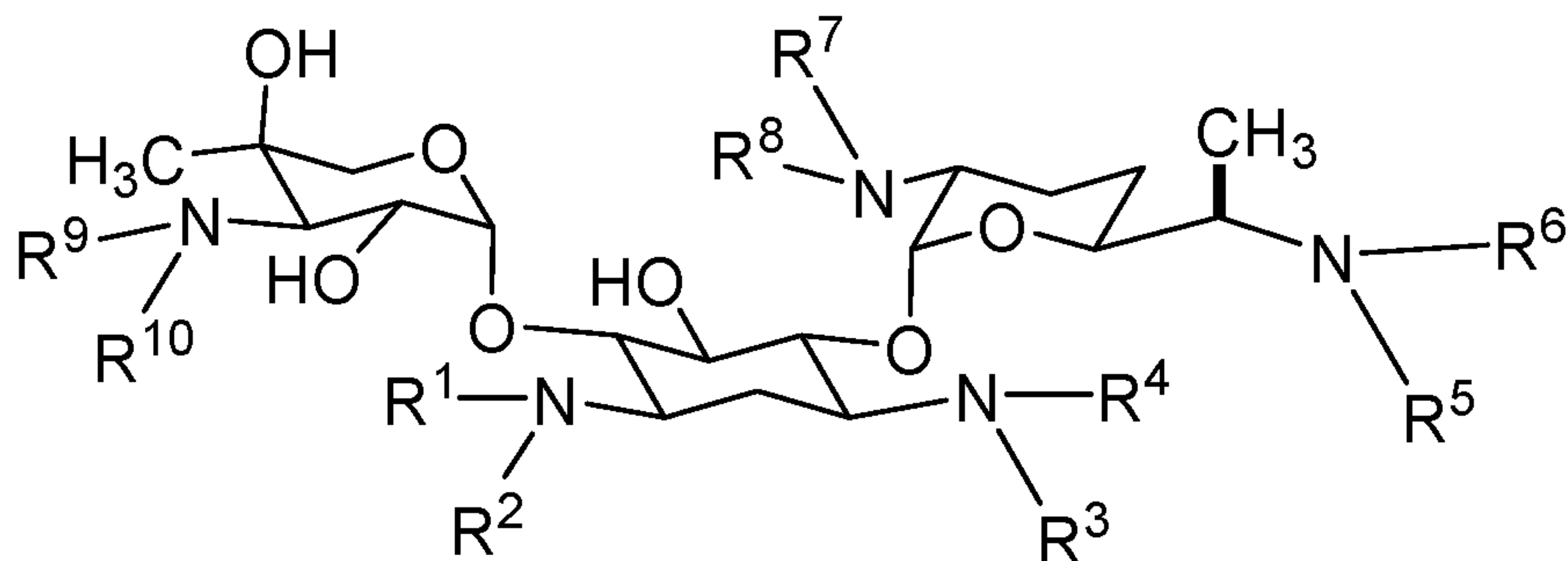
20 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more linear units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

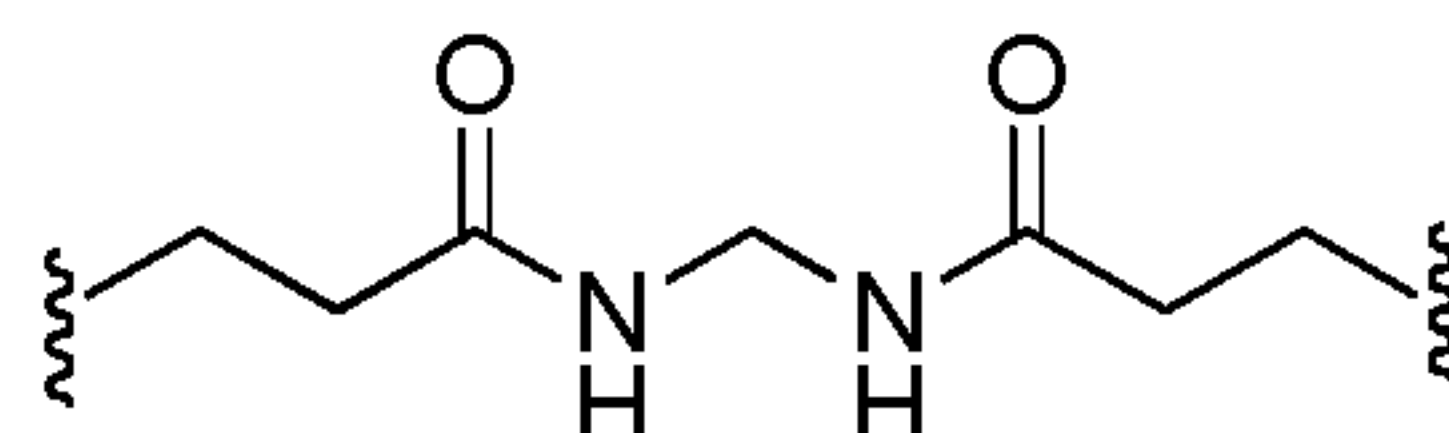
In some embodiments of the kanamycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides, at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

5 Some embodiments pertain to a functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside unit comprising the structure of Formula III:



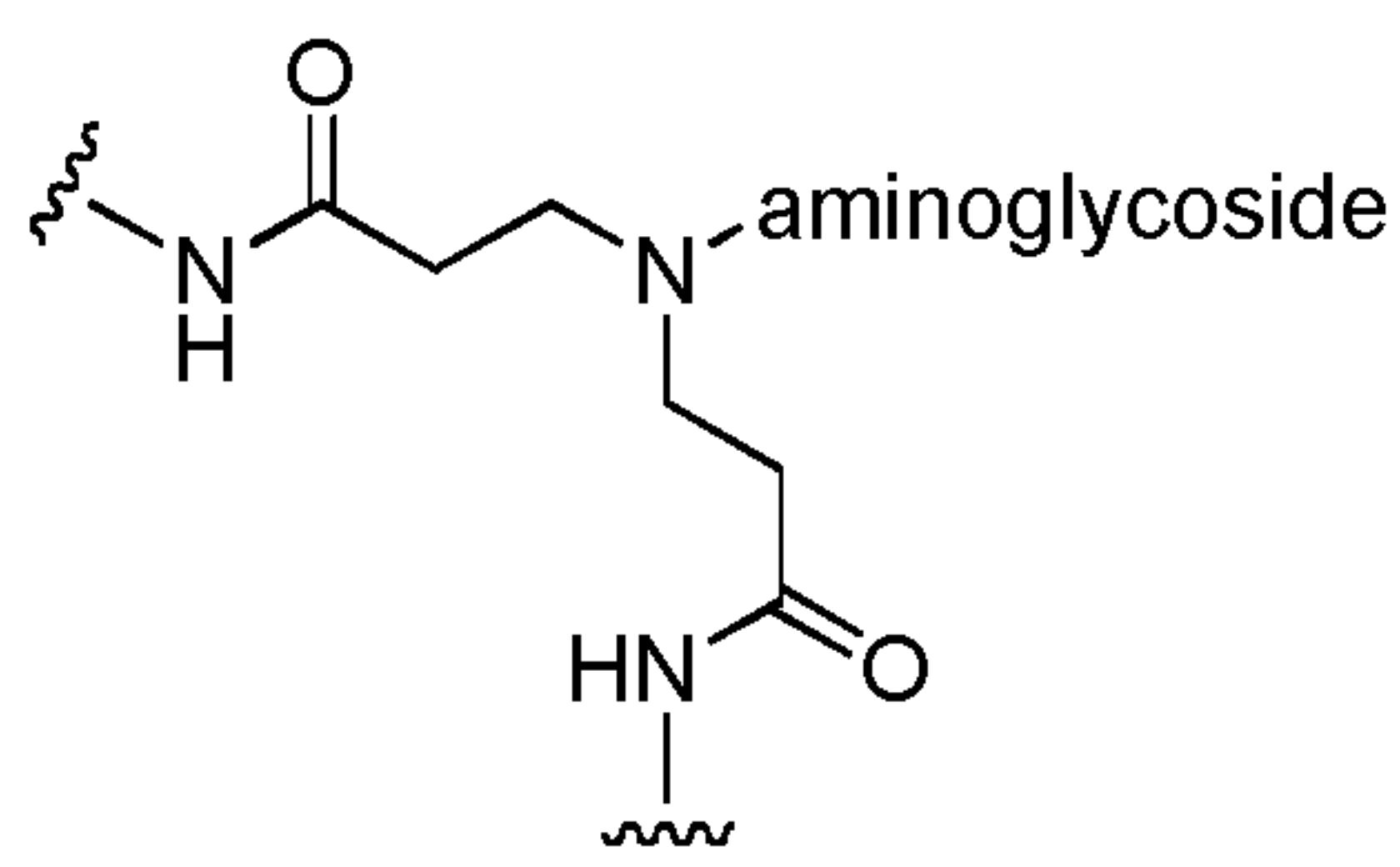
Formula III

wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} is independently selected from the -H or represents a covalent bond to one or more linking units; wherein a linking
10 unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following structure:



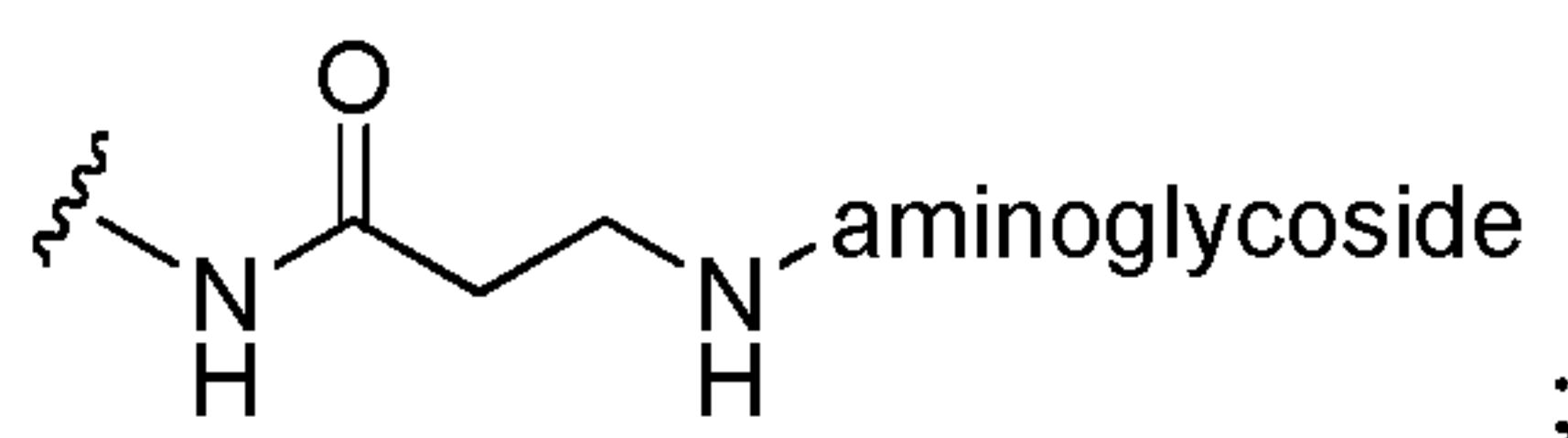
wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and wherein at least one aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is derived from gentamicin.

15 In some embodiments, the gentamicin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more dendritic units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula III.

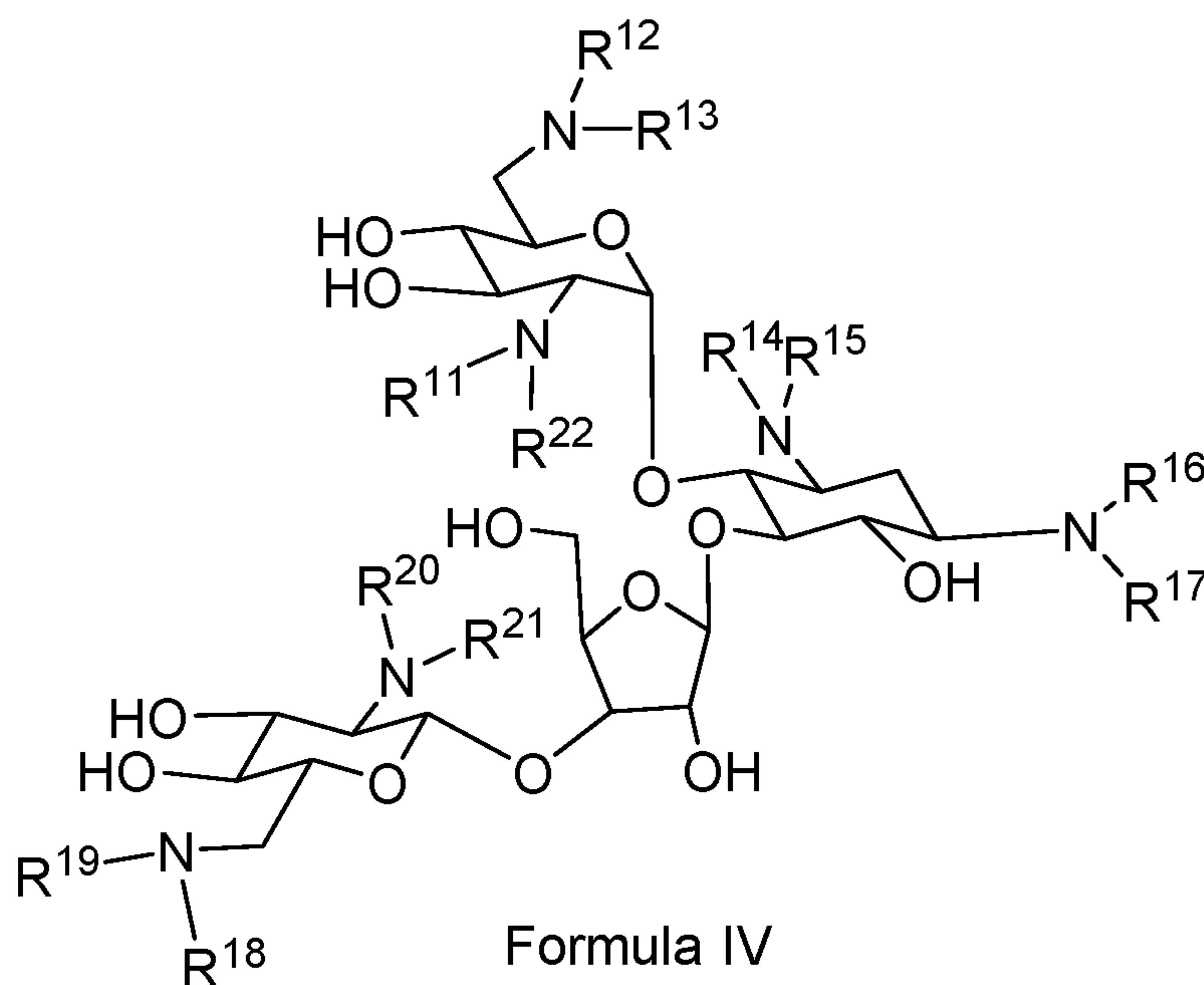
20 In some embodiments, the gentamicin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more linear units selected from:



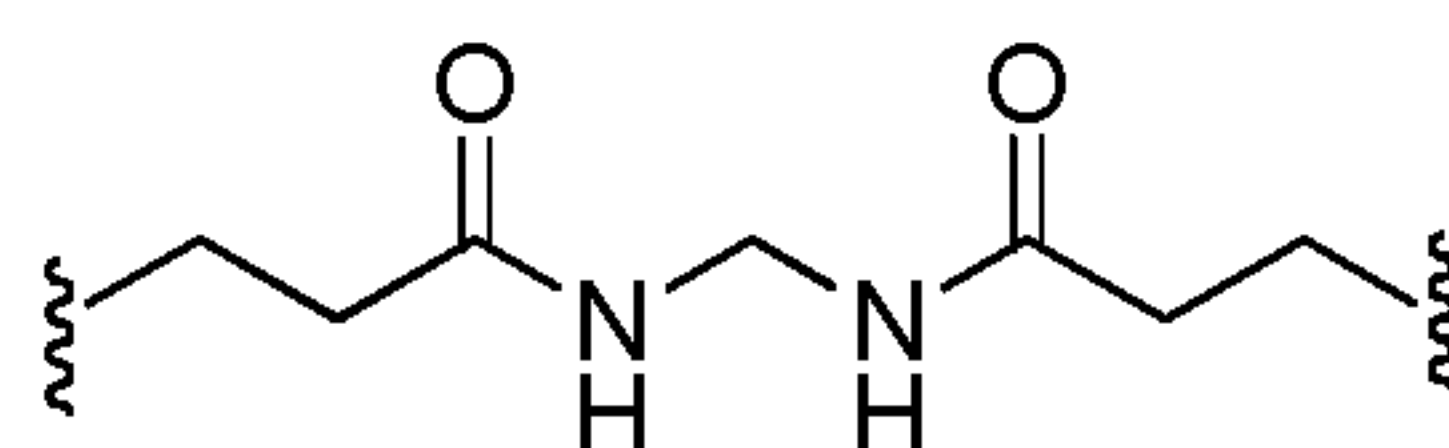
where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula III.

In some embodiments, at least one secondary amine of the gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

Some embodiments pertain to a functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside,
5 comprising a first aminoglycoside unit comprising a structure of Formula IV:

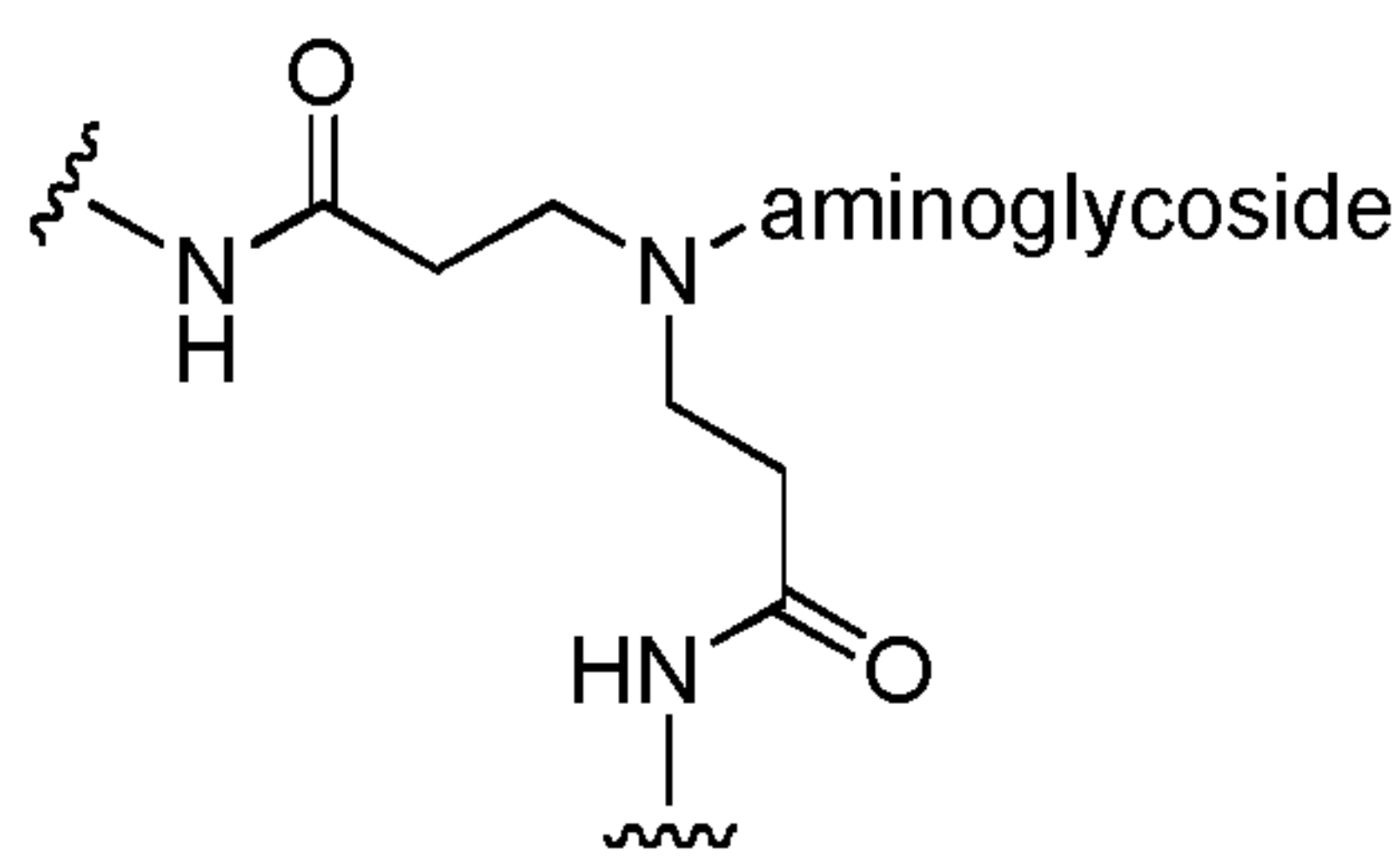


wherein each of R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} is independently selected from the -H or represents a covalent bond to one or more linking units; wherein a linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following
10 structure:



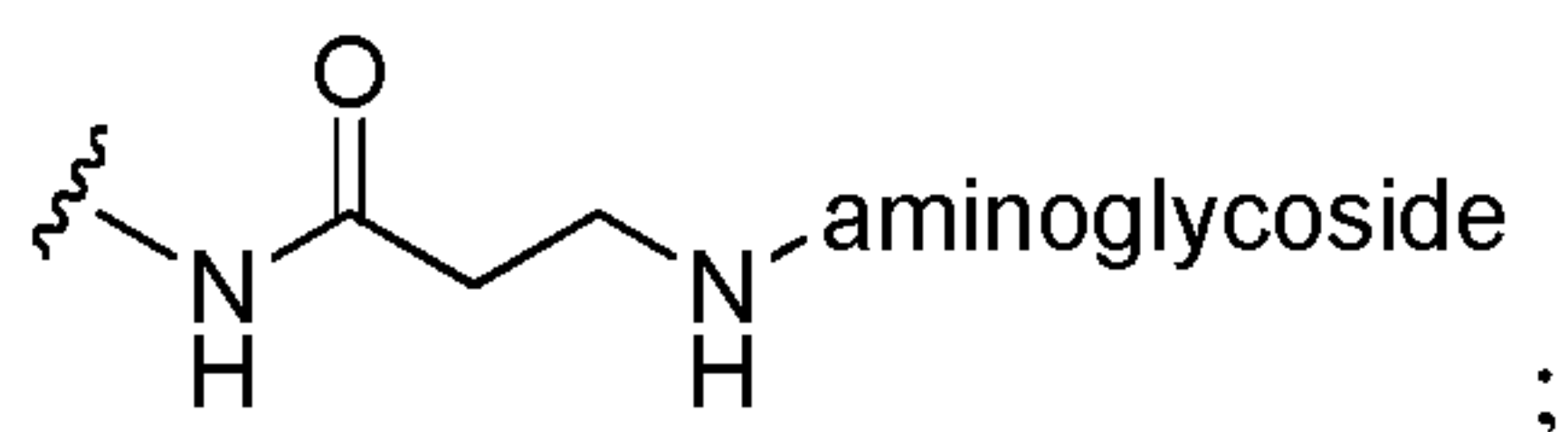
wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and wherein at least one aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is derived from neomycin.

15 In some embodiments, the neomycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more dendritic units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula IV.

In some embodiments, the neomycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside additionally comprises one or more linear units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula IV.

5 In some embodiments of the neomycin-based functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

10 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based, neomycin-based, or gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has at least one secondary amine comprising a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

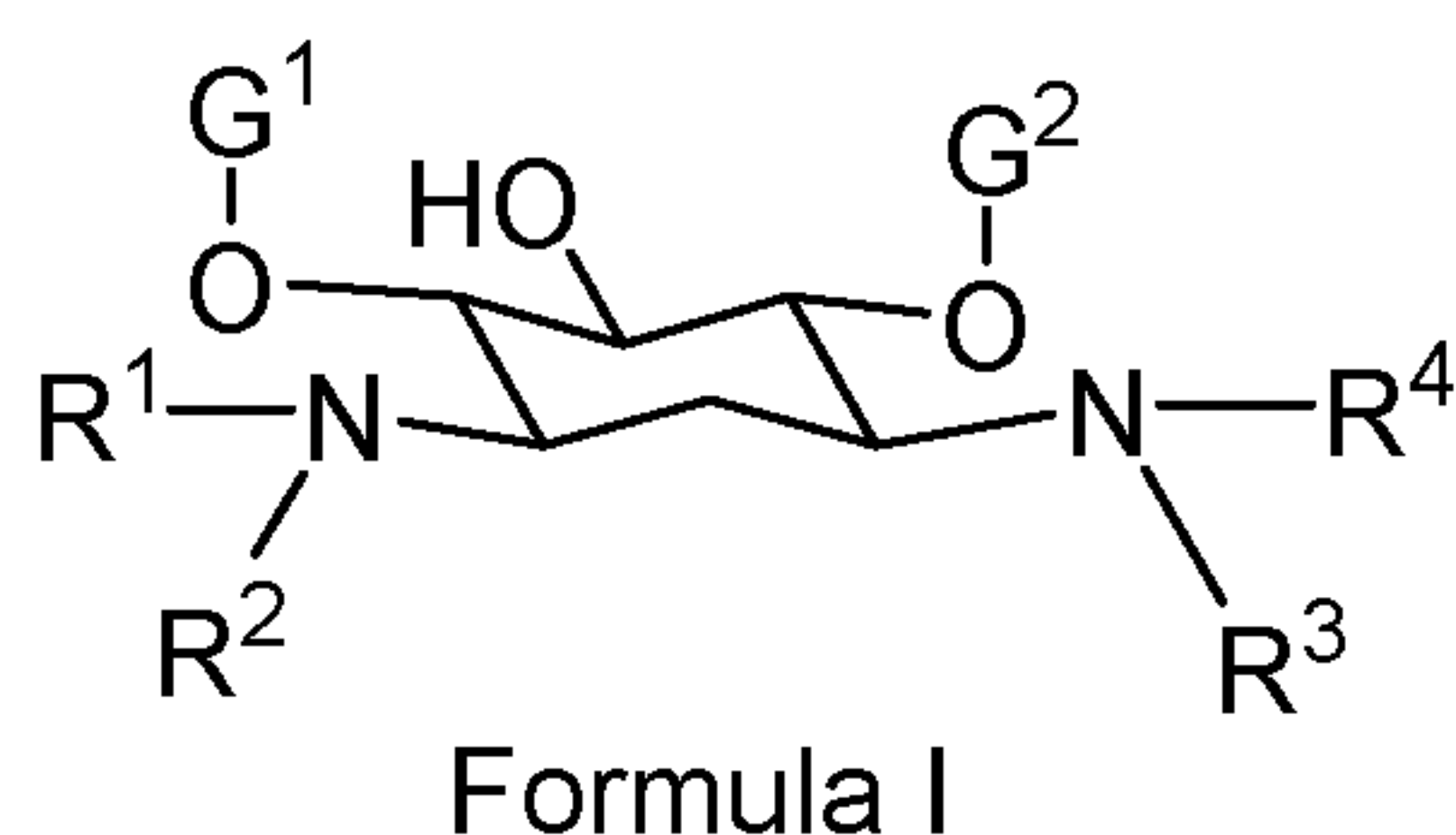
In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based, neomycin-based, or gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a number average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 4 kDa. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a number average molecular weight in the range between about 1.6 to about 4.3 kDa.

15 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based, neomycin-based, or gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a weight average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 7 kDa. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a weight average molecular weight in the range between about 2 to about 7 kDa.

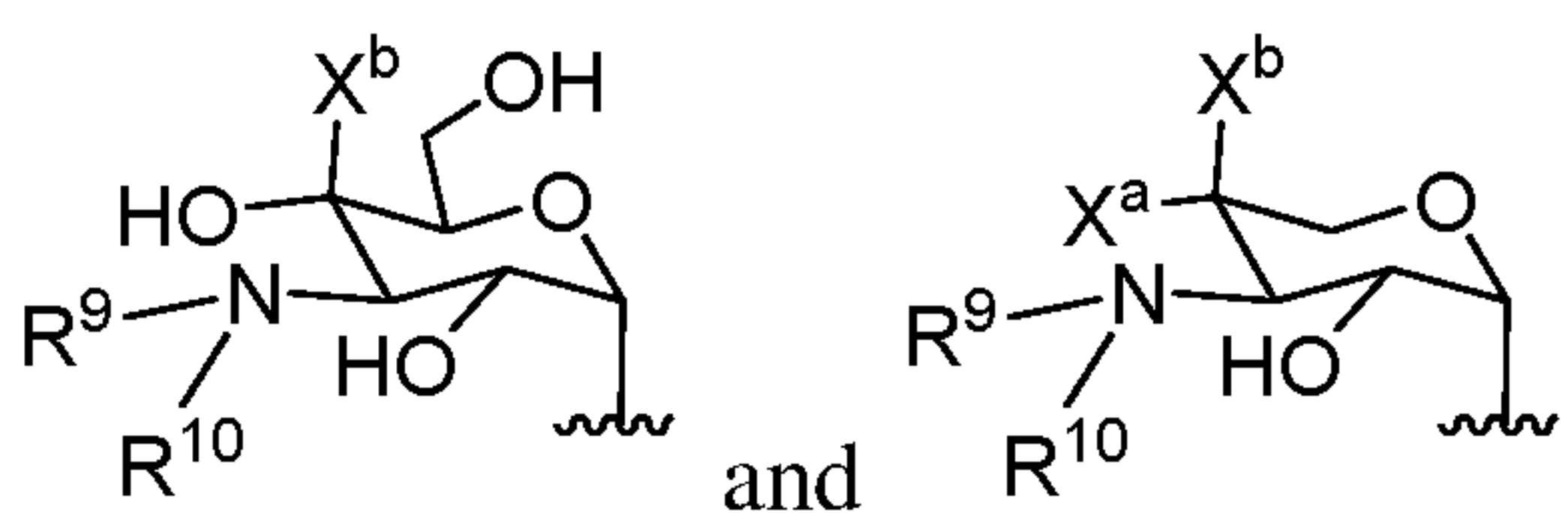
20 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based, neomycin-based, or gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a NO storage capacity of greater than or equal to 0.4 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a NO storage capacity in the range between about 0.4 to about 1.3 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, including ranges between about 0.4 to about 0.6 and about 1.2 to about 1.3 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

25 In some embodiments, the kanamycin-based, neomycin-based, or gentamicin-based hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside provides greater than or equal to 99% bacterial reduction in a bacterial viability assay performed under static conditions over 2 hours against one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans* at a concentration of less than or equal to 2 mg / mL.

In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a first aminoglycoside comprising Formula I:

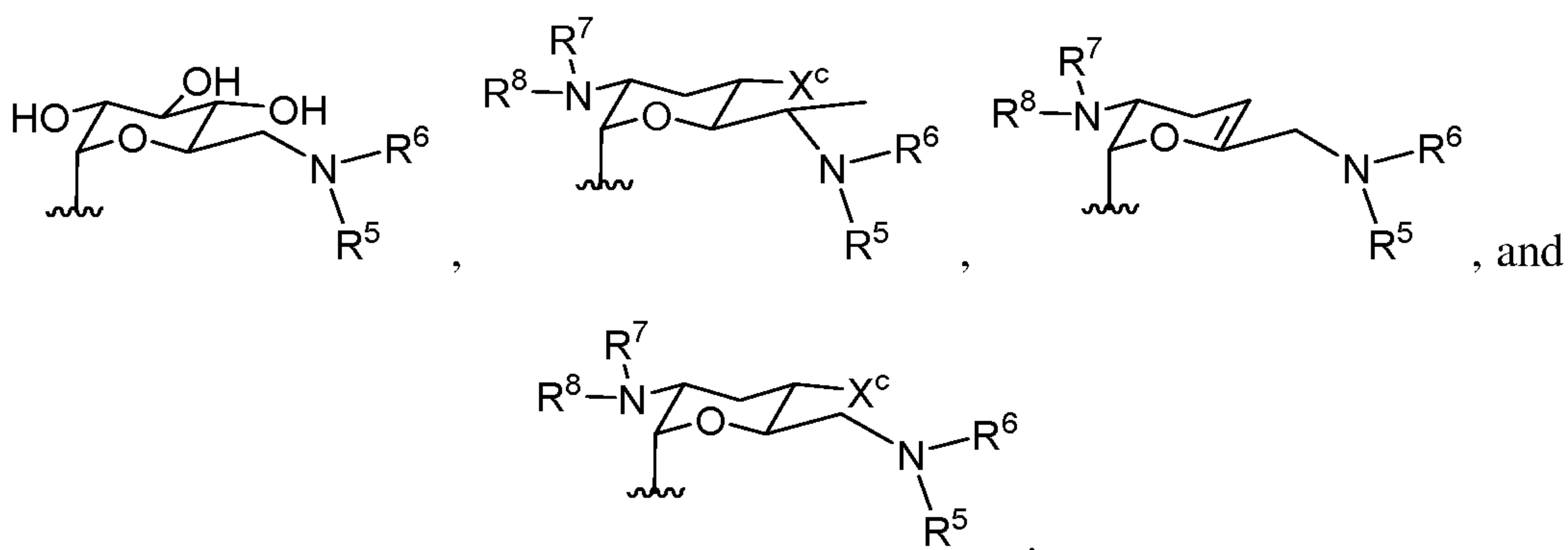


In some embodiments, G^1 is selected from the group consisting of:



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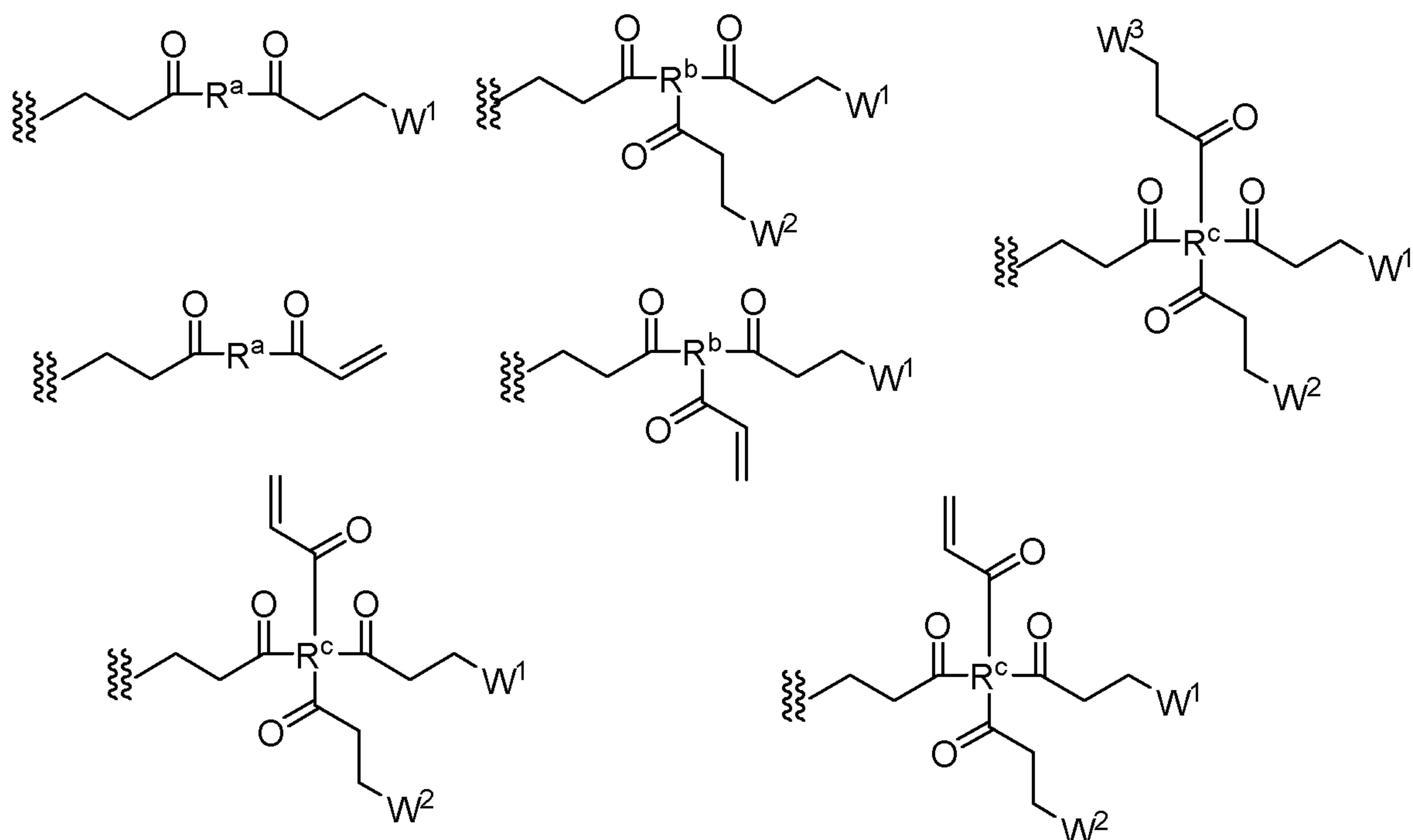
In some embodiments, G^2 is selected from the group consisting of:



In some embodiments, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} are independently selected from -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, or a covalent bond to a linking unit.

In some embodiments, at least one of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} is covalent bond to one or more linking units selected from the following:

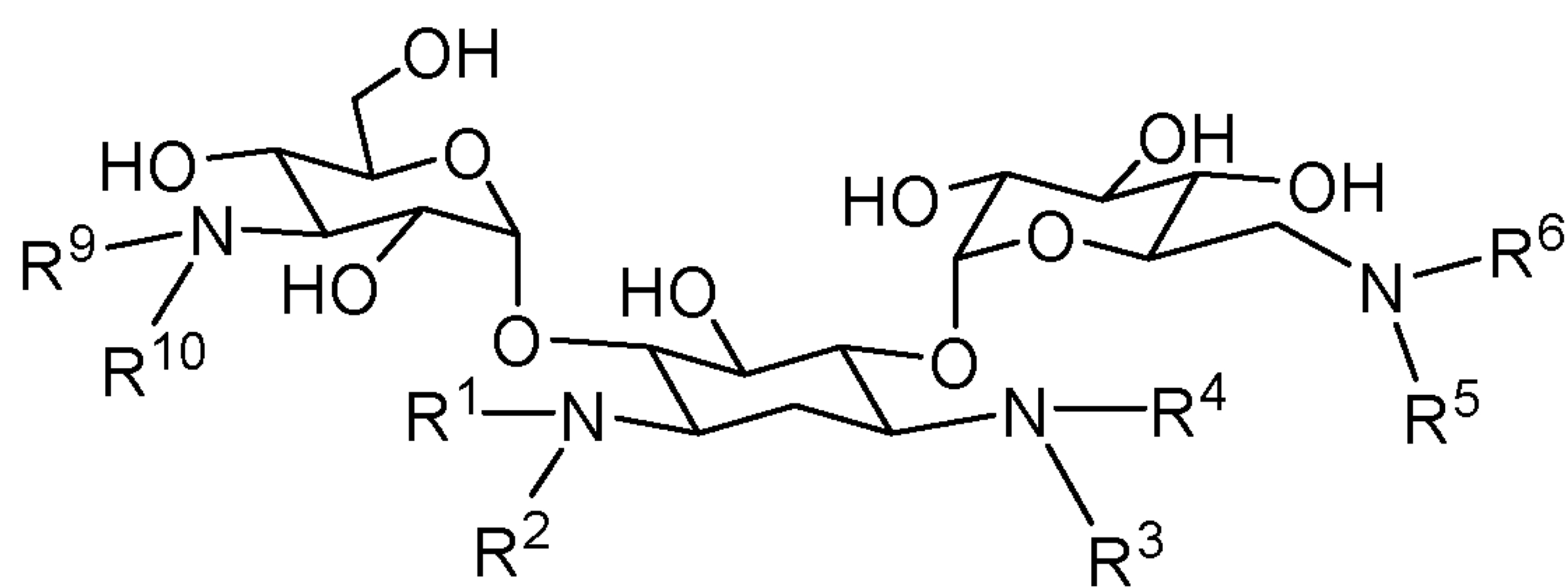
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In some embodiments, “ $\sim$ ” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides, one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit that provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)).

In some embodiments, the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

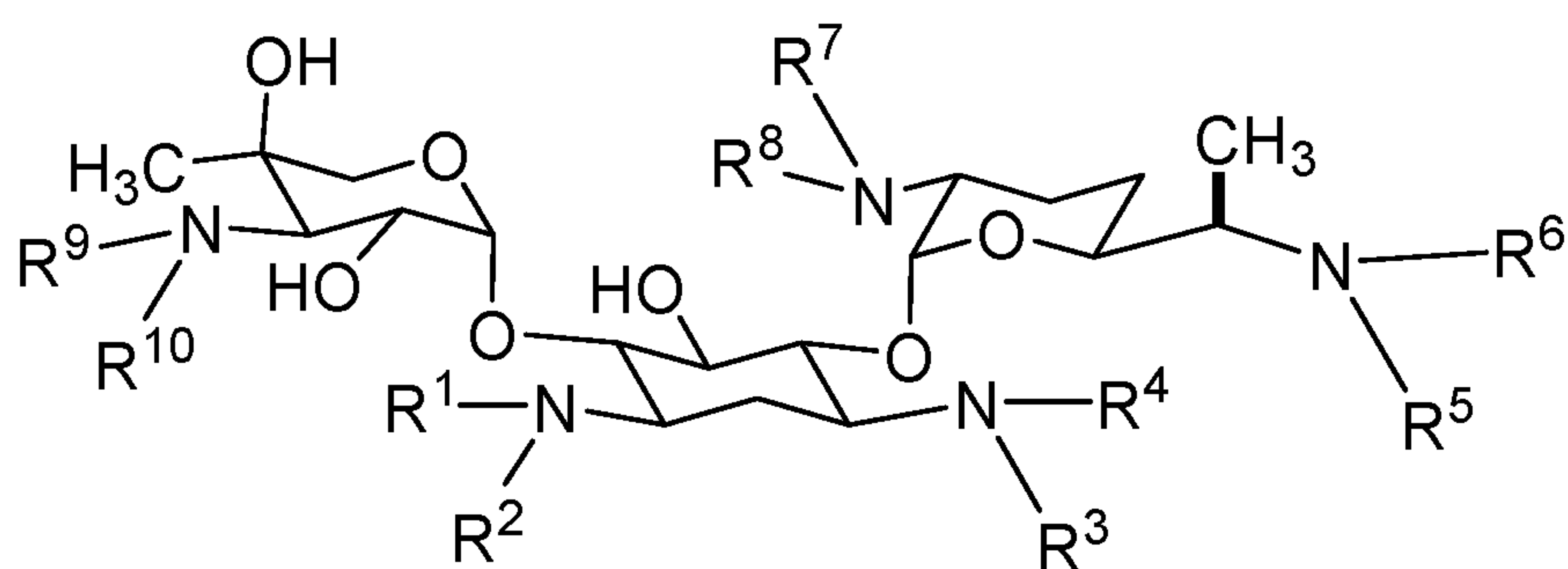
In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises the structure of Formula II:



Formula II

wherein the variables are as described elsewhere herein.

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises the structure of Formula III:

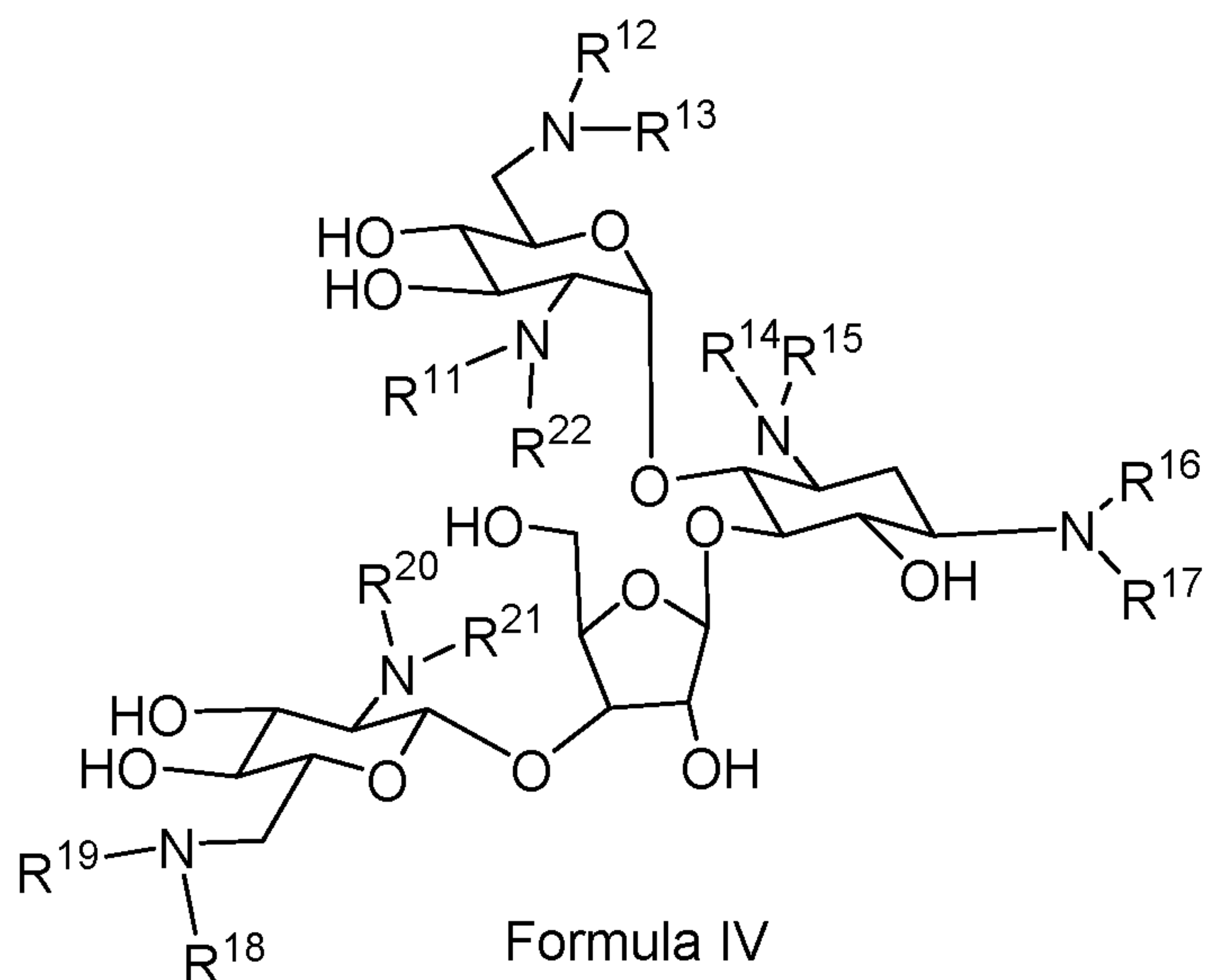


Formula III

5

wherein the variables are as described elsewhere herein.

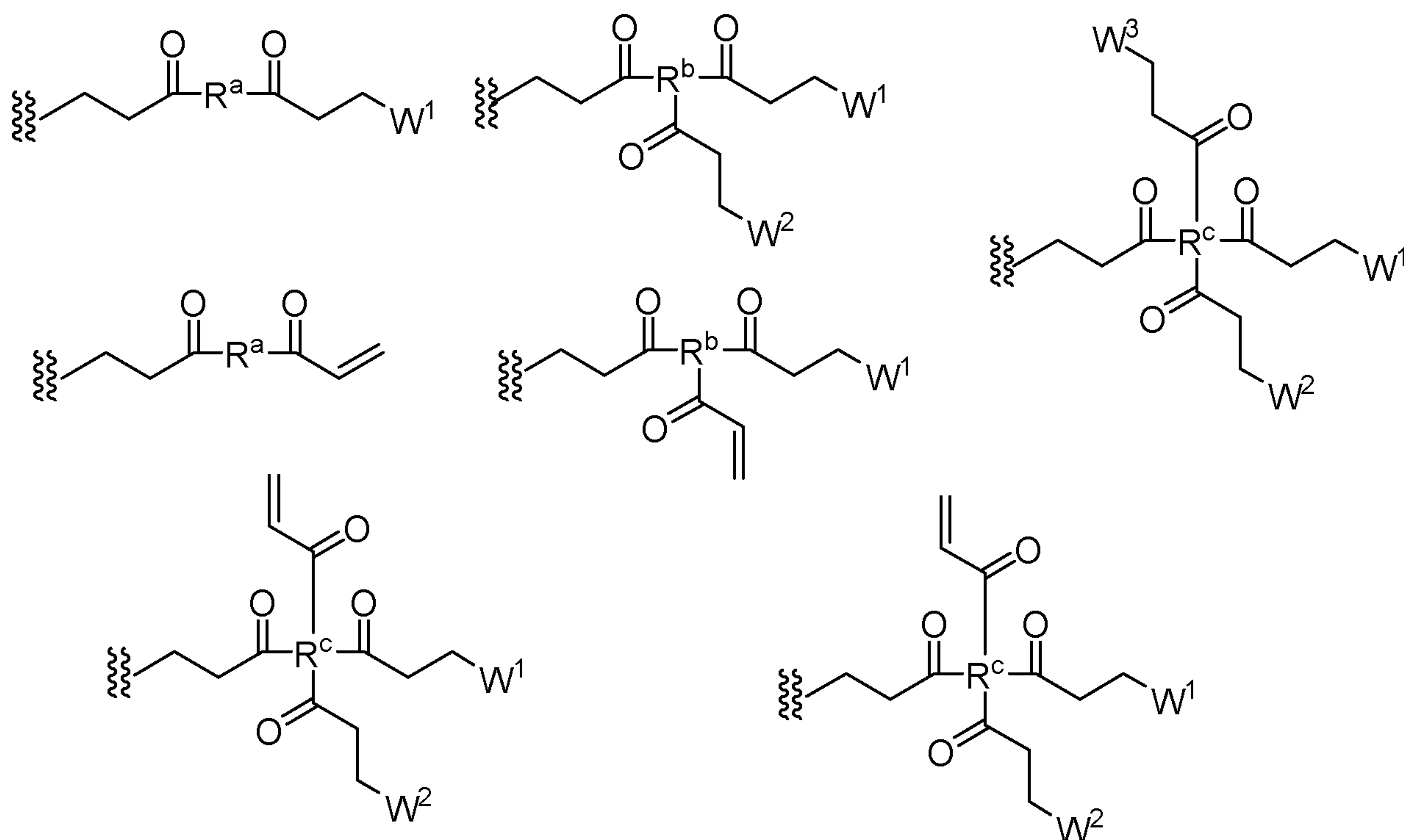
Some embodiments pertain to a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising a first aminoglycoside with the structure of Formula IV:

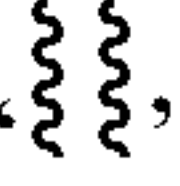


Formula IV

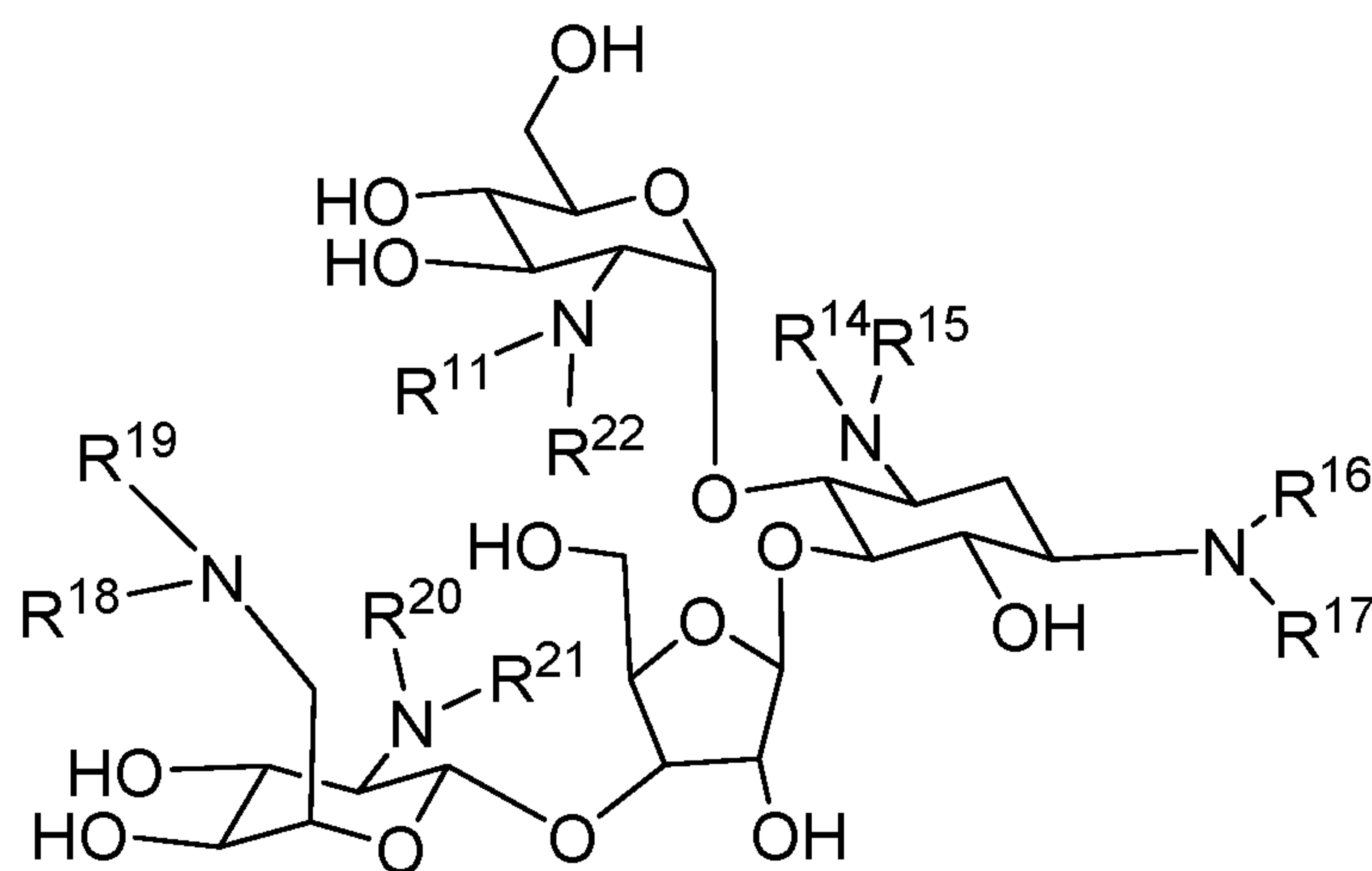
10

In some embodiments, R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are independently selected from -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit. In some embodiments, at least one of R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} is a covalent bond to one or more linking units selected from the following:



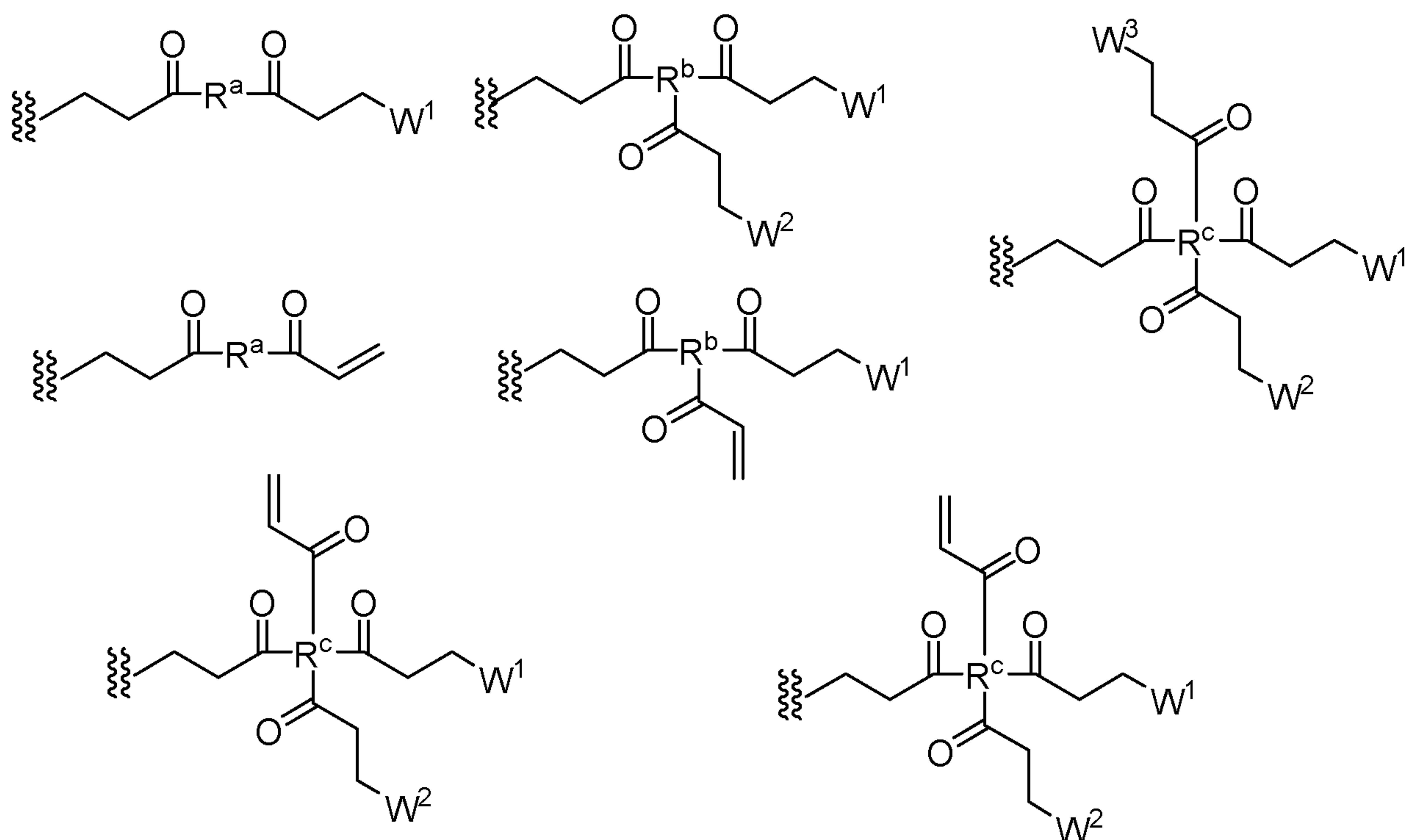
wherein “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, W¹, W², or W³, where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides, one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit that provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, R^a, R^b, and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)). In some embodiments, the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X¹ is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

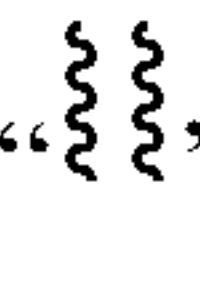
Some embodiments pertain to a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising a first aminoglycoside with the structure of Formula V:



Formula V

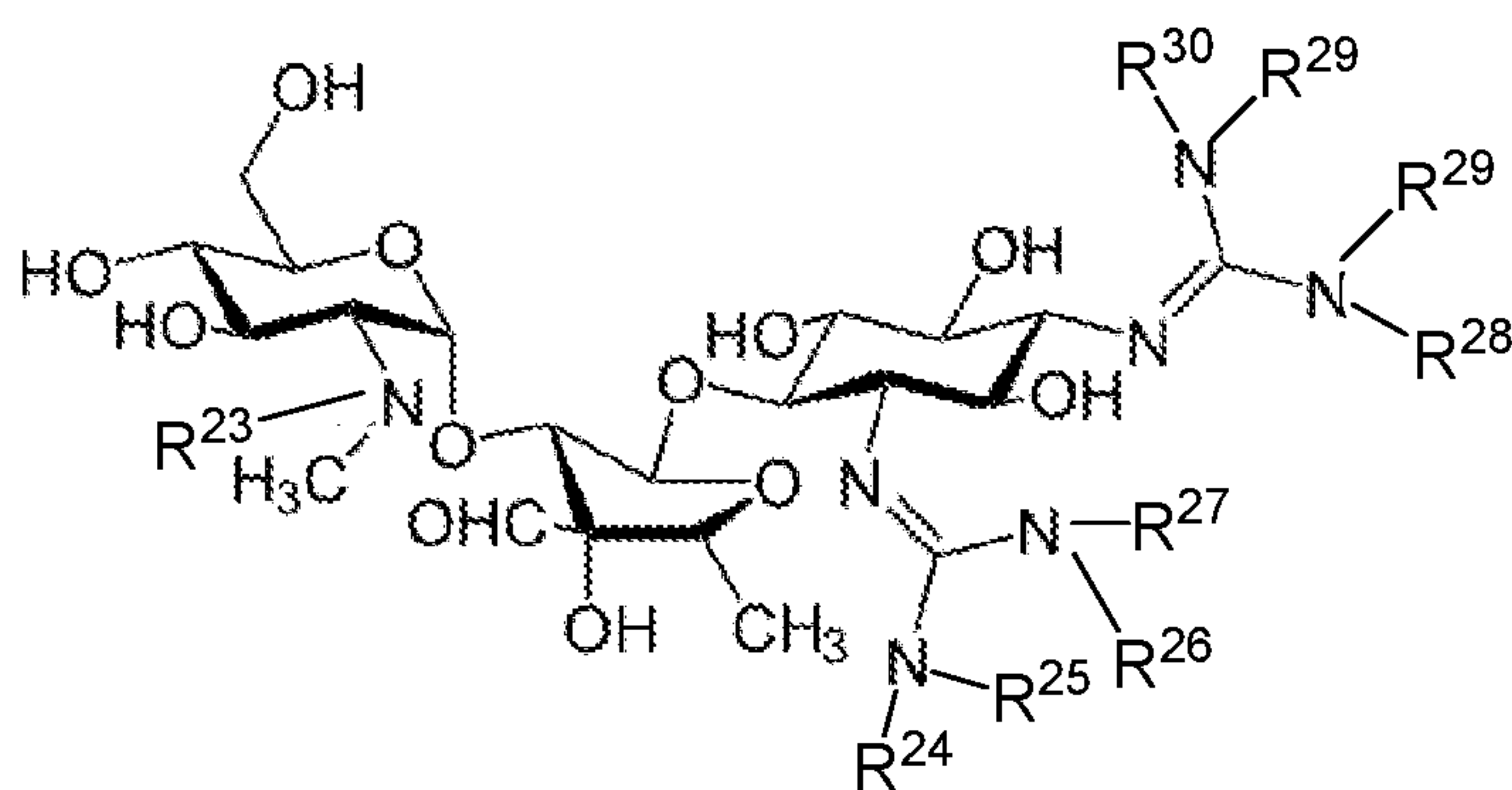
In some embodiments, R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are
 5 independently selected from -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted
 polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally
 substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, or a
 covalent bond to a linking unit. In some embodiments, at least one of R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} ,
 R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} is a covalent bond to one or more linking units selected from
 10 the following:



In some embodiments, “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides, one or more end-capping substituents, and at least one linking unit that provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)).

In some embodiments, the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

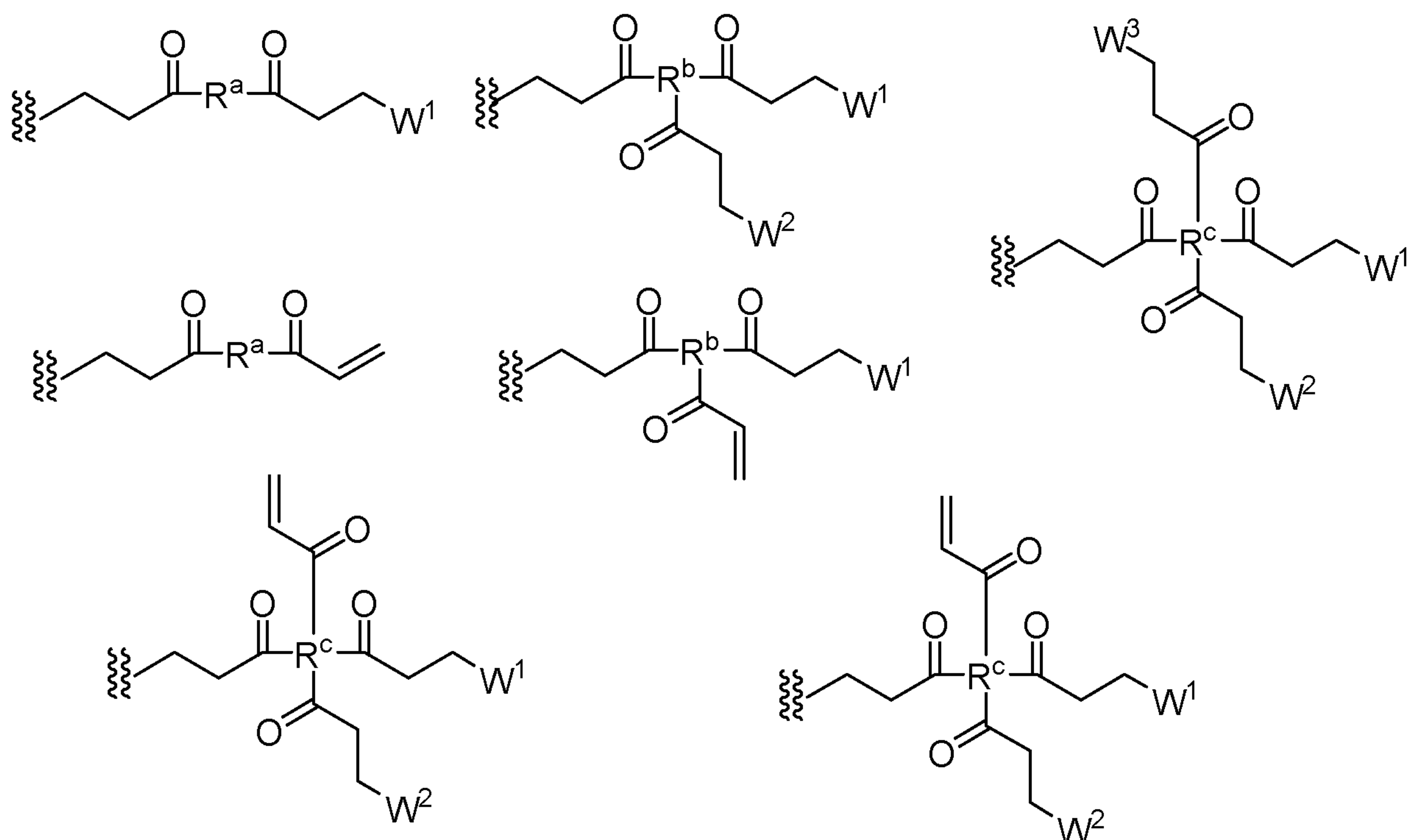
Some embodiments pertain to a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside of Formula VI:



Formula VI

In some embodiments, R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{28} , R^{29} , and R^{30} are independently selected from -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, or a covalent bond to a linking unit.

In some embodiments, at least one of R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{28} , R^{29} , and R^{30} is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



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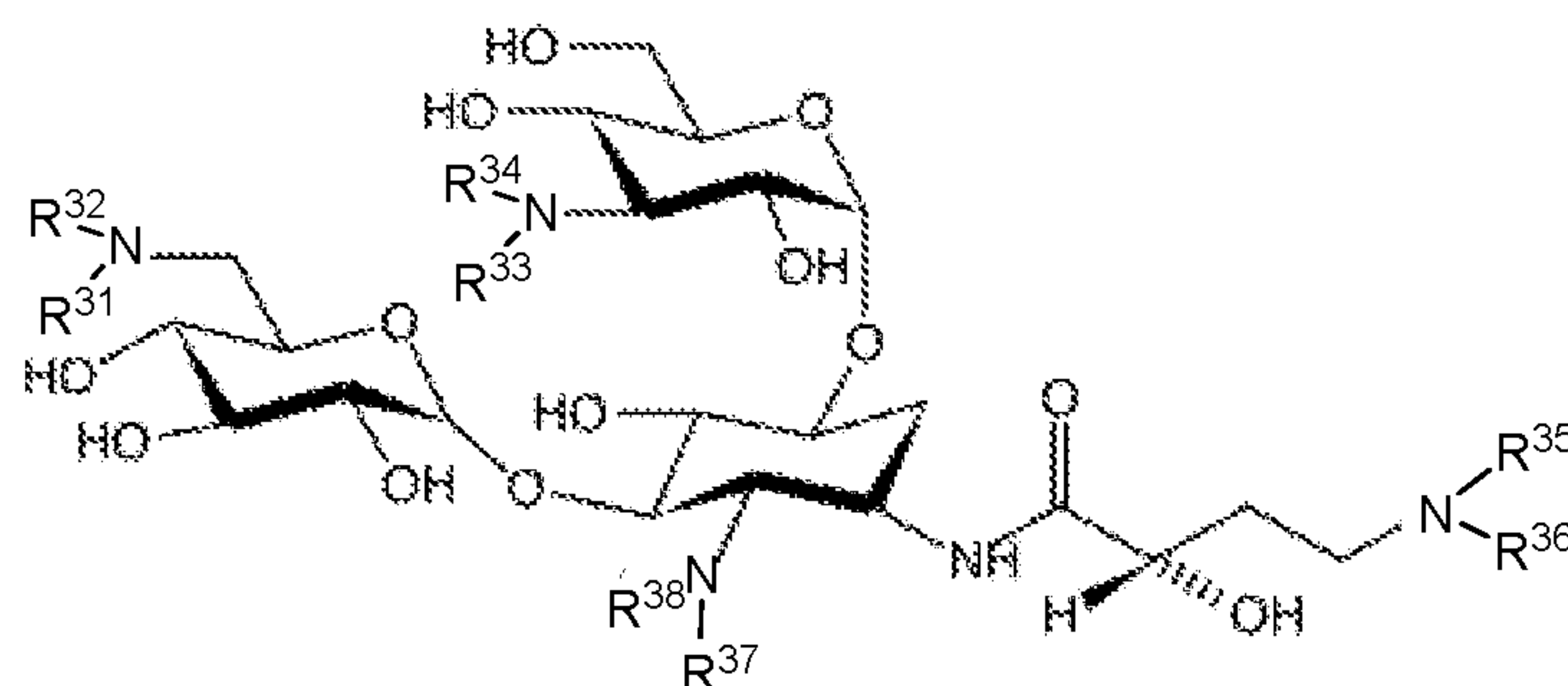
In some embodiments, “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides, one or more end-capping substituents, and at least one

linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s))

In some embodiments, the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

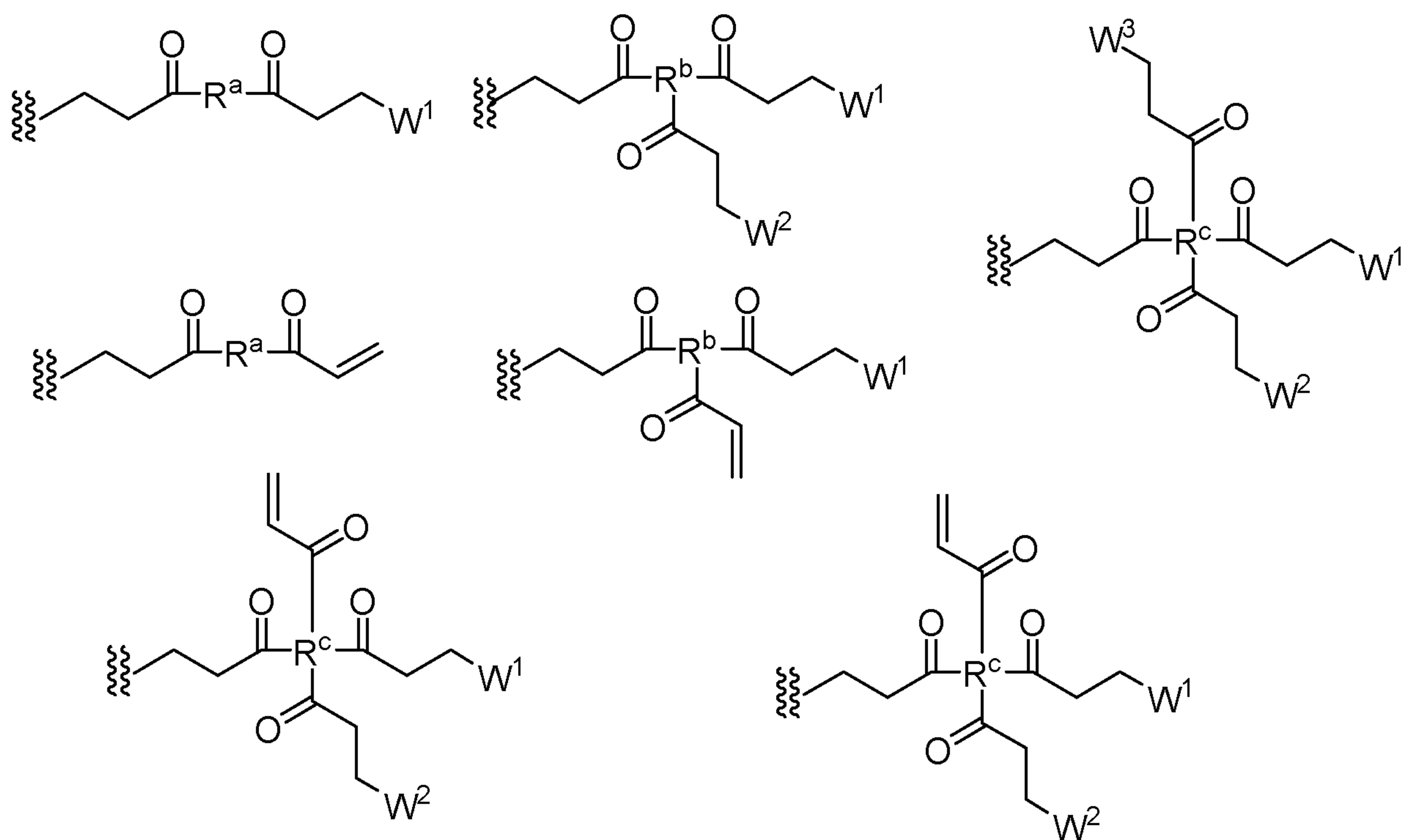
Some embodiments pertain to a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising an aminoglycoside of Formula VII:



Formula VII

In some embodiments, R^{31} , R^{32} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , and R^{38} are independently selected from the group consisting of $-H$, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit.

In some embodiments, at least one of R^{31} , R^{32} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , and R^{38} a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



In some embodiments, “ $\sim$ ” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides, one or more end-capping substituents, and at least one linking unit that provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)).

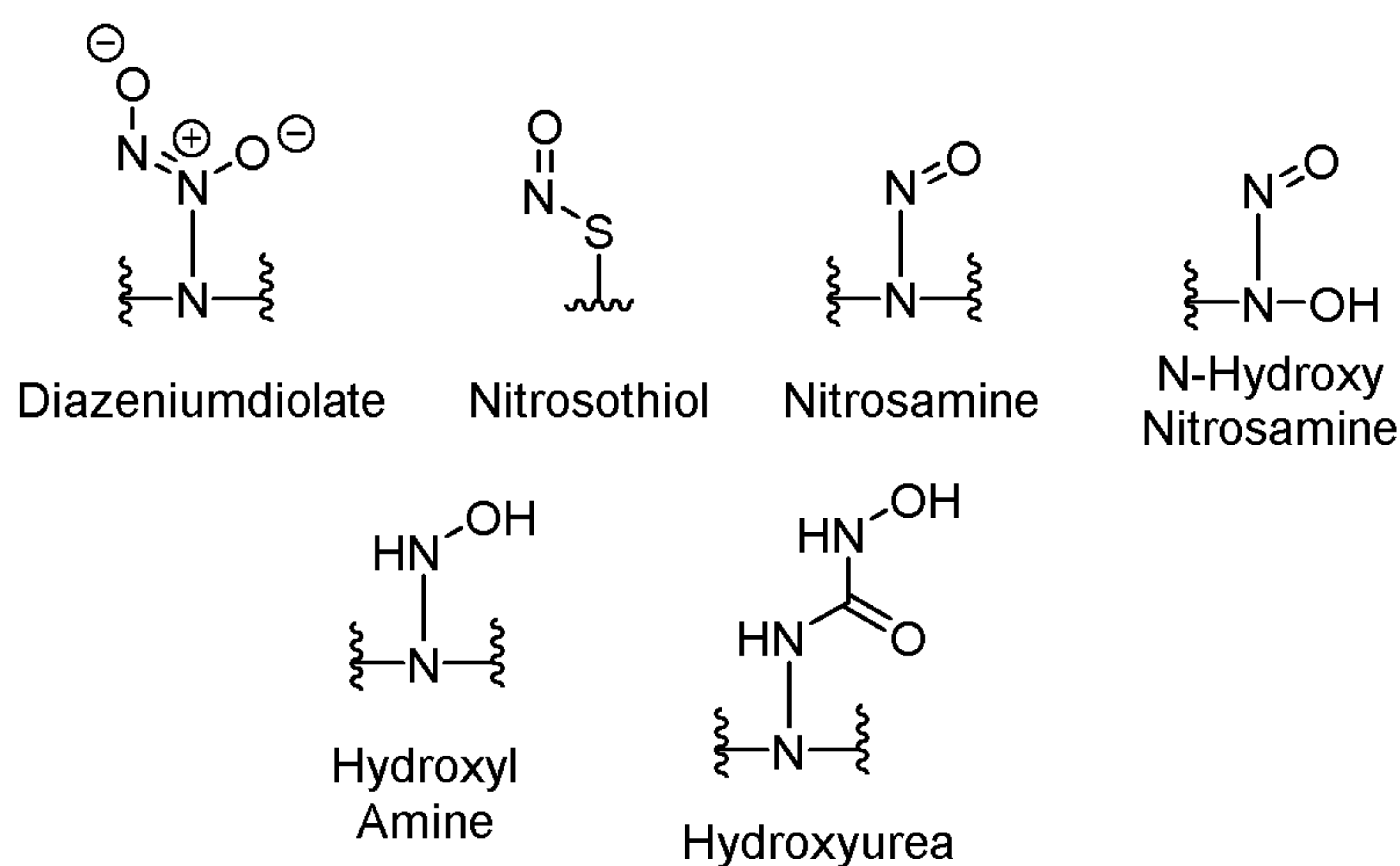
In some embodiments, the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises multiple different aminoglycosides, for example, units of Formulae I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises kanamycin-based units, amikacin-based units, tobramycin-based units, dibekacin-based units, gentamicin-based units, sisomicin-based units, netilmicin-based units,

neomycin-based units (neomycin B and/or C), paramomycin-based units (neomycin E), streptomycin-based units, and combinations thereof.

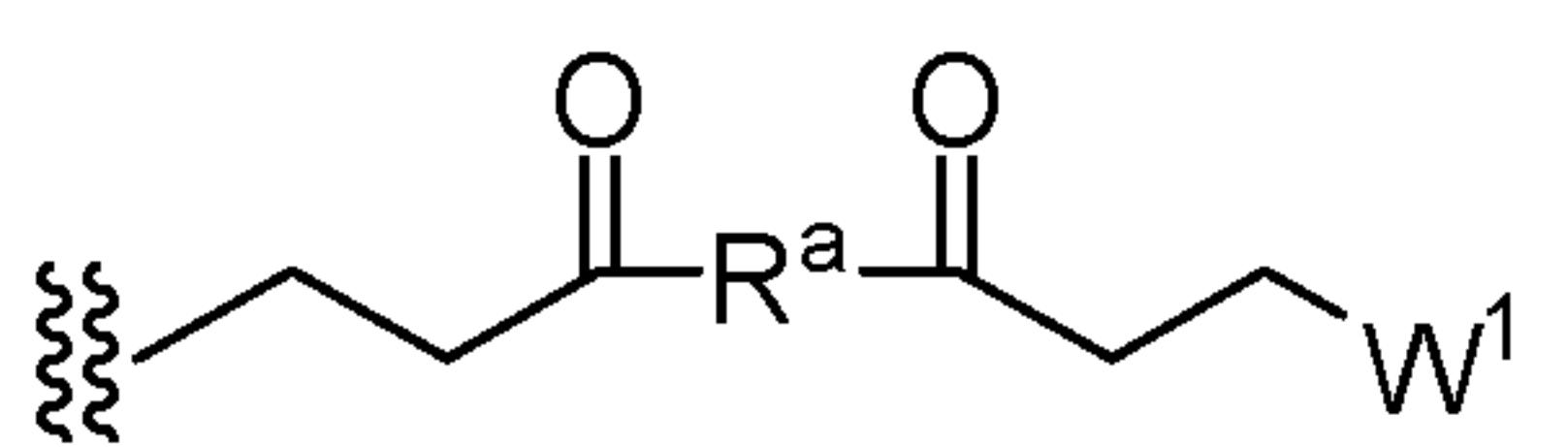
Any of the embodiments described above, or described elsewhere herein, can include one or more of the following features.

- 5 In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside further comprises a NO-donating group. In some embodiments, the NO donating group is selected from the group consisting of:



where “ $\sim$ ” indicates attachment to other atoms within the hyperbranched aminoglycoside. In some embodiments, the NO donating group is a diazeniumdiolate.

In some embodiments, the linking unit is:



In some embodiments, the R^a is $-\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-$. In some embodiments, the W^1 is the second aminoglycoside.

- 15 In some embodiments, any one of R^1 to R^{38} are independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{H}$, or a covalent bond to a linking unit.

In some embodiments, the end-capping substituents, where present, are $-\text{NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2$ or $-\text{NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$.

- 20 Some embodiments pertain to a method for preparing the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides described above or elsewhere herein. In some embodiments, the method comprises contacting the first aminoglycoside with a multifunctional polymerizing

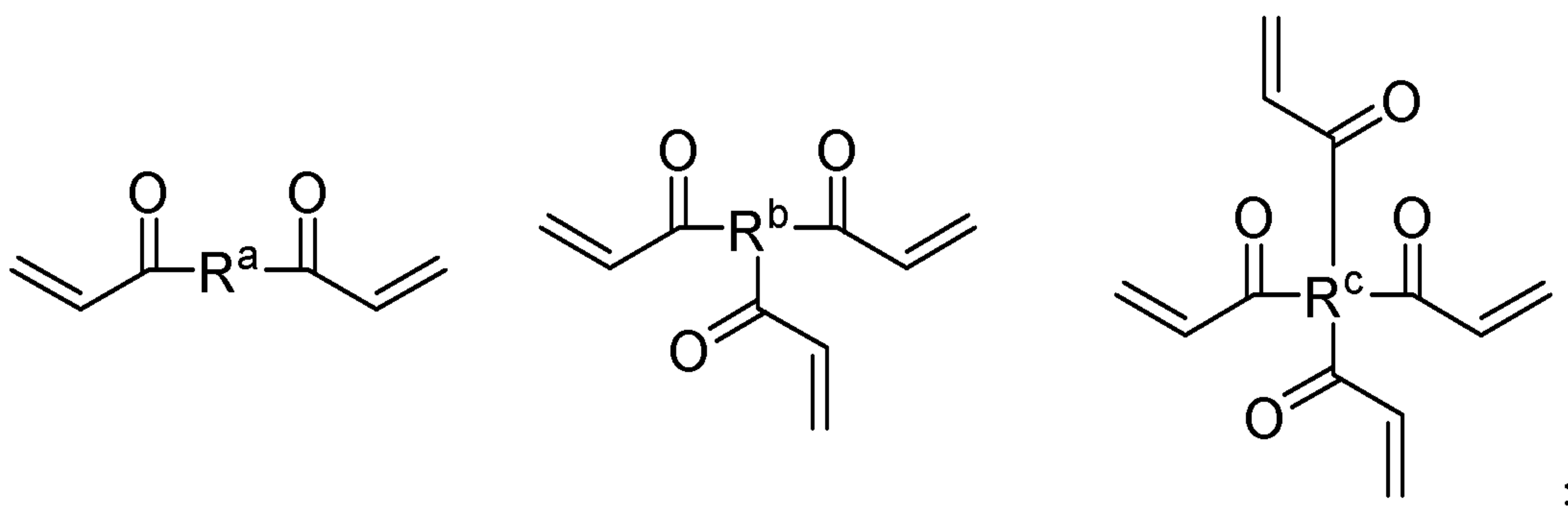
agent and one or more additional aminoglycosides to form a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, the method comprises adding an end-capping agent to the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside to covalently cap any unreacted functionalities on the polymerizing agent.

In some embodiments, the method comprises exposing the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside to NO to provide a NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside. In some embodiments, the NO exposing step is carried out in alkaline conditions.

In some embodiments of the method, the polymerizing agent comprises a bifunctional, trifunctional, or tetrafunctional molecule. In some embodiments of the method, the polymerizing agent comprises a Michael acceptor. In some embodiments of the method, the polymerizing agent comprises a diacrylate, a triacrylate, or a tetraacrylate. In some embodiments of the method, polymerizing agent comprises one or more of N,N'-methylenebis(acrylamide), ethylene glycol diacrylate, propane diol diacrylate, butandiol diacrylate, trimethylolpropane triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, glycerol propoxylate (1PO/OH) triacrylate, or trimethylolpropane propoxylate triacrylate.

In some embodiments of the method, polymerizing agent comprises one or more of the following structures:



wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), and/or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)).

In some embodiments of the method, the polymerizing agent is N,N'-methylenebis(acrylamide).

In some embodiments of the method, the end-capping agent comprises one or more of $H_2N-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-H$, $H_2N-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, $H_2N-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, and

HX¹-((CH₂)_aX²)_b((CH₂)_cX³)_d-(CH₂)_eH. In some embodiments of the method, each instance of a, b, c, d, or e is independently selected from an integer from 0 to 10. In some embodiments of the method, each instance of X¹, X², and X³ is independently selected from O, S, or NH. In some embodiments of the method, the end-capping agent comprises
 5 H₂NCH₂CH₂NH₂ and/or H₂NCH₂CH₂OH.

Some embodiments pertain to a method of decreasing microbial contamination. In some embodiments of the method, the method comprises contacting a surface contaminated with a plurality of microbes with a compound comprising a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an
 10 amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor. In some embodiments of the method, the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes.

In some embodiments, the plurality of microbes comprises one or more of viruses, gram positive bacteria, gram negative bacteria, drug resistant bacteria, molds, yeasts, fungi,
 15 and combinations thereof.

In several embodiments, the surface comprises an organic surface. In some embodiments of the method, the surface is human skin or animal skin. In some embodiments of the method, the surface is in the mouth, or surrounding tissues (e.g., lips, nasal nares, teeth, gums, etc.). In several embodiments, the surface comprises the oral
 20 mucosa. Advantageously, in some embodiments of the method, the application step does not induce skin or tissue irritation.

In some embodiments, the surface comprises an inorganic surface. In some embodiments of the method, the inorganic surface is an external or internal surface of a medical device. In some embodiments, the device is a dental device, including, but not
 25 limited to, dental tools, dental implants, dental fixtures, etc.

In some embodiments, the microbial load comprises drug-resistant bacteria. In some embodiments of the method, the microbial load comprises one or more dental pathogens. In some embodiments, the microbial load comprises one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S.*
 30 *mutans*.

In several embodiments of the method, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as described above or elsewhere herein.

Some embodiments pertain to a method of treating and/or preventing dental caries. In several embodiments, the method comprises contacting the surface of a patient's mouth that is contaminated with one or more dental pathogens with a compound comprising a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched
5 polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor. In some embodiments of the method, the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the pathogens, thereby reducing the number of viable pathogens, and consequently reducing formation or progression of dental caries. In some embodiments of the method, the microbial load
10 comprises one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans*. In some embodiments of the method, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as described above or elsewhere herein.

Some embodiments pertain to the use of a compound in the preparation of a medicament for decreasing microbial contamination. In some embodiments, the compound
15 comprises a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor. In some embodiments the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes. In some embodiments, the compound is
20 formulated to treat a plurality of microbes comprising one or more of viruses, gram positive bacteria, gram negative bacteria, drug resistant bacteria, molds, yeasts, fungi, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, the compound is formulated to be delivered to an organic surface. In some embodiments, the compound is formulated to be delivered to human skin or animal skin. In some embodiments, the surface is in the mouth. In some
25 embodiments, the compound is formulated to be delivered to an inorganic surface. In some embodiments, the surface is an external or internal surface of a medical device. In some embodiments, the device is a dental device. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as disclosed above or elsewhere herein.

Some embodiments pertain to a compound comprising a nitric oxide releasing
30 hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor; wherein the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a representation of an embodiment of a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside structure.

5 Fig. 2 shows structural representations of several aminoglycosides: kanamycin, amikacin, tobramycin, dibekacin, gentamicin, sisomicin, netilmicin, neomycins (B and C), paramomycin (neomycin E), and streptomycin.

Figs. 3A-3E show ^1H NMR spectra for hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides: A) HPKA; B) HPNE; C) HPGE; D) HPKA-EDA; and E) HPKA-MEA.

10 Figs. 4A-4E show FTIR spectra for hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides: A) HPKA; B) HPNE; C) HPGE; D) HPKA-EDA; and E) HPKA-MEA.

Figs. 5A-5E show quantitative ^{13}C NMR spectra for hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides: A) HPKA; B) HPNE; C) HPGE; D) HPKA-EDA; and E) HPKA-MEA.

15 Fig. 6 is a representative UV-vis spectra for: HPKA (black); and HPKA/NO (red showing a shoulder at 248 nm).

Fig. 7 shows the cumulative nitric oxide release from: HPKA/NO (black); HPKA-EDA/NO (red); HPKA-MEA/NO (green), and scheme for the intramolecular hydrogen bonding formation.

20 Figs. 8A and 8B show confocal fluorescence images for visualizing the real-time antimicrobial behavior of A) HPKA /NO (0.1 mg mL^{-1}); B) HPKA-MEA/NO (0.1 mg mL^{-1}) against *S. mutans*. Green fluorescence represents for DAF-2DA, and red fluorescence represents for PI. Scale bar = $20 \mu\text{m}$.

25 Figs. 9A and 9B show percent viability of human gingival fibroblasts following 2 h exposure to: A) control and B) NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

General

30 Aminoglycosides are polyamines that can be used as antimicrobial agents. Some embodiments described herein pertain to polyaminoglycosides for use as antimicrobial agents. In some embodiments, the polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein are functionalized with nitric oxide (NO) binding moieties and can be used as a platform for NO generation/release. In some embodiments, the polyaminoglycosides are hyperbranched.

Certain embodiments disclosed herein pertain to hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides with bactericidal and/or antimicrobial activity. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprise NO binding moieties. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides can be reacted with nitric oxide (NO) gas or some other NO donor to yield NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are biodegradable and/or biocompatible. While hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are used as exemplary structures herein, it should be appreciated that linear polyaminoglycosides (e.g., non-hyperbranched) are also used, according to several embodiments.

Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this subject matter belongs. The terminology used in the description of the subject matter herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting of the subject matter.

As used herein, “and/or” refers to and encompasses any and all possible combinations of one or more of the associated listed items, as well as the lack of combinations when interpreted in the alternative (“or”).

As used herein, the term “about,” when referring to a measurable value such as an amount of a compound or agent of the current subject matter, dose, time, temperature, bactericidal efficacy, and the like, is meant to encompass variations of $\pm 20\%$, $\pm 10\%$, $\pm 5\%$, $\pm 1\%$, $\pm 0.5\%$, or even $\pm 0.1\%$ of the specified amount.

The term “effective amount,” as used herein, refers to that amount of a recited compound that imparts a modulating effect, which, for example, can be a beneficial effect, to a subject afflicted with a disorder, disease or illness, including improvement in the condition of the subject (e.g., in one or more symptoms), delay or reduction in the progression of the condition, prevention or delay of the onset of the disorder, and/or change in clinical parameters, disease or illness, etc., as would be well known in the art. For example, an effective amount can refer to the amount of a composition, compound, or agent that improves a condition in a subject by at least 5%, e.g., at least 10%, at least 15%, at least 20%, at least 25%, at least 30%, at least 35%, at least 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 100%. In some embodiments, an improvement in a condition can be a reduction in infection. In some embodiments, an

improvement can be reduction of bacterial load (e.g., bioburden) on a surface or in a subject. Actual dosage levels of active ingredients in an active composition of the presently disclosed subject matter can be varied so as to administer an amount of the active compound(s) that is effective to achieve the desired response for a particular subject and/or application. The selected dosage level will depend upon a variety of factors including, but not limited to, the activity of the composition, formulation, route of administration, combination with other drugs or treatments, severity of the condition being treated, and the physical condition and prior medical history of the subject being treated. In some embodiments, a minimal dose is administered, and dose is escalated in the absence of dose-limiting toxicity to a minimally effective amount. Determination and adjustment of an effective dose, as well as evaluation of when and how to make such adjustments, are contemplated herein.

“Treat” or “treating” or “treatment” refers to any type of action that imparts a modulating effect, which, for example, can be a beneficial effect, to a subject afflicted with a disorder, disease or illness, including improvement in the condition of the subject (e.g., in one or more symptoms), delay or reduction in the progression of the condition, and/or change in clinical parameters, disease or illness, curing the illness, etc.

The terms “nitric oxide donor” or “NO donor” refer to species and/or molecules that donate, release and/or directly or indirectly transfer a nitric oxide species, and/or stimulate the endogenous production of nitric oxide in vivo and/or elevate endogenous levels of nitric oxide in vivo such that the biological activity of the nitric oxide species is expressed at the intended site of action.

The term “nitric oxide releasing” refers to species that donate, release and/or directly or indirectly transfer any one (or two or more) of the three redox forms of nitrogen monoxide (NO⁺, NO[−], NO) and/or methods of donating, releasing and/or directly or indirectly transferring any one (or two or more) of the three redox forms of nitrogen monoxide (NO⁺, NO[−], NO). In some embodiments, the nitric oxide releasing is accomplished such that the biological activity of the nitrogen monoxide species is expressed at the intended site of action.

The term “microbial infection” as used herein refers to bacterial, fungal, viral, yeast infections, as well other microorganisms, and combinations thereof.

The “patient” or “subject” treated as disclosed herein is, in some embodiments, a human patient, although it is to be understood that the principles of the presently disclosed

subject matter indicate that the presently disclosed subject matter is effective with respect to all vertebrate species, including mammals, which are intended to be included in the terms “subject” and “patient.” Suitable subjects are generally mammalian subjects. The subject matter described herein finds use in research as well as veterinary and medical applications.

5 The term “mammal” as used herein includes, but is not limited to, humans, non-human primates, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, cats, dog, rabbits, rodents (e.g., rats or mice), monkeys, etc. Human subjects include neonates, infants, juveniles, adults and geriatric subjects.

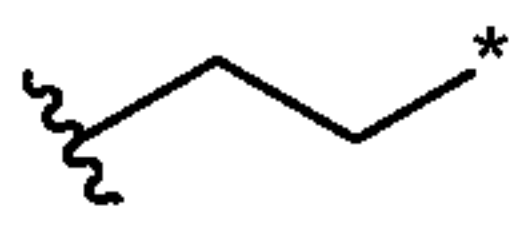
As used herein, the term “functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside” refers
10 to a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside material which contains one or more modified units (e.g., covalently end-capped with non-aminoglycoside moieties). Such “functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides” may or may not have a nitric oxide donor moiety attached.

The term “amino” and “amine” refer to nitrogen-containing groups such as NR_3 ,
15 NH_3 , NHR_2 , and NH_2R , wherein R can be as described elsewhere herein. Thus, “amino” as used herein can refer to a primary amine, a secondary amine, or a tertiary amine. In some embodiments, one R of an amino group can be a diazeniumdiolate (i.e., NONO).

Whenever a group is described as being “optionally substituted” that group may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the indicated substituents. Likewise, when
20 a group is described as being “unsubstituted or substituted” if substituted, the substituent(s) may be selected from one or more the indicated substituents. If no substituents are indicated, it is meant that the indicated “optionally substituted” or “substituted” group may be substituted with one or more group(s) individually and independently selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, aryl(alkyl),
25 cycloalkyl(alkyl), heteroaryl(alkyl), heterocyclyl(alkyl), hydroxy, alkoxy, acyl, cyano, halogen, thiocarbonyl, O-carbamyl, N-carbamyl, C-amido, N-amido, S-sulfonamido, N-sulfonamido, C-carboxy, O-carboxy, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, an amino, a mono-substituted amine group, a di-substituted amine group, a mono-substituted amine(alkyl), a di-substituted amine(alkyl), a diamino- group, a diether-, a polyamino-, and
30 a polyether-.

As used herein, the term “alkyl” refers to a fully saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon group. The alkyl moiety may be branched or straight chain. Examples of branched alkyl groups include, but are not limited to, iso-propyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl and the like. Examples

of straight chain alkyl groups include, but are not limited to, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl and the like. The alkyl group may have 1 to 30 carbon atoms (whenever it appears herein, a numerical range such as “1 to 30” refers to each integer in the given range; *e.g.*, “1 to 30 carbon atoms” means that the alkyl group may
 5 consist of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, *etc.*, up to and including 30 carbon atoms, although the present definition also covers the occurrence of the term “alkyl” where no numerical range is designated). The alkyl group may also be a medium size alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms. The alkyl group could also be a lower alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms. An alkyl group may be substituted or unsubstituted. By way of example only, “C₁-C₅ alkyl”
 10 indicates that there are one to five carbon atoms in the alkyl chain, *i.e.*, the alkyl chain is selected from methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, pentyl (branched and straight-chained), *etc.* Typical alkyl groups include, but are in no way limited to, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, tertiary butyl, pentyl and hexyl.

As used herein, the term “alkylene” refers to a bivalent fully saturated straight chain
 15 aliphatic hydrocarbon group. Examples of alkylene groups include, but are not limited to, methylene, ethylene, propylene, butylene, pentylene, hexylene, heptylene and octylene. An alkylene group may be represented by , followed by the number of carbon atoms, followed by a “*”. For example,  to represent ethylene. The alkylene group may have 1 to 30 carbon atoms (whenever it appears herein, a numerical range such as “1 to 30” refers to each integer in the given range; *e.g.*, “1 to 30 carbon atoms” means that the alkyl
 20 group may consist of 1 carbon atom, 2 carbon atoms, 3 carbon atoms, *etc.*, up to and including 30 carbon atoms, although the present definition also covers the occurrence of the term “alkylene” where no numerical range is designated). The alkylene group may also be a medium size alkyl having 1 to 12 carbon atoms. The alkylene group could also be a
 25 lower alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms. An alkylene group may be substituted or unsubstituted. For example, a lower alkylene group can be substituted by replacing one or more hydrogen of the lower alkylene group and/or by substituting both hydrogens on the

same carbon with a C₃₋₆ monocyclic cycloalkyl group (*e.g.*, ).

The term “alkenyl” used herein refers to a monovalent straight or branched chain
 30 radical of from two to twenty carbon atoms containing a carbon double bond(s) including,

but not limited to, 1-propenyl, 2-propenyl, 2-methyl-1-propenyl, 1-butenyl, 2-butenyl and the like. An alkenyl group may be unsubstituted or substituted.

The term “alkynyl” used herein refers to a monovalent straight or branched chain radical of from two to twenty carbon atoms containing a carbon triple bond(s) including,
5 but not limited to, 1-propynyl, 1-butyne, 2-butyne and the like. An alkynyl group may be unsubstituted or substituted.

As used herein, “cycloalkyl” refers to a completely saturated (no double or triple bonds) mono- or multi- cyclic (such as bicyclic) hydrocarbon ring system. When composed of two or more rings, the rings may be joined together in a fused, bridged or spiro fashion.
10 As used herein, the term “fused” refers to two rings which have two atoms and one bond in common. As used herein, the term “bridged cycloalkyl” refers to compounds wherein the cycloalkyl contains a linkage of one or more atoms connecting non-adjacent atoms. As used herein, the term “spiro” refers to two rings which have one atom in common and the two rings are not linked by a bridge. Cycloalkyl groups can contain 3 to 30 atoms in the ring(s),
15 3 to 20 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 10 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 8 atoms in the ring(s) or 3 to 6 atoms in the ring(s). A cycloalkyl group may be unsubstituted or substituted. Examples of mono-cycloalkyl groups include, but are in no way limited to, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl and cyclooctyl. Examples of fused cycloalkyl groups are decahydronaphthalenyl, dodecahydro-1H-phenalenyl and tetradecahydroanthracenyl;
20 examples of bridged cycloalkyl groups are bicyclo[1.1.1]pentyl, adamantanyl and norbornanyl; and examples of spiro cycloalkyl groups include spiro[3.3]heptane and spiro[4.5]decane.

As used herein, “cycloalkenyl” refers to a mono- or multi- cyclic (such as bicyclic) hydrocarbon ring system that contains one or more double bonds in at least one ring;
25 although, if there is more than one, the double bonds cannot form a fully delocalized pi-electron system throughout all the rings (otherwise the group would be “aryl,” as defined herein). Cycloalkenyl groups can contain 3 to 10 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 8 atoms in the ring(s) or 3 to 6 atoms in the ring(s). When composed of two or more rings, the rings may be connected together in a fused, bridged or spiro fashion. A cycloalkenyl group may be
30 unsubstituted or substituted.

As used herein, “aryl” refers to a carbocyclic (all carbon) monocyclic or polycyclic (such as bicyclic) aromatic ring system (including fused ring systems where two carbocyclic rings share a chemical bond) that has a fully delocalized pi-electron system throughout all

the rings. The number of carbon atoms in an aryl group can vary. For example, the aryl group can be a C₆-C₁₄ aryl group, a C₆-C₁₀ aryl group or a C₆ aryl group. Examples of aryl groups include, but are not limited to, benzene, naphthalene and azulene. An aryl group may be substituted or unsubstituted.

5 As used herein, “heteroaryl” refers to a monocyclic or multicyclic (such as bicyclic) aromatic ring system (a ring system with fully delocalized pi-electron system) that contain(s) one or more heteroatoms (for example, 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms), that is, an element other than carbon, including but not limited to, nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur. The number of atoms in the ring(s) of a heteroaryl group can vary. For example, the heteroaryl
10 group can contain 4 to 14 atoms in the ring(s), 5 to 10 atoms in the ring(s) or 5 to 6 atoms in the ring(s), such as nine carbon atoms and one heteroatom; eight carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; seven carbon atoms and three heteroatoms; eight carbon atoms and one heteroatom; seven carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; six carbon atoms and three heteroatoms; five carbon atoms and four heteroatoms; five carbon atoms and one
15 heteroatom; four carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; three carbon atoms and three heteroatoms; four carbon atoms and one heteroatom; three carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; or two carbon atoms and three heteroatoms. Furthermore, the term “heteroaryl” includes fused ring systems where two rings, such as at least one aryl ring and at least one heteroaryl ring or at least two heteroaryl rings, share at least one chemical
20 bond. Examples of heteroaryl rings include, but are not limited to, furan, furazan, thiophene, benzothiophene, phthalazine, pyrrole, oxazole, benzoxazole, 1,2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, thiazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole, benzothiazole, imidazole, benzimidazole, indole, indazole, pyrazole, benzopyrazole, isoxazole, benzoisoxazole, isothiazole, triazole, benzotriazole, thiadiazole, tetrazole, pyridine, pyridazine, pyrimidine,
25 pyrazine, purine, pteridine, quinoline, isoquinoline, quinazoline, quinoxaline, cinnoline and triazine. A heteroaryl group may be substituted or unsubstituted.

As used herein, “heterocyclyl” or “heteroalicyclyl” refers to three-, four-, five-, six-, seven-, eight-, nine-, ten-, up to 18-membered monocyclic, bicyclic and tricyclic ring system wherein carbon atoms together with from 1 to 5 heteroatoms constitute said ring system. A
30 heterocycle may optionally contain one or more unsaturated bonds situated in such a way, however, that a fully delocalized pi-electron system does not occur throughout all the rings. The heteroatom(s) is an element other than carbon including, but not limited to, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen. A heterocycle may further contain one or more carbonyl or

thiocarbonyl functionalities, so as to make the definition include oxo-systems and thio-systems such as lactams, lactones, cyclic imides, cyclic thioimides and cyclic carbamates. When composed of two or more rings, the rings may be joined together in a fused, bridged or spiro fashion. As used herein, the term “fused” refers to two rings which have two atoms and one bond in common. As used herein, the term “bridged heterocyclyl” or “bridged heteroalicyclyl” refers to compounds wherein the heterocyclyl or heteroalicyclyl contains a linkage of one or more atoms connecting non-adjacent atoms. As used herein, the term “spiro” refers to two rings which have one atom in common and the two rings are not linked by a bridge. Heterocyclyl and heteroalicyclyl groups can contain 3 to 30 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 20 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 10 atoms in the ring(s), 3 to 8 atoms in the ring(s) or 3 to 6 atoms in the ring(s). For example, five carbon atoms and one heteroatom; four carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; three carbon atoms and three heteroatoms; four carbon atoms and one heteroatom; three carbon atoms and two heteroatoms; two carbon atoms and three heteroatoms; one carbon atom and four heteroatoms; three carbon atoms and one heteroatom; or two carbon atoms and one heteroatom. Additionally, any nitrogens in a heteroalicyclic may be quaternized. Heterocyclyl or heteroalicyclic groups may be unsubstituted or substituted. Examples of such “heterocyclyl” or “heteroalicyclyl” groups include but are not limited to, 1,3-dioxin, 1,3-dioxane, 1,4-dioxane, 1,2-dioxolane, 1,3-dioxolane, 1,4-dioxolane, 1,3-oxathiane, 1,4-oxathiin, 1,3-oxathiolane, 1,3-dithiole, 1,3-dithiolane, 1,4-oxathiane, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazine, 2H-1,2-oxazine, maleimide, succinimide, barbituric acid, thiobarbituric acid, dioxopiperazine, hydantoin, dihydrouracil, trioxane, hexahydro-1,3,5-triazine, imidazoline, imidazolidine, isoxazoline, isoxazolidine, oxazoline, oxazolidine, oxazolidinone, thiazoline, thiazolidine, morpholine, oxirane, piperidine N-Oxide, piperidine, piperazine, pyrrolidine, azepane, pyrrolidone, pyrrolidione, 4-piperidone, pyrazoline, pyrazolidine, 2-oxopyrrolidine, tetrahydropyran, 4H-pyran, tetrahydrothiopyran, thiamorpholine, thiamorpholine sulfoxide, thiamorpholine sulfone and their benzo-fused analogs (e.g., benzimidazolidinone, tetrahydroquinoline and/or 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl). Examples of spiro heterocyclyl groups include 2-azaspiro[3.3]heptane, 2-oxaspiro[3.3]heptane, 2-oxa-6-azaspiro[3.3]heptane, 2,6-diazaspiro[3.3]heptane, 2-oxaspiro[3.4]octane and 2-azaspiro[3.4]octane.

As used herein, “aralkyl” and “aryl(alkyl)” refer to an aryl group connected, as a substituent, via a lower alkylene group. The lower alkylene and aryl group of an aralkyl

may be substituted or unsubstituted. Examples include but are not limited to benzyl, 2-phenylalkyl, 3-phenylalkyl and naphthylalkyl.

As used herein, “heteroaralkyl” and “heteroaryl(alkyl)” refer to a heteroaryl group connected, as a substituent, via a lower alkylene group. The lower alkylene and heteroaryl
 5 group of heteroaralkyl may be substituted or unsubstituted. Examples include but are not limited to 2-thienylalkyl, 3-thienylalkyl, furylalkyl, thienylalkyl, pyrrolylalkyl, pyridylalkyl, isoxazolylalkyl and imidazolylalkyl and their benzo-fused analogs.

A “heteroalicycyl(alkyl)” and “heterocycyl(alkyl)” refer to a heterocyclic or a heteroalicyclic group connected, as a substituent, via a lower alkylene group. The lower
 10 alkylene and heterocycyl of a (heteroalicycyl)alkyl may be substituted or unsubstituted. Examples include but are not limited tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl(methyl), piperidin-4-yl(ethyl), piperidin-4-yl(propyl), tetrahydro-2H-thiopyran-4-yl(methyl) and 1,3-thiazinan-4-yl(methyl).

As used herein, the term “hydroxy” refers to a –OH group.

As used herein, “alkoxy” refers to the Formula –OR wherein R is an alkyl, an
 15 alkenyl, an alkynyl, a cycloalkyl, a cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycyl, cycloalkyl(alkyl), aryl(alkyl), heteroaryl(alkyl) or heterocycyl(alkyl) is defined herein. A non-limiting list of alkoxys are methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, 1-methylethoxy (isopropoxy), n-butoxy, iso-butoxy, sec-butoxy, tert-butoxy, phenoxy and benzoxy. An alkoxy may be
 20 substituted or unsubstituted.

As used herein, “acyl” refers to a hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycyl, aryl(alkyl), heteroaryl(alkyl) and heterocycyl(alkyl) connected, as
 substituents, via a carbonyl group. Examples include formyl, acetyl, propanoyl, benzoyl and acryl. An acyl may be substituted or unsubstituted.

25 The term “halogen atom” or “halogen” as used herein, means any one of the radio-stable atoms of column 7 of the Periodic Table of the Elements, such as, fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

As used herein, the term “diamino-” denotes an a “-NR_A(R_B)N(R_C)-” group in
 which R_B and R_C can be independently a hydrogen, an alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkynyl, a
 30 cycloalkyl, a cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycyl, cycloalkyl(alkyl), aryl(alkyl), heteroaryl(alkyl) or heterocycyl(alkyl), as defined herein, and wherein R_A connects the two amino groups and can be (independently of R_B and R_C) an alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkynyl, a cycloalkyl, a cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycyl, cycloalkyl(alkyl), aryl(alkyl),

heteroaryl(alkyl) or heterocyclyl(alkyl). R_A , R_B , and R_C can independently be substituted or unsubstituted.

As used herein, the term “diether-” denotes an a “-OR_DO-” group in which R_D can be independently an alkyl, an alkenyl, an alkynyl, a cycloalkyl, a cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl(alkyl), aryl(alkyl), heteroaryl(alkyl) or heterocyclyl(alkyl), as defined herein, and wherein R_D connects the two O groups. R_D can be optionally substituted or unsubstituted.

As used herein, the term “polyamino” denotes a repeating -N(R_B)alkyl- group. For illustration, the term polyamino can comprise -N(R_B)alkyl-N(R_B)alkyl-N(R_B)alkyl-N(R_B)alkyl-. In some embodiments, the alkyl of the polyamino is as disclosed elsewhere herein. While this example has only 4 repeat units, the term “polyamino” may consist of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 repeat units, where R_B and alkyl are as defined elsewhere herein. As noted here, the polyamino comprises amine groups with intervening alkyl groups (where alkyl is as defined elsewhere herein). A polyamino may terminate with an amine group or as an alkyl where the polyamino is a terminal group, or with as an -N(R_C)- where the polyamino bridges two atoms. For instance, any one of methylenediamino (-NHCH₂NH-), ethylenediamino (-NH(CH₂)₂NH-), etc. are considered a polyamino groups.

As used herein, the term “polyether” denotes a repeating -Oalkyl- group. For illustration, the term polyether can comprise -O-alkyl-O-alkyl -O-alkyl-O-alkyl. A polyether may have up to 10 repeat units, comprising -O- (ethers) with intervening alkyl groups (where alkyl is as defined elsewhere herein). The polyether may terminate with a hydroxy group or as an alkyl where the polyether is a terminal group, or with an -O- where the polyether bridges two atoms.

When a range of integers is given, the range includes any number falling within the range and the numbers defining ends of the range. For example, when the terms “integer from 1 to 20” is used, the integers included in the range are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, etc., up to and including 20.

Nitric Oxide

Nitric oxide (NO) is a broad-spectrum antibacterial agent capable of eradicating both bacteria and biofilms, primarily through the formation of reactive NO byproducts (e.g., peroxynitrite and dinitrogen trioxide) that cause oxidative and nitrosative damage to microbial DNA and/or membrane structures. Advantageously, the wide range of mechanisms by which NO exerts its antibacterial effects reduces the risk that bacteria will

develop resistance. Thus, NO-releasing materials may be good targets to battle bacterial infection. The antibacterial efficacy of NO-releasing materials may be dependent on both NO payloads and associated release kinetics.

Nitric oxide, an endogenously produced diatomic free radical, is associated with numerous biological processes, including platelet aggregation and adhesion, vasodilation, wound repair, the immune response, and carcinogenesis. Deficiency of NO can lead to some degree of malfunction of NO-relevant physiological systems. Exogenous NO delivery may be an effective strategy for the resolution of biomedical therapies ranging from cardiovascular diseases to antibacterial and anticancer therapies. However, the difficulty in regulating gaseous NO for therapeutics warrants the use of assorted synthetic NO donors (e.g., N-diazeniumdiolates, S-nitrosothiols, metal nitrosyls, organic nitrates), in order to control NO delivery. N-diazeniumdiolates (NONOates) may be useful as NO donors because of their good stability and their capacity for proton-triggered NO delivery under physiological conditions. In some instances, high NO total is an important parameter to effectively evaluate storage capability of good scaffolds. Additionally, a high density of secondary amine groups imbues certain donors with a high NO storage capacity. However, fast NO release and high NO storage may result in undesired toxicity to mammalian cells. Therefore, challenges exist in preparing biocompatible NO-releasing materials with high NO storage and low cytotoxicity, and such challenges, among others, are addressed according to several embodiments disclosed herein. Several embodiments of the currently described subject matter have one or more of the following advantages: efficient and unique synthesis routes and resultant chemical composition of polyaminoglycosides. Further advantages may include controllable amounts of secondary-amines and diverse exterior terminal groups (i.e., hydroxyl, methyl, hydroxymethyl, and primary amine) can be provided. The NO storage and NO-release kinetics of the generated nitric-oxide releasing scaffolds can be tuned for a particular application. This tuning is achieved, in several embodiments, by altering the type and/or number of functionalized monomers of the formulae disclosed herein. In several embodiments, additional functionalization of the amines in the generated nitric-oxide releasing scaffolds, for example, by compounds with different compositions further enables the control over NO-release kinetics. In some embodiments, the secondary amine group directly influences the stability of the *N*-diazeniumdiolate (or other NO carrier group), allowing for control over both NO storage and release kinetics.

Dental caries (e.g., tooth decay) affects 60% - 70% school age children and the majority of adults in most industrialized countries. Worldwide, 11% of the total population suffers from severe periodontitis, which contributes to tooth loss and systematic diseases such as coronary, cardiovascular, stroke, and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Of >700
5 microorganisms in the oral cavity, cariogenic bacteria (e.g., *Streptococcus mutans*, *Actinomyces viscosus*) and periodontal pathogens (e.g., *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans*) play a major role in the initiation and progression of oral diseases.

Developing oral therapeutics that are capable of killing those disease-causing
10 bacteria is important to maintain a healthy oral cavity. Macromolecule NO-delivering vehicles (e.g., silica nanoparticles) kill Gram-negative periodontal pathogens. However, these materials have not been demonstrated to kill Gram-positive cariogenic bacteria at a safe concentration (e.g., a concentration that is bacteriocidal but non-toxic towards mammalian cells). Similar with those nanomaterials, the lack of biodegradability and
15 potential cytotoxicity of the silica nanoparticles also hinders their future for biomedical application. Current research also focuses on utilizing nanomaterials including silver, gold, zinc, and copper, as replacement for traditional antibiotics that suffered from fostering bacterial resistance. These nanomaterials may exhibit promising antibacterial capacities with low toxicity. However, the lack of biodegradability may cause the accumulative
20 toxicity, limiting their future for certain applications. Hyperbranched polymers (e.g. polyamino, polyester, polyether, and polysaccharides), may resolve one or more of these issues or others. Hyperbranched polymer structures, a sub-class of dendritic polymers, as disclosed herein are advantageously easy to synthesis, afford unique three-dimensional dendritic shapes, and can have low cytotoxicity.

25 Some embodiments disclosed herein pertain to NO-donating hyperbranched polymer structures. Some embodiments disclosed herein pertain to NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. Some embodiments disclosed herein pertain to methods of making and using NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In some embodiments, as disclosed elsewhere herein, hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are
30 synthesized by the polymerization of one or more aminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are functionalized with NO absorbing moieties. In some embodiments, NO can be absorbed to these hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides to provide NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched structures are synthesized from naturally produced aminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein are biodegradable and/or biocompatible scaffold. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein can be used in for biomedical applications. In some embodiments, without being bound to a particular mechanism or theory, it is believed that the polyaminoglycosides exhibit good biodegradability and low toxicity due to the existence of abundant glycosidic linkages and hydroxyl groups within the structure. In some embodiments, without being bound to a particular mechanism or theory, it is believed that these structures display enhanced antibacterial efficacy relative to other NO delivering scaffolds, in part, because of their highly branched structure.

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein are employed in methods of treating patients and/or methods of killing bacteria (e.g., as antimicrobials). Also provided herein are methods for delivering nitric oxide to a subject, comprising administering an effective amount of any of the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein to the subject. Methods of treating a disease state are also provided for herein, the methods comprising, in several embodiments administering an effective amount of any of the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein to a subject in need of treatment, wherein the disease state is selected from the group consisting of a cancer, a cardiovascular disease, a microbial infection; platelet aggregation and platelet adhesion caused by the exposure of blood to a medical device; pathological conditions resulting from abnormal cell proliferation; transplantation rejections, autoimmune diseases, inflammation, vascular diseases; scar tissue; wound contraction, restenosis, pain, fever, gastrointestinal disorders, respiratory disorders, sexual dysfunctions, and sexually transmitted diseases. In several embodiments, the disease state is a microbial infection. In several embodiments, the disease state is dental caries or another disease of the mouth (gingivitis, periodontitis, etc.).

In several embodiments, there is provided for herein a method of reducing microbial load on a surface comprising applying a compound to a surface contaminated with a plurality of microbes wherein the compound comprises a nitric oxide (NO) releasing water-soluble functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an NO donor, wherein the NO donor generates NO and induces oxidative and/or nitrosative damage to microbial DNA and membrane structures, thereby reducing microbial load, and wherein the plurality of

microbes comprises two or more of the following: gram-positive bacteria, gram-negative bacteria, fungi, yeast, and viruses. In several embodiments, the surface is an organic surface. In several embodiments, the surface is human skin or mucosal surface. In several embodiments, application of the compound does not induce skin irritation or irritation of the mucosa. In several embodiments, the surface is animal skin. In several embodiments, the surface is in the mouth or surrounding tissue of a human or an animal. In several embodiments, application of the compound does not induce skin irritation or irritation of the mouth or surrounding tissue. In several embodiments, the surface is human airway tissue. In several embodiments, application of the compound (e.g., inhalation) does not induce irritation of airway epithelial cells. In several embodiments, the surface is an inorganic surface. In several embodiments, the inorganic surface is an external or internal surface of a medical device. In several embodiments, the medical device is a dental tool. In several embodiments, the application of the compound generates an anti-microbial coating on the external or internal surface of the medical device. In several embodiments, the medical device comprises an endoscope, dental drill or other dental device, a dental implant, or dental fixture.

In several embodiments, the microbial load to be reduced and/or eliminated comprises drug-resistant bacteria. In several embodiments, the drug-resistant bacteria comprise carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae. In several embodiments, the drug-resistant bacteria comprise Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. In several embodiments, the microbe comprises human immunodeficiency virus, herpes simplex virus, papilloma virus, parainfluenza virus, influenza, hepatitis, Coxsackie Virus, herpes zoster, measles, mumps, rubella, rabies, pneumonia, hemorrhagic viral fevers, H1N1, and the like), prions, parasites, fungi, mold, yeast and bacteria (both gram-positive and gram-negative) including, among others, *Candida albicans*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (*P. aeruginosa*), and *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*), Group A streptococci, *S. pneumoniae*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans* and a variety of drug resistant bacteria. The terms microorganism and microbe shall be used interchangeably. Microbes can include wild-type, genetically-engineered or modified organisms. In several embodiments, the formulations and methods disclosed herein are for topical use or treatment of a surface, such as the oral mucosa.

In several embodiments, there is provided a treating and/or preventing a microbial infection and/or proliferation comprising, contacting a surface (that is either contaminated with a plurality of microbes or that is susceptible to contamination, e.g., the mouth) with a compound comprising a nitric oxide (NO) releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprising an NO donor, wherein the NO donor generates NO and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes and treating and/or preventing the infection or invasion, and wherein the plurality of microbes comprises one or more of viruses, gram positive bacteria, gram negative bacteria, drug resistant bacteria, molds, yeasts, fungi, and combinations thereof.

Depending on the embodiment, the methods and uses employ compounds disclosed herein that are formulated for administration via a topical route, oral administration, oral-topical (e.g., an oral rinse, mouth wash, liquid, solid, gel, paste, etc.), via irrigation (such as dental irrigation), via injection, via spray, via solid depots, via ingestion, or via inhalation. In one embodiment, a strip or other substrate is used for application of the formulation. The strip, in some embodiments, is made from a polymer including but not limited to polyethylene. In several embodiments, the route is topical and the methods and uses of the NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are for the treatment of dental pathogens (e.g., one or more of *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans*, *Streptococcus mutans*, and *Actinomyces viscosus*). In several embodiments, the NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides do not substantially damage human cells, including gingival fibroblasts, oral mucosa epithelial, or other cells in or around the mouth.

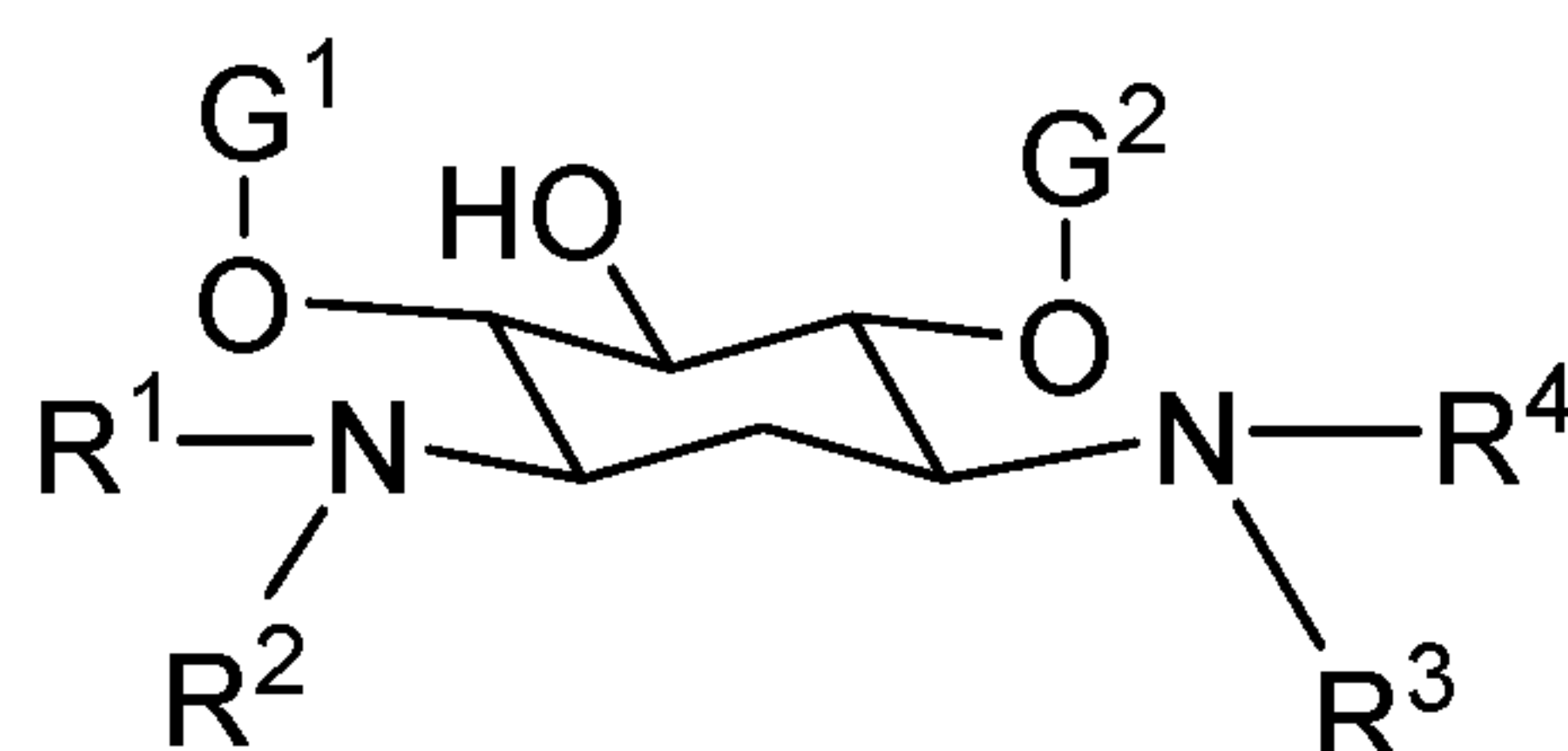
In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein are composed of dendritic units, linear units, and terminal units along and/or within chain lengths or arms of hyperbranched structures (as shown in Fig. 1). In some embodiments, the linear units and/or chains along the hyperbranched structure provide secondary amines as potential reactive sites for the addition of NO donor moieties.

In some embodiments, the NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises NO-donating substituents that decorate the hyperbranched structure, for example, along the chain lengths or arms within the hyperbranched structure, as shown in Fig. 1. In some embodiments, hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides are synthesized by the polymerization of one or more natural aminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the natural aminoglycosides used to prepare the hyperbranched aminoglycosides disclosed herein can

comprise one or more of kanamycin, gentamicin, and neomycin (shown in Fig. 2). In some
embodiments, one or more of kanamycin, gentamicin, neomycin, and/or other natural or
non-natural aminoglycosides are used (e.g., kanamycin, amikacin, tobramycin, dibekacin,
gentamicin, sisomicin, netilmicin, neomycins (B and C), paramomycin (neomycin E), and
5 streptomycin, dihydrostreptomycin or the like).

In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides
disclosed herein comprise one or more aminoglycoside units having the structure of
Formula I, Formula II, Formula III, Formula IV, Formula V, Formula VI, or Formula VII,
an combinations thereof.

10 In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides
comprises one or more units of the structure of Formula I:

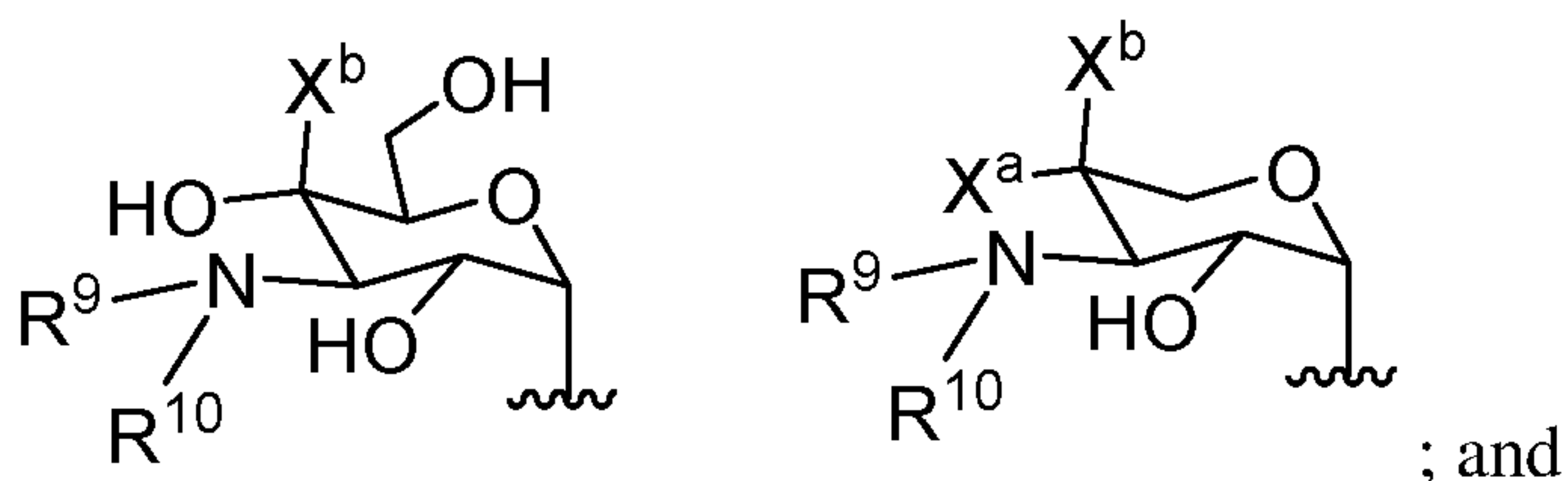


Formula I

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of
-H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6
15 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat
units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or is a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched
polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit; and

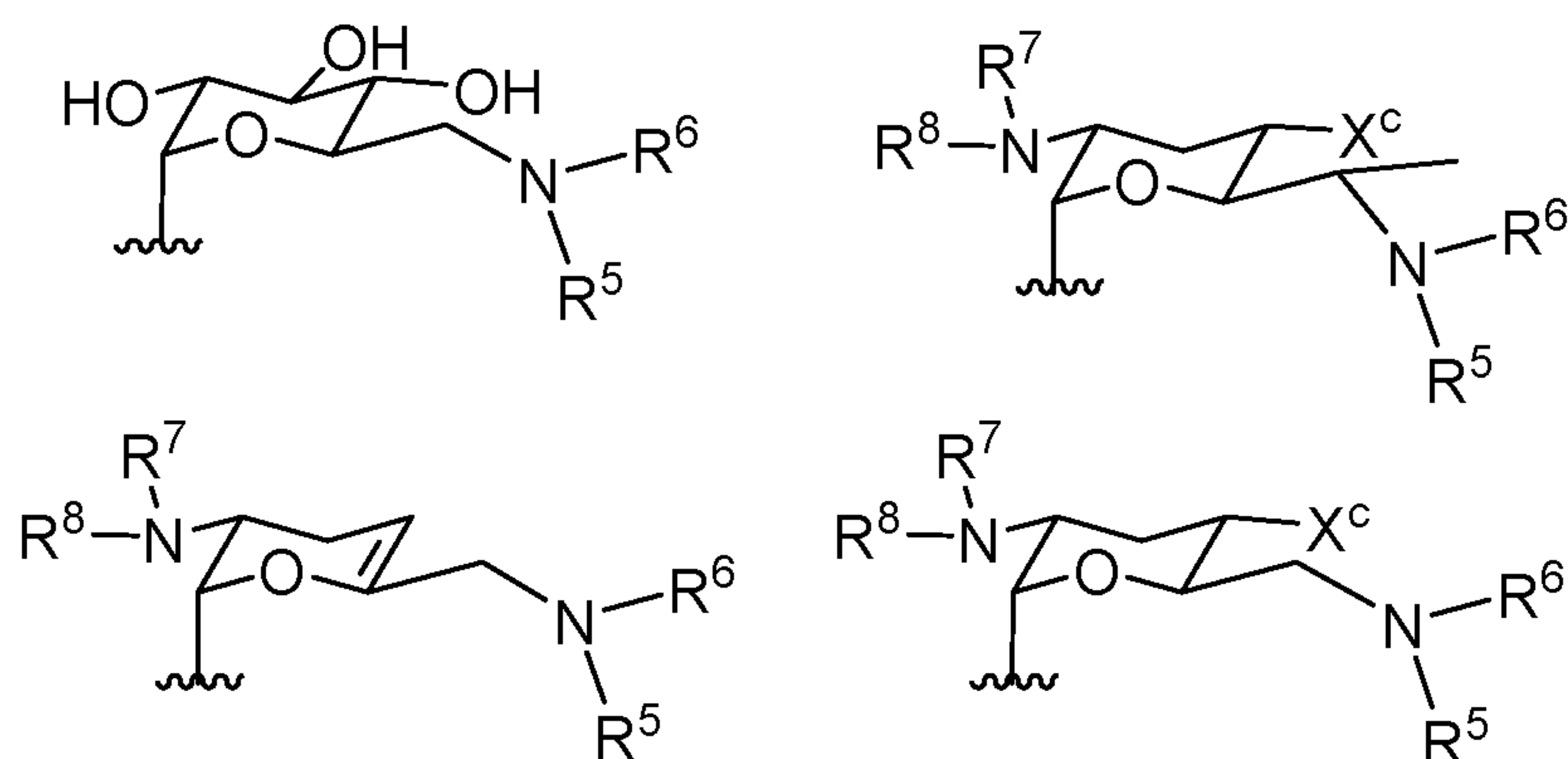
wherein G^1 and G^2 are independently a substituted or unsubstituted hexose or
pentose. In some embodiments, for instance, the Formula I structure is the central hexose
20 of one or more of kanamycin A, tobramycin, dibekacin, gentamicin, sisomicin, and/or
netilmicin, and G^1 and G^2 are substituted or unsubstituted adjacent six-membered
saccharide rings of those aminoglycosides.

In some embodiments, G^1 is selected from the group consisting of:



; and

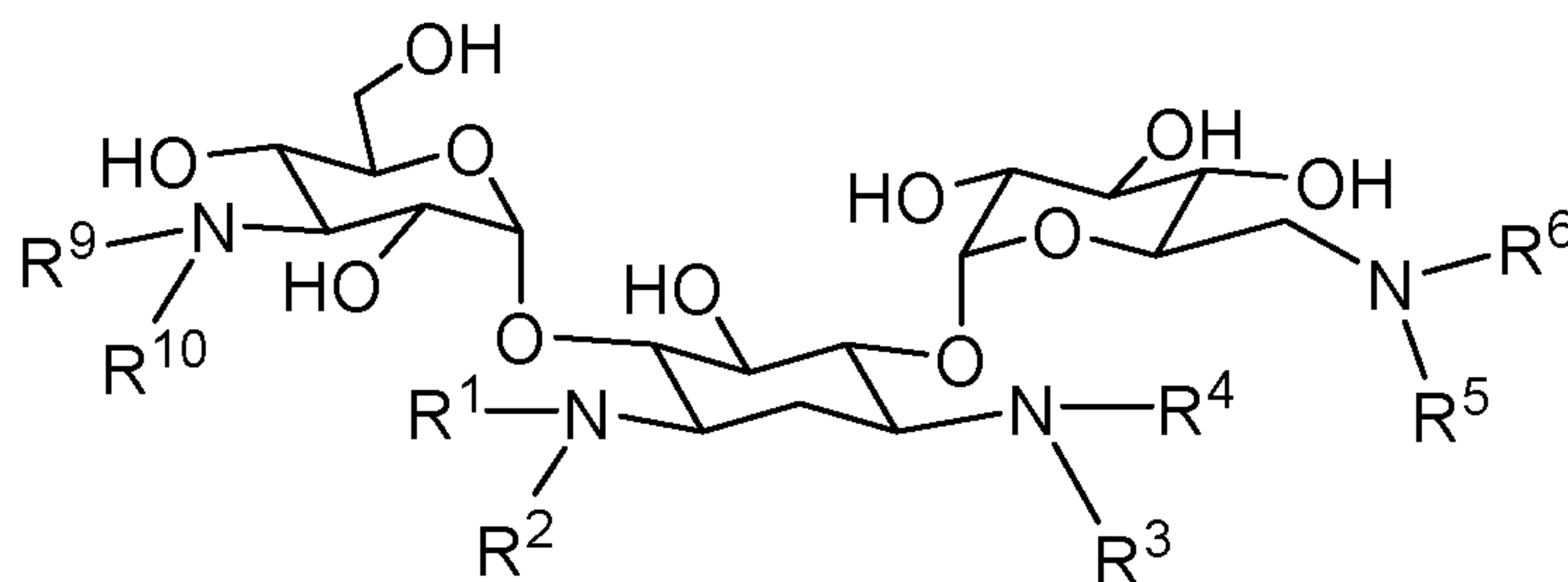
25 G^2 is selected from the group consisting of:



wherein R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or is a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit; and

wherein X^a , X^b , and X^c are independently selected from -H, -OH, and C_1 - C_6 alkyl.

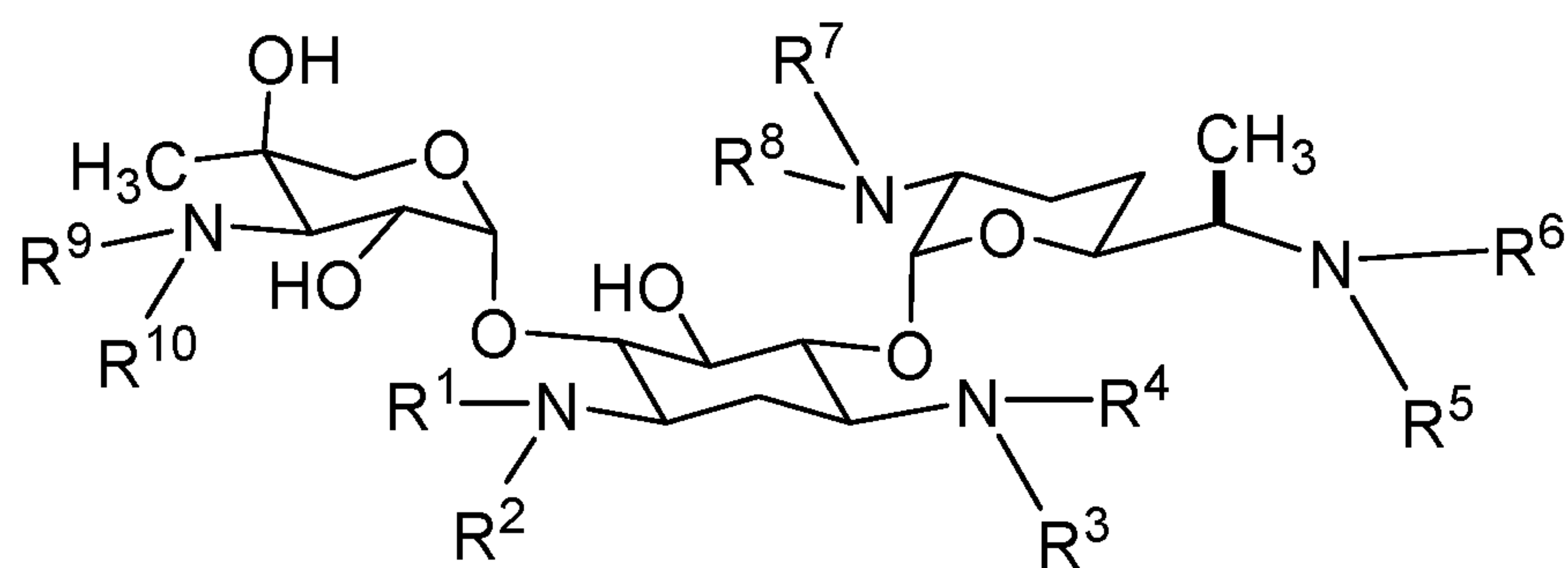
In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises one or more units of the structure of Formula II:



Formula II

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^9 , and R^{10} are as defined elsewhere herein. In some embodiments, Formula II can be prepared using kanamycin as a starting material and/or Formula II embodies a kanamycin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein comprise at one or more units of the structure of Formula III:

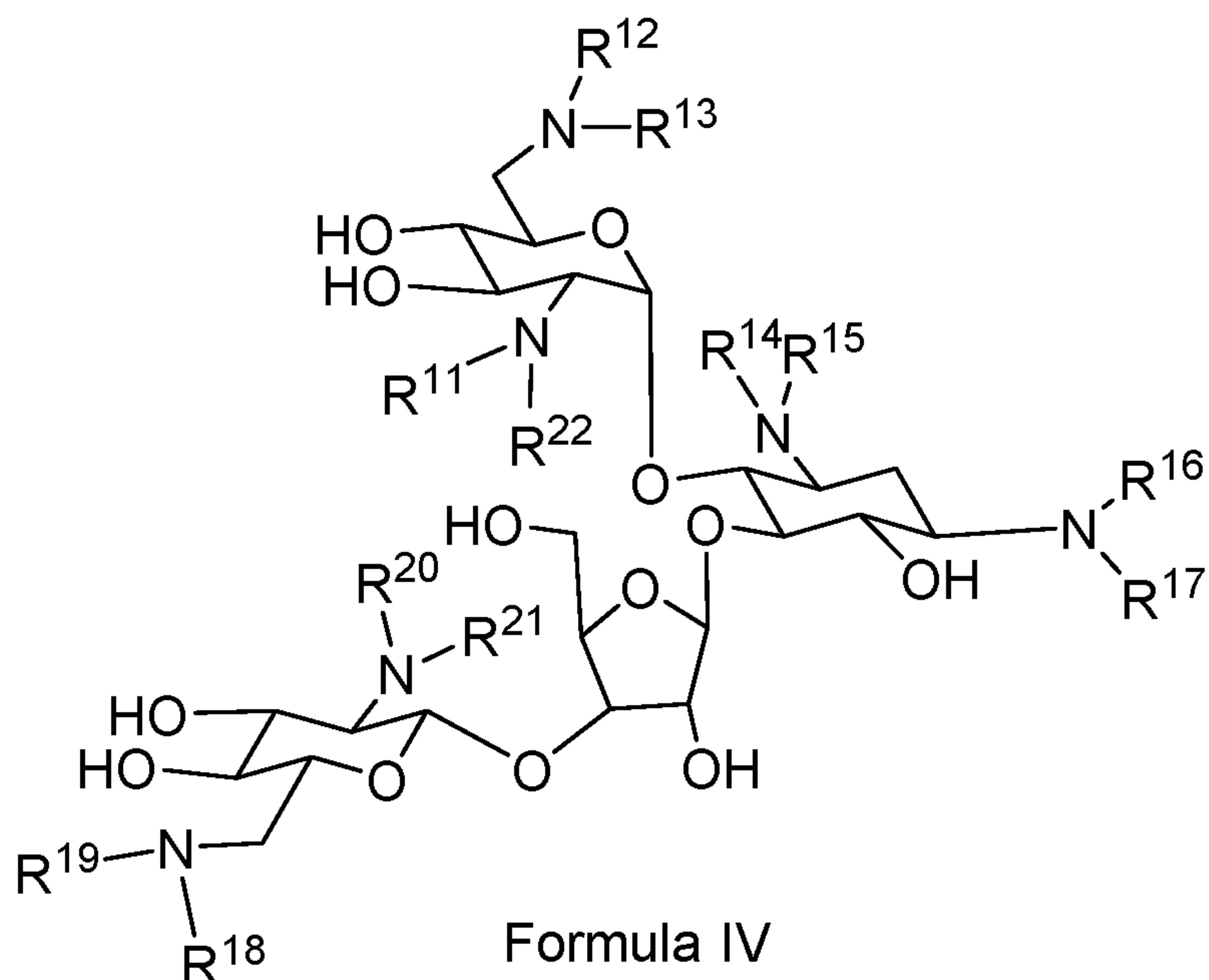


Formula III

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} are as defined elsewhere herein.

In some embodiments, Formula III can be prepared using gentamicin as a starting material and/or Formula III embodies a gentamicin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

5 In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein comprise at one or more units of the structure of Formula IV:



Formula IV

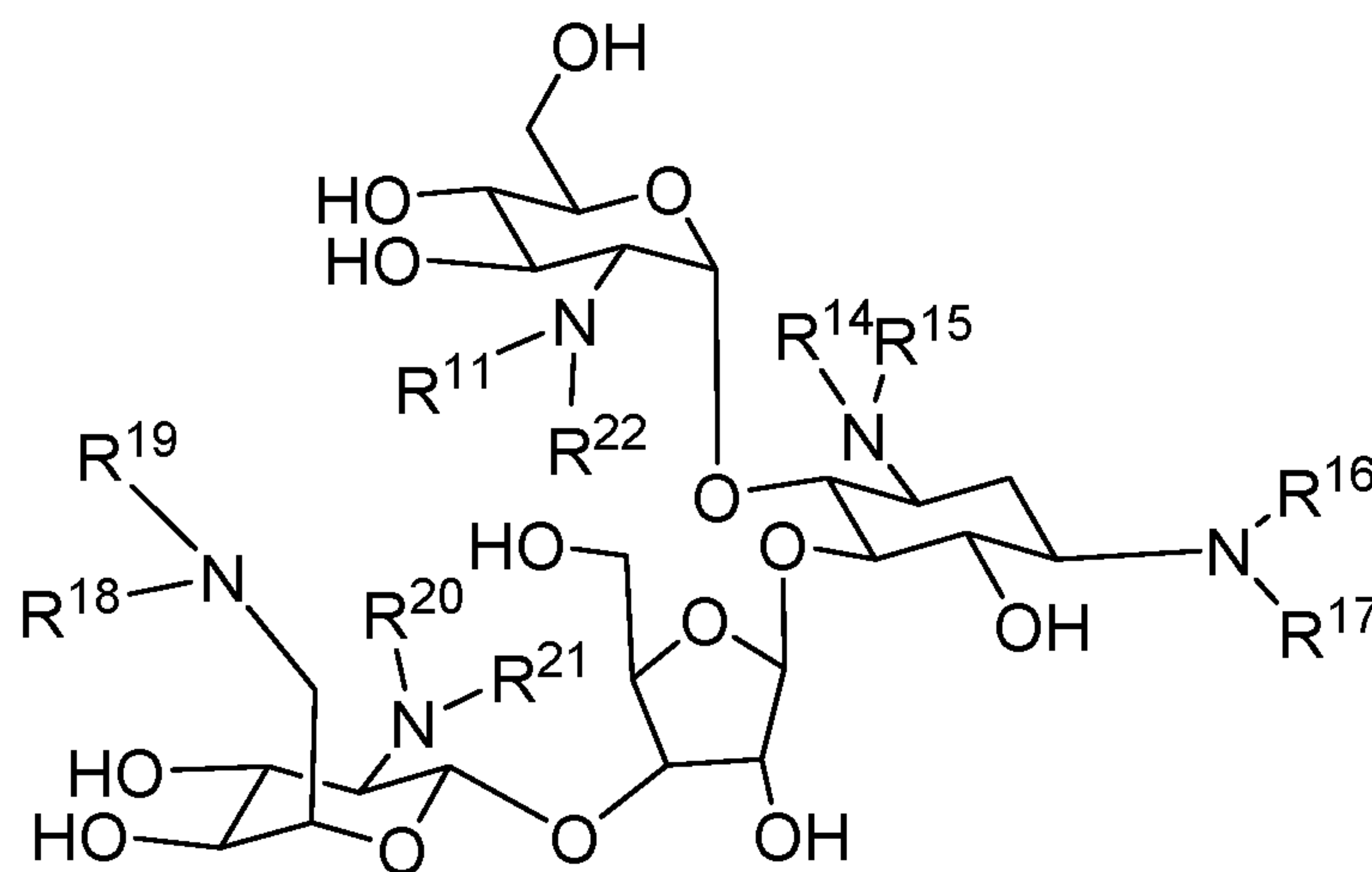
wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl,

10 optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or is a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit. In some embodiments, Formula IV can be prepared using neomycin as a starting material and/or Formula IV embodies a neomycin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside. In some

15 embodiments, as with the other structures shown herein, Formula IV is intended to cover

natural stereochemical arrangements (such as neomycin B or C), though only the C form is shown.

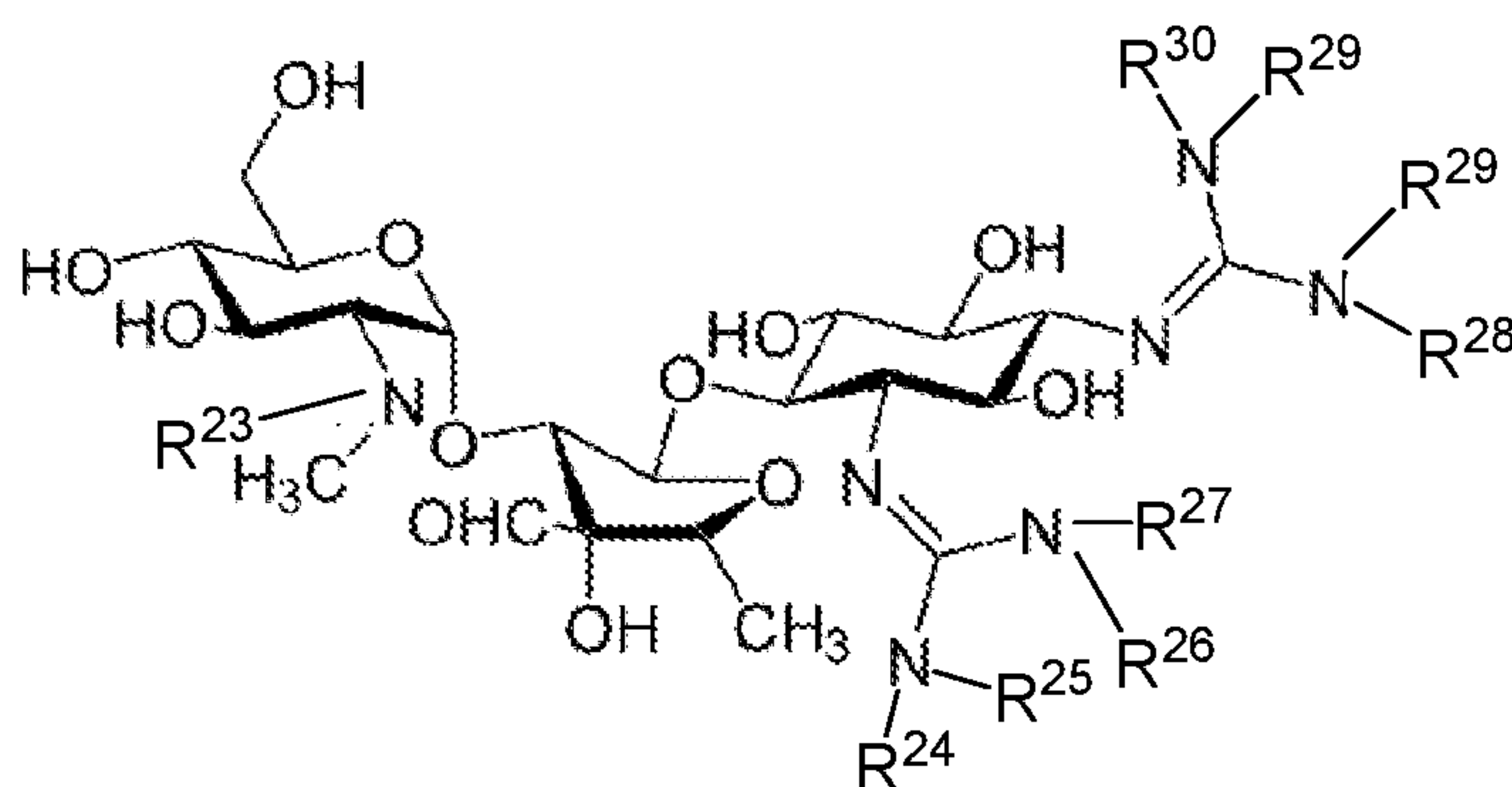
In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein comprise at one or more units of the structure of Formula V:



Formula V

wherein R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are as defined elsewhere herein. In some embodiments, Formula V can be prepared using paromomycin as a starting material and/or Formula V embodies a paromomycin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein comprise at one or more units of the structure of Formula VI:



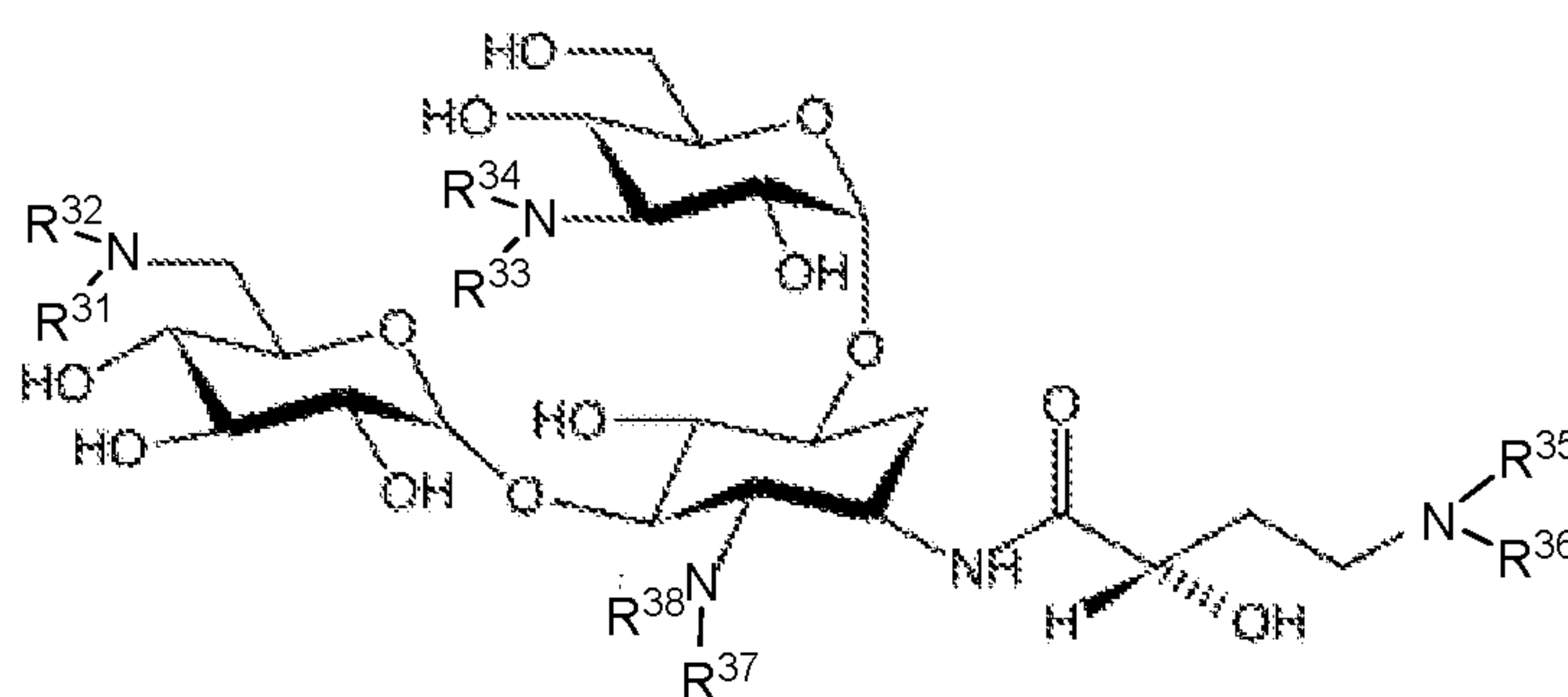
Formula VI

wherein R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{28} , R^{29} , and R^{30} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or is a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit. In some embodiments, Formula

VI can be prepared using streptomycin as a starting material and/or Formula VI embodies a streptomycin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, R^1 to R^{30} of Formulas I-VI are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having (with alkyl spacers between each amino group), optionally substituted polyether having (with alkyl spacers between each ether group), and a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit.

In some embodiments, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides disclosed herein comprise at one or more units of the structure of Formula VI:



Formula VII

10

wherein R^{31} , R^{32} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , and R^{38} are independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or is a covalent bond to another atom of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides via a linking unit. In some embodiments, Formula VII can be prepared using amikacin as a starting material and/or Formula VII embodies a amikacin-comprising hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

15

In some embodiments, any one of Formulas I-VII can be in a natural or a non-natural (e.g., synthetically altered) stereochemical configuration.

20

In some embodiments, in addition to any one of the variables disclosed elsewhere herein, any one of R^{1-38} (as a linker or an terminal-capping group) may also or alternatively be selected from the group consisting of $-(C_{1-6}\text{alkyl})$, $-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-H$, $-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, $-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, $-((CH_2)_aX^2)_b((CH_2)_cX^3)_d-(CH_2)_eH$, $-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-$, $-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-(CH_2)_cX^1$, $-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cX^2$, and $-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b((CH_2)_cX^2)_d-(CH_2)_e-X^3$, where each instance of a, b, c, d, or e is independently selected from an integer from 0 to 10 (e.g., 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10). In several embodiments, each instance of X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 is independently selected from O, S, or NH.

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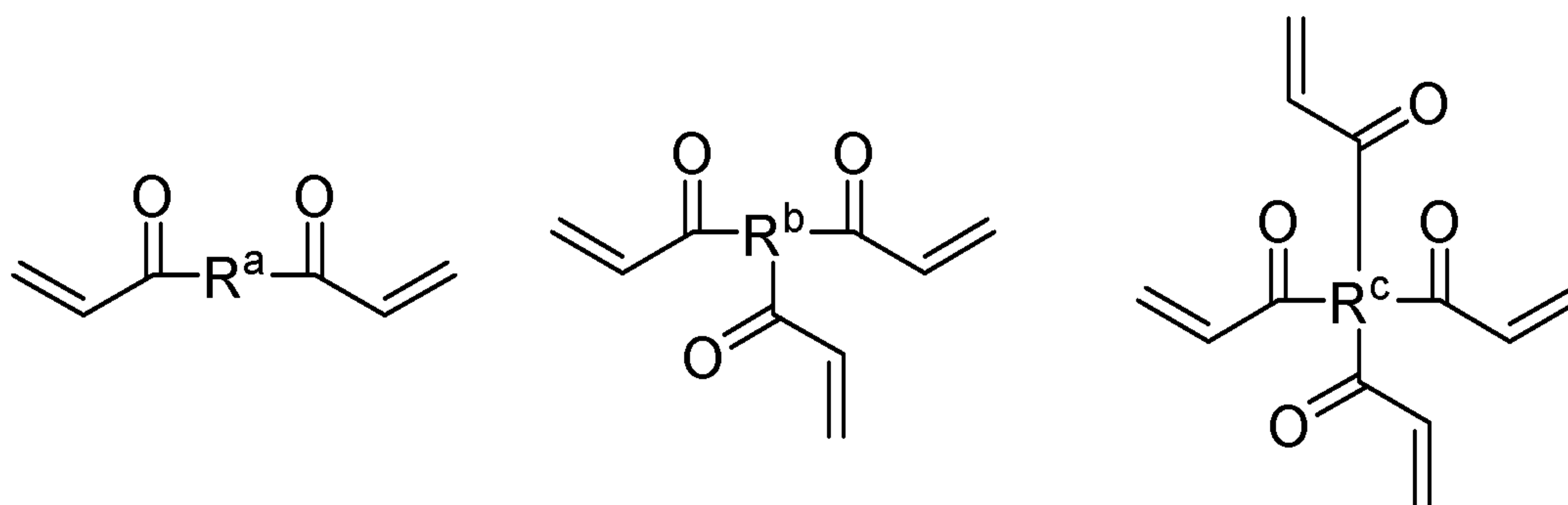
In some embodiments, any -H of any of the hydroxyl groups present on any one of Formulae I-VII can be exchanged for a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₆ alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)) where the oxygen of the hydroxyl provides an oxygen of the polyether group. In some
 5 embodiments, the hydrogen of any of the hydroxyl groups present on any one of Formulae I-VII can be exchanged for a linking unit as described elsewhere herein.

In some embodiments, aminoglycosides of any one of Formulas I-VII are polymerized and/or crosslinked using one or more polymerizing agents and/or crosslinking agents. In some embodiments, after polymerizing the aminoglycosides are hyperbranched
 10 structures. In some embodiments, the polymerizing agents are multifunctional (bifunctional, trifunctional, tetrafunctional, etc.) molecules having moieties that react with one or more substituents of the aminoglycosides. In some embodiments, the multifunctional polymerizing agents comprise molecules with one or more electrophilic moieties that react with, for instance, an amine or other nucleophile on the aminoglycoside
 15 (e.g., a hydroxyl). For instance, an acrylate derived from a monomer selected from the salt, ester, and conjugate bases of acrylic acid and its derivatives may be used for polymerizing agents and or crosslinking. In one embodiment, the acrylate is derived from a monomeric methacrylate. In another embodiment, the acrylate is derived from a monomer selected from the group consisting of a methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, acrylamide, ethyl methacrylate, 2-chloroethyl vinyl ether, 2-ethylehexyl acrylate, hydroxethyl methacrylate, hydroxethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, butyl methacrylate, N-(2-hydroxypropyl)methacrylamide, N-(3-aminopropyl)methacrylamide hydrochloride, N-(3-BOC-aminopropyl)methacrylamide, 2-aminoethyl methacrylate hydrochloride, 2-(tert-butylamino)ethyl methacrylate, n-iso-propylacrylamide, 2-methoxyethyl acrylate, n-ethylmethacrylamide, n-vinyl acetamide, 2-N-morpholinoethyl acrylate, methacryloyl-L-lysine, 2-(methylamino)ethyl acrylate, and 2-(methylamino)ethyl methacrylate. In another
 25 embodiment, the acrylate is derived from a diacrylate. For example, the diacrylate may be ethylene glycol diacrylate, triethylene glycol diacrylate, tetraethylene glycol diacrylate, polyethylene glycol diacrylate, tricyclodecan dimethanol diacrylate, N-acryloxysuccinimide, N-(2-hydroxypropyl)methacrylamide, Bis[2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] phosphate, diacrylamide, and N,N'-methylenebisacrylamide.
 30

In some embodiments, the polymerizing agents comprise one or more Michael acceptors. As used herein, the term "Michael acceptor" refers to chemical moieties that act

as electrophiles, such as, but not limited to, α,β unsaturated carbonyl compounds, enolates, etc.. In some embodiments, the polymerizing agent comprises one or more acrylate functionalities. In some embodiments, the Michael acceptor is an acrylate. In some embodiments, the polymerizing agent is a diacrylate (e.g., *N,N'*-methylenebis(acrylamide), ethylene glycol diacrylate, propane diol diacrylate, butandiol diacrylate, etc.), a triacrylate (e.g., trimethylolpropane triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, glycerol propoxylate (1PO/OH) triacrylate, trimethylolpropane propoxylate triacrylate), etc.), a tetraacrylate, or another acrylate having a plurality of acrylate groups (e.g., 5, 6, 7, or more).

In some embodiments, the polymerizing agent is represented by one or more of the following structures:

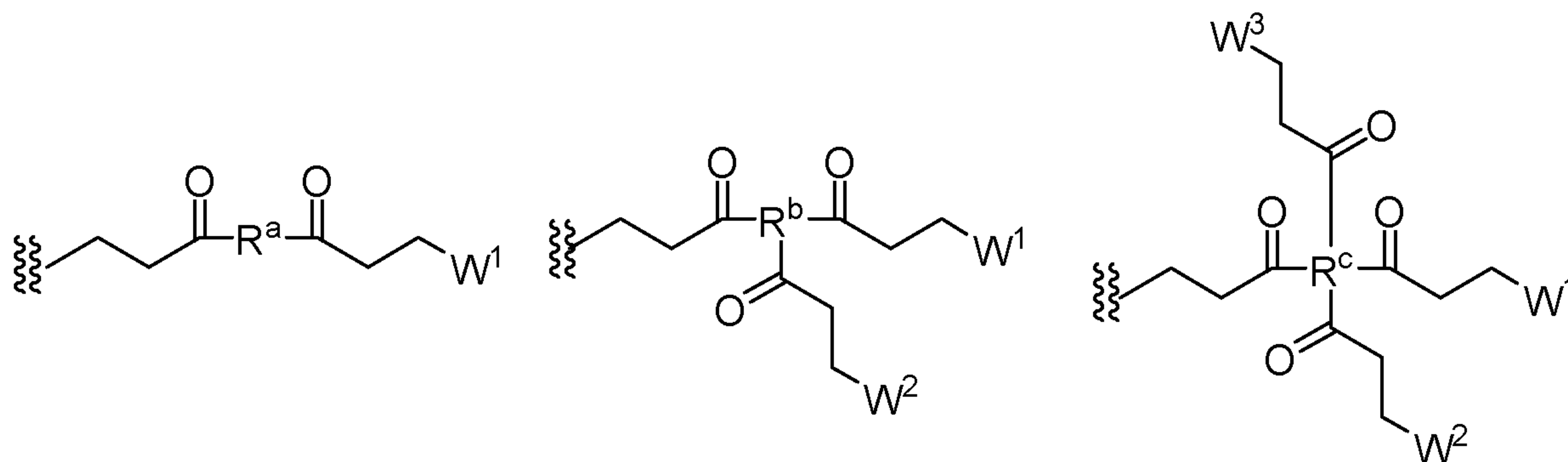


wherein R^a, R^b, and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)). R^a, R^b, and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of -NH-((CH₂)_fNH)_g-, -X⁴-((CH₂)_fX⁵)_g-, where f and g are independently selected from an integer from 0 to 10 (e.g., 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10). In several embodiments, each instance of X⁴ and X⁵ is independently selected from O, S, or NH. In some embodiments, R^a is -NH-CH₂-NH- (as from *N,N'*-methylenebis(acrylamide)).

In some embodiments, as described elsewhere herein, after polymerization, the functionalized hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides of any one of Formulae I-VII further comprise a linking unit (e.g., the remaining portion of a polymerizing agent after reaction with one or more aminoglycosides). In some embodiments the linking unit spans two or more aminoglycosides through, for instance, an amino group of the aminoglycoside. In some embodiments the linking unit comprises a structure selected from the group consisting of -(C=O)alkyl(C=O)-, -alkyl-(C=O)-alkyl-(C=O)-alkyl-,

-(C=O)polyamino(C=O)-, -alkyl-(C=O)-polyamino-(C=O)-alkyl-, -(C=O)polyether(C=O)-, and -alkyl-(C=O)-polyether-(C=O)-alkyl-.

In some embodiments, the linking unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises a structure selected from the group consisting of:



5

wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s));

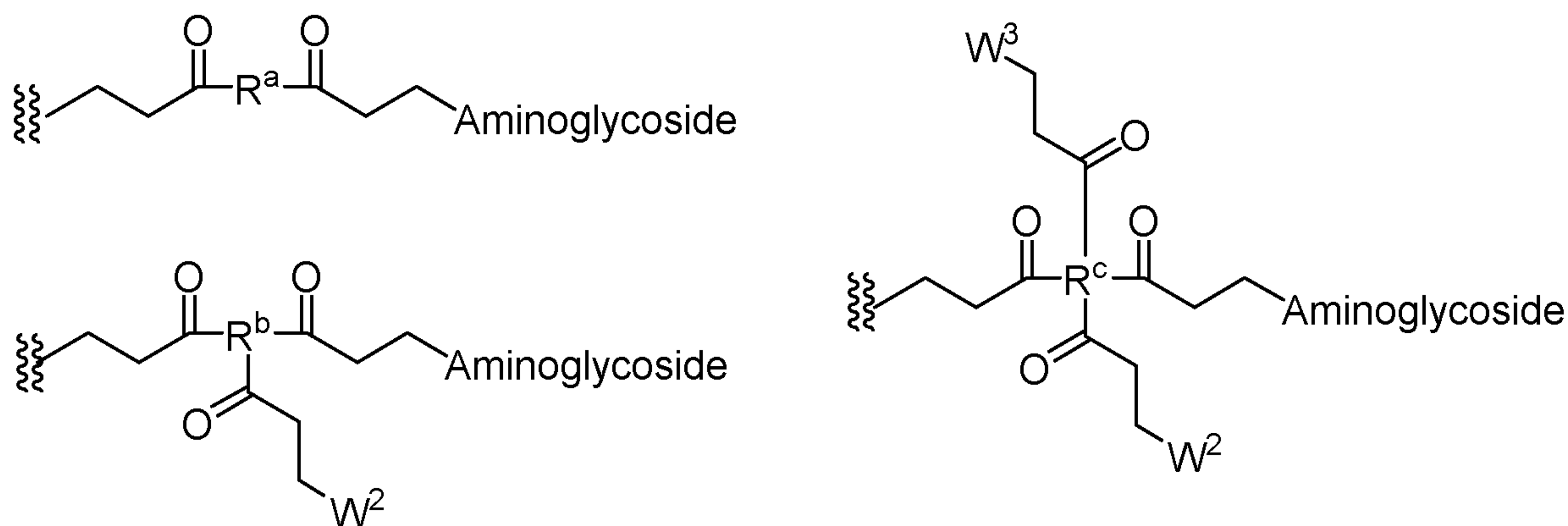
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wherein “ ξ ” indicates an attachment to the recited aminoglycoside; and

wherein W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 are independently selected from an aminoglycoside or an end-capping group, as disclosed elsewhere herein.

In some embodiments, the linking unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprises a structure represented by one of the following:

15

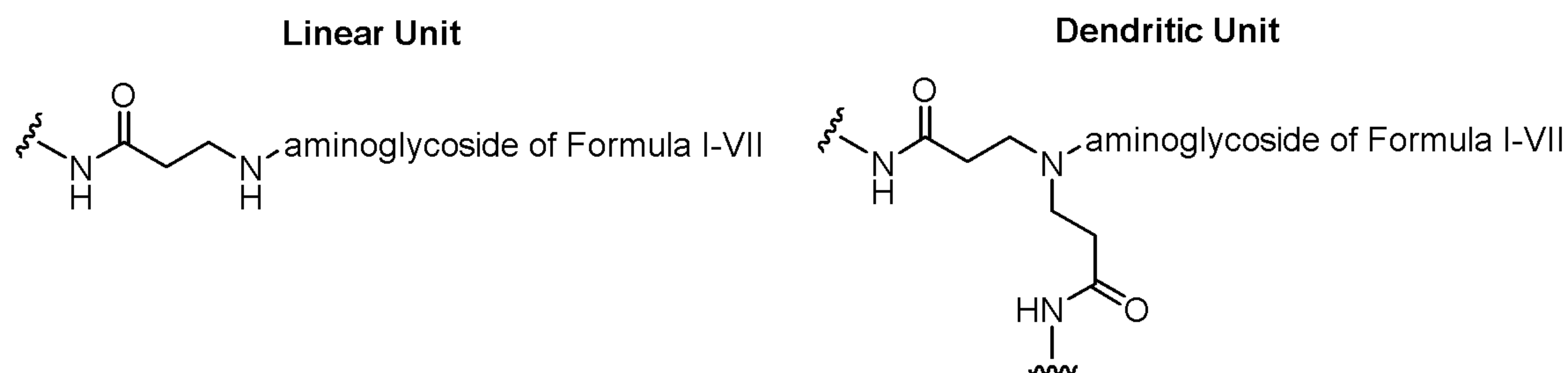


where the “Aminoglycoside” represents a second aminoglycoside (optionally another copy of the first aminoglycoside) to which the structure of Formulae I-VII is covalently linked and where W^2 and W^3 are as defined elsewhere herein.

20

In some embodiments, after polymerization with a linking unit, one or more of the polymerizing agents may comprise an unreacted terminal group. In some embodiments, those terminal groups can be end-capped by further reacting the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides with an endcapping agent. In some embodiments, the end-capping agent comprises one or more of $\text{H}_2\text{N}-((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-H}$, $\text{H}_2\text{N}-((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{H}$, $\text{H}_2\text{N}-((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{H}$, $\text{HX}^1\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^2)_b((\text{CH}_2)_c\text{X}^3)_d\text{-(CH}_2)_e\text{H}$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-}$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{X}^1$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{X}^2$, and $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b((\text{CH}_2)_c\text{X}^2)_d\text{-(CH}_2)_e\text{-X}^3$, where each instance of a, b, c, d, or e is independently selected from an integer from 0 to 10 (e.g., 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10). In several embodiments, each instance of X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 is independently selected from O, S, or NH. In some embodiments, the end-capping agent is one or more of $\text{H}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2$ and $\text{H}_2\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$. In some embodiments, the end-capping agent results in a substituent selected from one or more of $\text{-NH-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-H}$, $\text{-NH-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{H}$, $\text{-NH-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{H}$, $((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^2)_b((\text{CH}_2)_c\text{X}^3)_d\text{-(CH}_2)_e\text{H}$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-}$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{NH})_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{X}^1$, $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b\text{-(CH}_2)_c\text{X}^2$, and $\text{-(}((\text{CH}_2)_a\text{X}^1)_b((\text{CH}_2)_c\text{X}^2)_d\text{-(CH}_2)_e\text{-X}^3$. In some embodiments, the end-capping agent results in a substituent selected from one or more of $\text{-NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2$ and $\text{-NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$.

In some embodiments, after an amine from the aminoglycoside reacts with one or more linking units, the following structures may result:



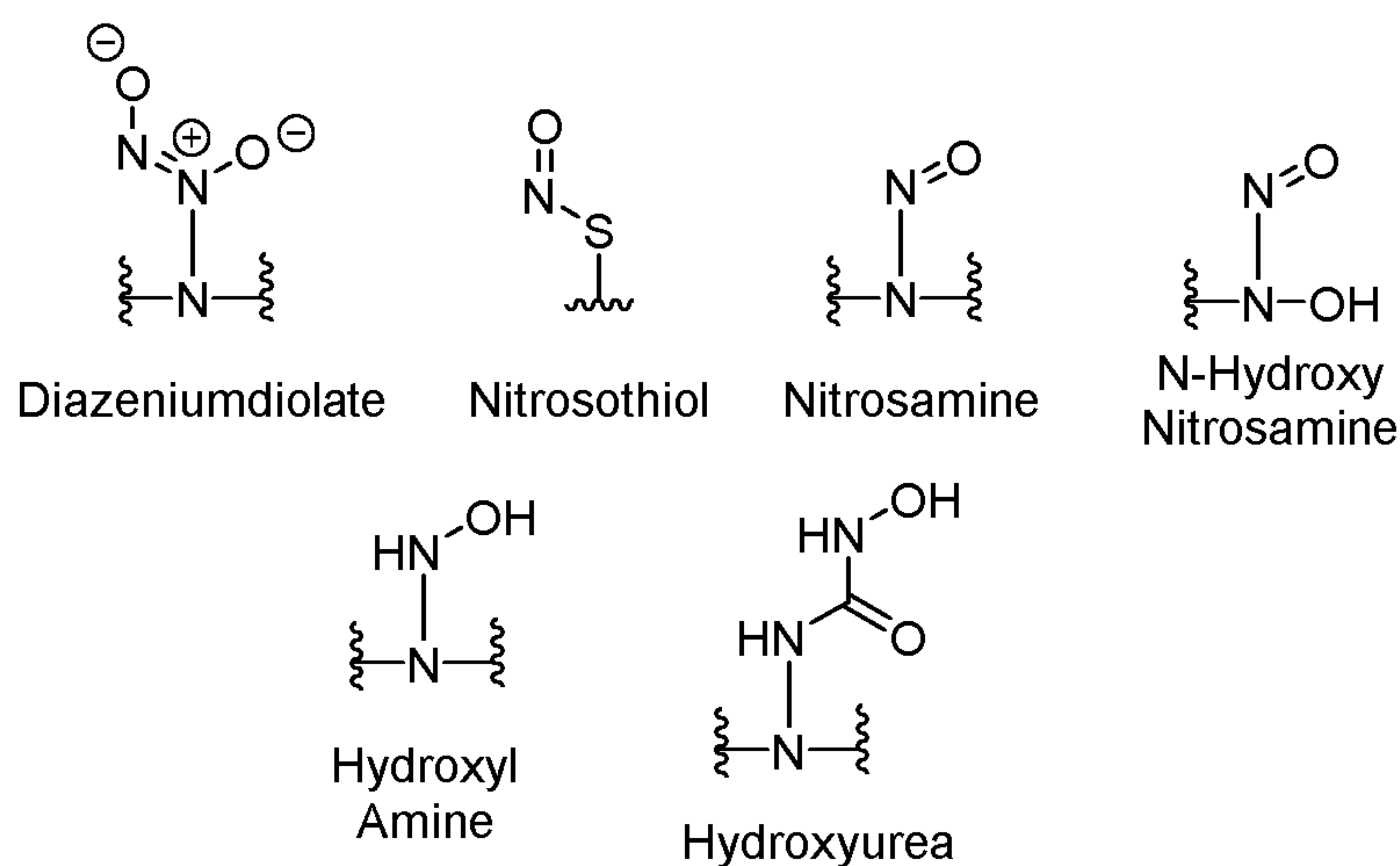
As illustrated above, the dendritic unit results from the reaction of an aminoglycoside amine with two molecules of linking unit and the linear unit results from an aminoglycoside amine reacting with one molecule of linking unit.

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched aminoglycoside is prepared in a one-pot synthesis. In some embodiments, the polymerizing agent (e.g., N,N'-methylenebis(acrylamide)) is added to an aminoglycoside.

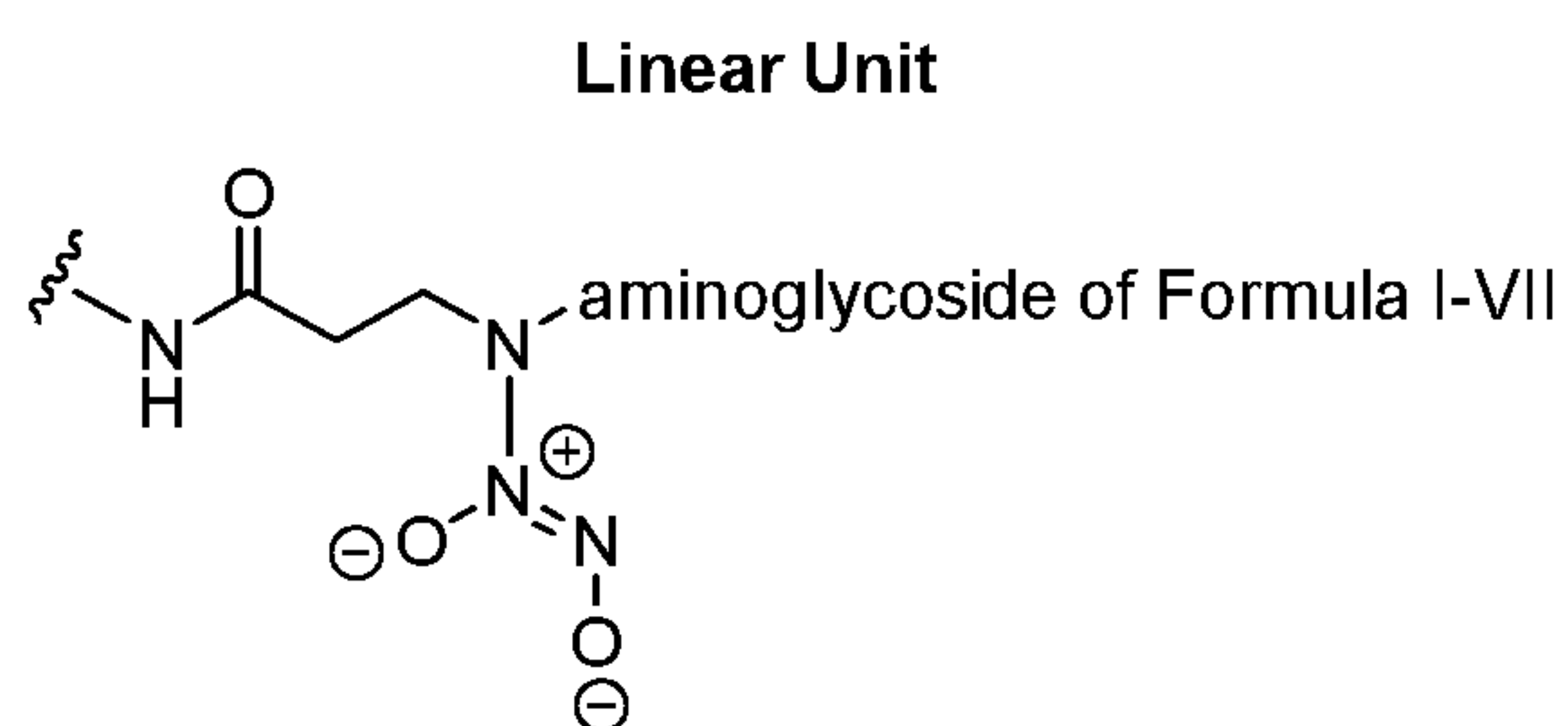
In some embodiments, the hyperbranched aminoglycoside structures disclosed herein have bactericidal activity in and of themselves (e.g., by virtue of polycationic charge,

etc.). In some embodiments, the aminoglycosides can be further functionalized with additional substituents to provide additional NO releasing functional groups (for example, in the linear units, where polyamines are used for end-capping, and where polyamines are present in the linking units). In some embodiments, for example, as shown in Fig. 1, the linear units of these hyperbranched polymers provide multiple secondary amines. In some embodiments, the secondary amines are NO acceptors and can be reacted with NO to yield a NO donor (e.g., a NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside).

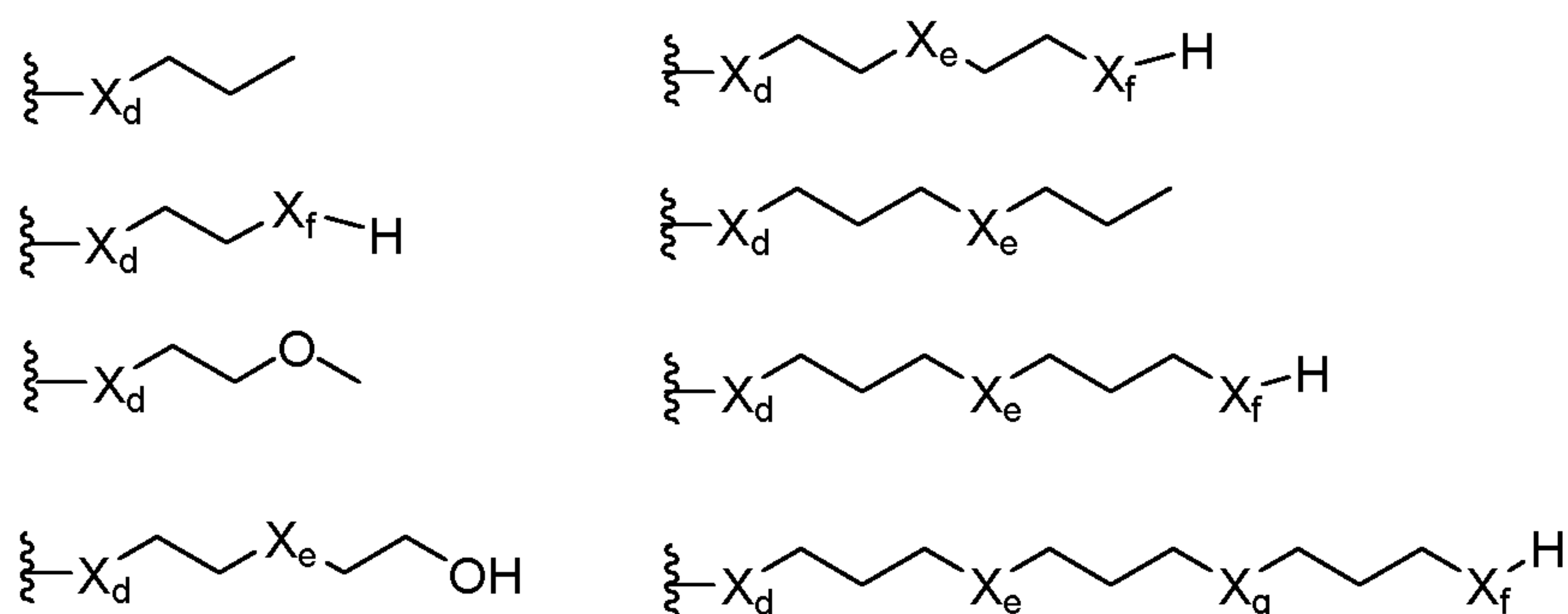
In some embodiments, the NO donor comprises any one of the following nitric oxide releasing moieties:



where “ $\text{\textcircled{~}}^{\text{\tiny{z}}}$ ” indicates attachment to other atoms within the hyperbranched aminoglycoside structure (e.g., any instance of -H, -CH₂-, -CH-, etc.). In some embodiments, the NO donor is a N-diazeniumdiolate NO donor. In some embodiments, the NO donor is attached along a linear unit as shown below:



In some embodiments, as disclosed elsewhere herein, end-capping molecules can be added to the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides to provide additional and/or alternative NO acceptors. In some embodiments, the following end-capping groups can be used:



where X_d , X_e , X_f , and X_g are selected from O, S, NH or a nitric oxide releasing moiety as disclosed elsewhere herein. As disclosed elsewhere herein, secondary amines of these structures can be used to provide NO donors such as diazeniumdiolate.

5 In some embodiments, the nitric oxide donor is selected from the group consisting of a diazeniumdiolate, nitrosothiol, a nitrosamine, a hydroxyl nitrosamine, a hydroxyl amine, a hydroxyurea, and a combination thereof.

10 In some embodiments, the reaction of the hyperbranched aminoglycoside with NO is performed in basic or alkaline conditions. In some embodiments, the functionalization of hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside with NO is performed under alkaline conditions. In some embodiments, alkaline conditions include those having pH values of equal to or at least about: 7.5, 8.0, 9.0, 10.0, 12.0, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values.

15 In some embodiments, the methods disclosed herein provide NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides having NO storage capacities (in $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides) of greater than or equal to about: 0.25, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments, the range is between about 0.4 and about 1.3 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In other embodiments, 20 the range is between about 0.4 to about 0.6 or between about 1.2 to about 1.3 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

25 In some embodiments, within 2 h of being added to a PBS buffer solution as described in the Examples, the NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides, release greater than or equal to about: 25%, 50%, 75%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 100%, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values, their total wt% of bound NO. In several embodiments, NO release in use for reducing or eliminating a biofilm occurs in similar amounts, e.g., about 20-25%, about 30-50%, about 60-75%, at least 80%, at least

85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, and ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values, of the total wt% of bound NO.

In some embodiments, the NO release may occur over a period of about 0.01 hours, 0.1 hours, 0.25 hours, 0.5 hours, 1 hour, 2 hours, 3 hours, 4 hours, 5 hours, 10 hours, 15 hours, 20 hours, 24 hours, 36 hours, 48 hours, or 60 hours. In some embodiments, the NO release occurs in less than or equal to about: 0.01 hours, 0.1 hours, 0.25 hours, 0.5 hours, 1 hour, 2 hours, 3 hours, 4 hours, 5 hours, 10 hours, 15 hours, 20 hours, 24 hours, 36 hours, 48 hours, 60 hours, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. In some embodiments, nitrosamine is not present during NO release.

As disclosed herein, the NO release for the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides may be measured over a period of 2 hours. In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a total NO release after 2 hours of at least about 0.1, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1.0, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a total NO release after 2 hours between about 0.2 and about 1.0 $\mu\text{mol NO/mg}$ hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides. In other embodiments, the range is between about 0.25 to about 0.8 μmol of NO per milligram of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

In some embodiments, the NO release may be measured by its half-life. In some embodiments, the half-life for NO release is measured in minutes and may be at least about 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, or 240 min or more. In some embodiments, the half-life for NO release includes ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments, the half-life for NO release is in a range from about 10 to about 240, about 70 to about 190 min, or about 80 to about 150 min. As used herein the phrase “nitrosamine is not present” refers to levels nitrosamine which are not detectable as determined by a UV-vis spectrum (or by other accepted methods in the art).

In some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides have molecular weights (M_n or M_w) of less than or equal to about: 25, 15, 10, 9.5, 9, 8.5, 8, 7.5, 7, 6.5, 6, 5.5, 5, 4.5, 4, 3.5, 3, 2.5, 2, 1.5, 1, or 0.5 kDa, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments the molecular weights (M_n or M_w) are in a range between about 1.5 to about 7, about 1.5 to about 4.5, or about 2 to about 7.

In some embodiments, the polydispersity (PDI) of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is less than or equal to about: 2, 1.5, 1.4, 1.3, 1.2, 1.1, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments, the polydispersity may be in the range between about 1.3 to about 2. In some
5 embodiments, the nitrogen wt% of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is greater than or equal to about: 5%, 10%, 12.5%, 15%, 20%, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values.

In some embodiments, the degree of branching in the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is at least about 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35, 0.4, 0.45, 0.5, 0.55, 0.6, 0.65,
10 0.7, 0.75, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. For example, in some embodiments, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a degree of branching (DB) in a range between about 0.2 to about 0.75, about 0.3 to about 0.6, or about 0.4 to about 0.5.

In some embodiments, the disclosed functionalized NO-releasing hyperbranched
15 polyaminoglycosides have antimicrobial activity. In some embodiments, the disclosed functionalized NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides provide greater than or equal to 90% bacterial reduction in a bacterial viability assay performed under static conditions over 2 hours against one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans* at a polymer concentration of
20 equal to or less than about: 8 mg/mL, 6 mg/mL, 4 mg/mL, 2 mg/mL, 1 mg/mL, 0.5 mg/mL, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. In some embodiments, the disclosed functionalized NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides provide greater than or equal to 99% bacterial reduction in a bacterial viability assay performed under static conditions over 2 hours against a gram positive bacteria at a polymer concentration of
25 equal to or less than about: 8 mg/mL, 6 mg/mL, 4 mg/mL, 2 mg/mL, 1 mg/mL, 0.5 mg/mL, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. In some embodiments, the disclosed functionalized NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides provide greater than or equal to 99% bacterial reduction in a bacterial viability assay performed under static conditions over 2 hours against a gram negative bacteria at a polymer concentration of
30 equal to or less than about: 8 mg/mL, 6 mg/mL, 4 mg/mL, 2 mg/mL, 1 mg/mL, 0.5 mg/mL, or ranges including and/or spanning the aforementioned values. In several embodiments, bacterial reduction is greater than 95%, greater than 98%, or greater than 99%.

Some embodiments pertain to a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside as disclosed herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Some embodiments pertain to a method of delivering nitric oxide to a subject, comprising administering an effective amount of a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside as disclosed herein to a subject.

Some embodiments pertain to methods of killing bacteria and/or microbes by applying NO donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides to the bacteria and/or microbes. In some embodiments, the bacteria are dental bacteria. In some embodiments, the disclosed compounds can be used in methods of preventing cavities.

EXAMPLES

Hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides represent a novel biodegradable platform that can be readily modified with NO donors for NO-release application. Further, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides can be functionalized with NO donating moieties to provide dual-action antimicrobials with improved antibacterial activity. As disclosed elsewhere herein are the synergistic effects of co-delivering aminoglycoside and NO from an amphiphilic block copolymer system against an infection-causing pathogen, *P. aeruginosa*, planktonic and biofilm culture. Disclosed in an example is the synthesis of NO-releasing aminoglycoside-terminated hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides constructed from various naturally produced exemplary aminoglycosides (e.g., kanamycin, gentamicin, and neomycin). The exterior functional groups of hyperbranched polykanamycin were altered to evaluate the potential effects on their NO-release properties. The antibacterial efficacies of these NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides were examined against a wide range of common dental pathogens (i.e., *Porphyromonas gingivalis*, *Aggregatibacter actinomycetemcomitans*, *Streptococcus mutans*, and *Actinomyces viscosus*). Also investigated was the cytotoxicity of these constructs against human gingival fibroblasts.

Example 1: Synthesis of Certain Embodiments

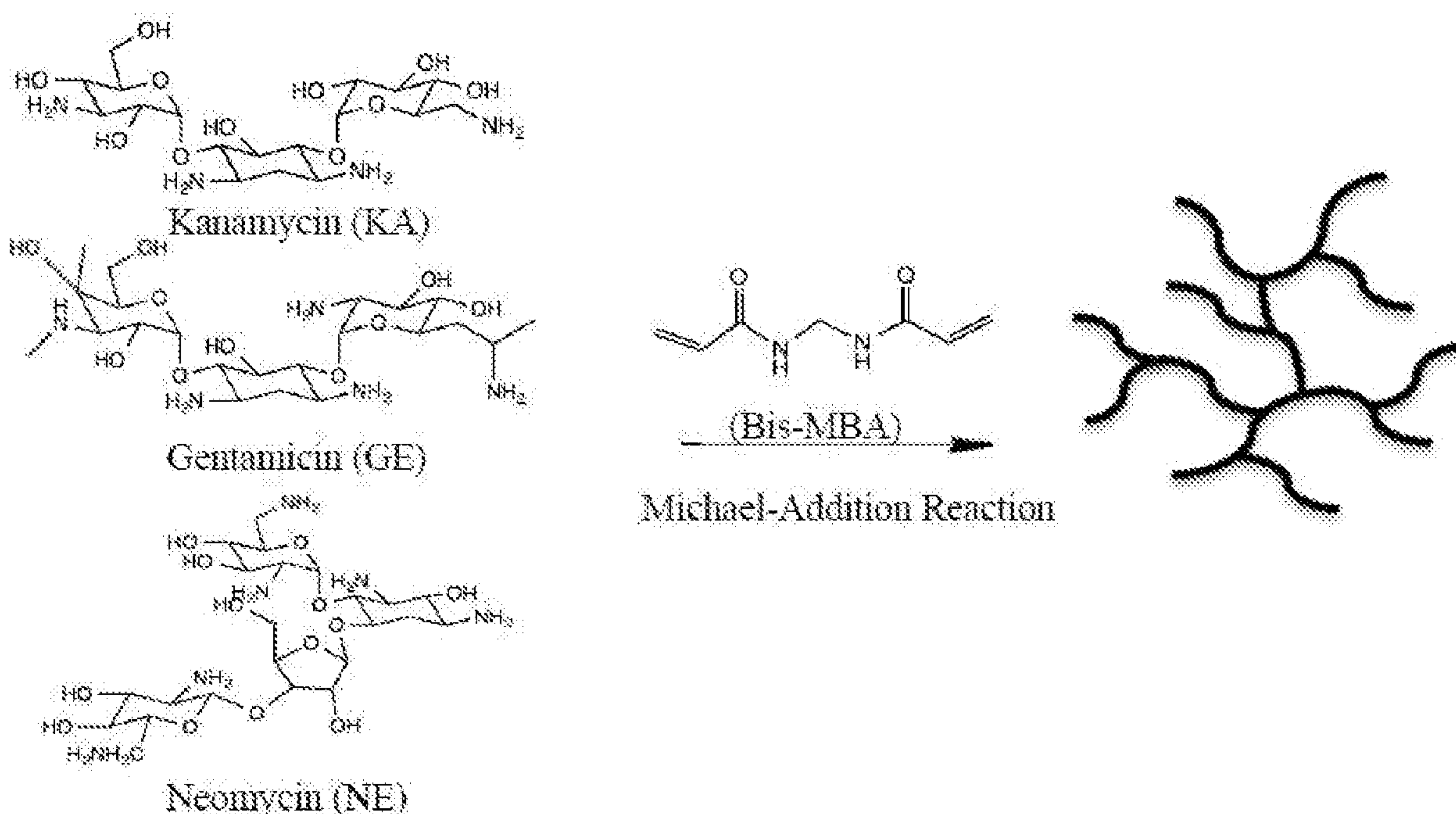
1.1 Materials and Methods

Kanamycin sulfate (KA), neomycin trisulfate salt hydrate (NE), gentamicin sulfate salt (GE), *N,N'*-methylenebis(acrylamide) (bis-MBA), ethylene diamine (EDA), mono-

ethanol amine (MEA), propidium iodide, 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-(3-carboxymethoxyphenyl)-2-(4-sulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium inner salt (MTS), and phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) for cell culture were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). 4,5-Diaminofluorescein diacetate (DAF-2DA) was purchased from
5 Calbiochem (San Diego, CA). CDC anaerobe 5% sheep blood agar, brain heart infusion (BHI) broth and agar, and GasPak™ EZ campy container system sachets were purchased from Becton, Dickinson, and Company (Franklin Lakes, NJ). Wilkins-Chalgren (W-C) broth was purchased from Acumedia Neogen Corporation (Lansing, MI). Human gingival fibroblast cell line and FibroLife fibroblast serum-free media were purchased from Lifeline
10 Cell Technology LLC (Frederick, MD). Pure nitric oxide gas, argon, nitrogen, and nitric oxide calibration (25.87 ppm in nitrogen) was purchased from Airgas (Durham, NC). Common laboratory salts and solvents were purchased from Fisher Scientific (Pittsburgh, PA). Water was purified using a Millipore Milli-Q UV Gradient A10 System (Bethlehem, PA) to a final resistivity of 18.2 MΩ cm and total organic content of ≤10 ppb. Proton
15 nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz Bruker instrument. Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) was performed on a 600 MHz Bruker instrument. In inverse gated 1H decoupling method with 10 s retention time were used for quantitative ¹³C NMR. Size exclusion chromatography was in-line with light scattering (SEC-LS) to determine the molecular weight and polydispersity. The eluent
20 (PBS, 0.01% azide, pH 7.4) was passed through a miniDawn TREOS multi-angle light scattering detector (Wyatt Technology, Santa Barbara, CA) coupled to a Waters 2414 refractive index detector (Waters Chromatography, Milford, MA).

1.2 Synthesis of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

Hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides (HPAs) were synthesized through a Michael-
25 addition reaction between *N,N'*-methylenebisacrylamide (MBA) and various natural aminoglycosides (i.e., kanamycin, neomycin, and gentamicin). As shown in scheme 1, the molar ratio of MBA and aminoglycosides was initially controlled at 3:2 to generate aminoglycoside-terminated HPA (i.e., HPKA, HPNE, and HPGE, respectively). Exterior functional groups of the scaffolds have been previously reported to have great effect on
30 nitric oxide (NO)-release properties and bactericidal activities, because the terminal groups may change the kinetics of NO donor decomposition and bacterial-scaffold association behavior.

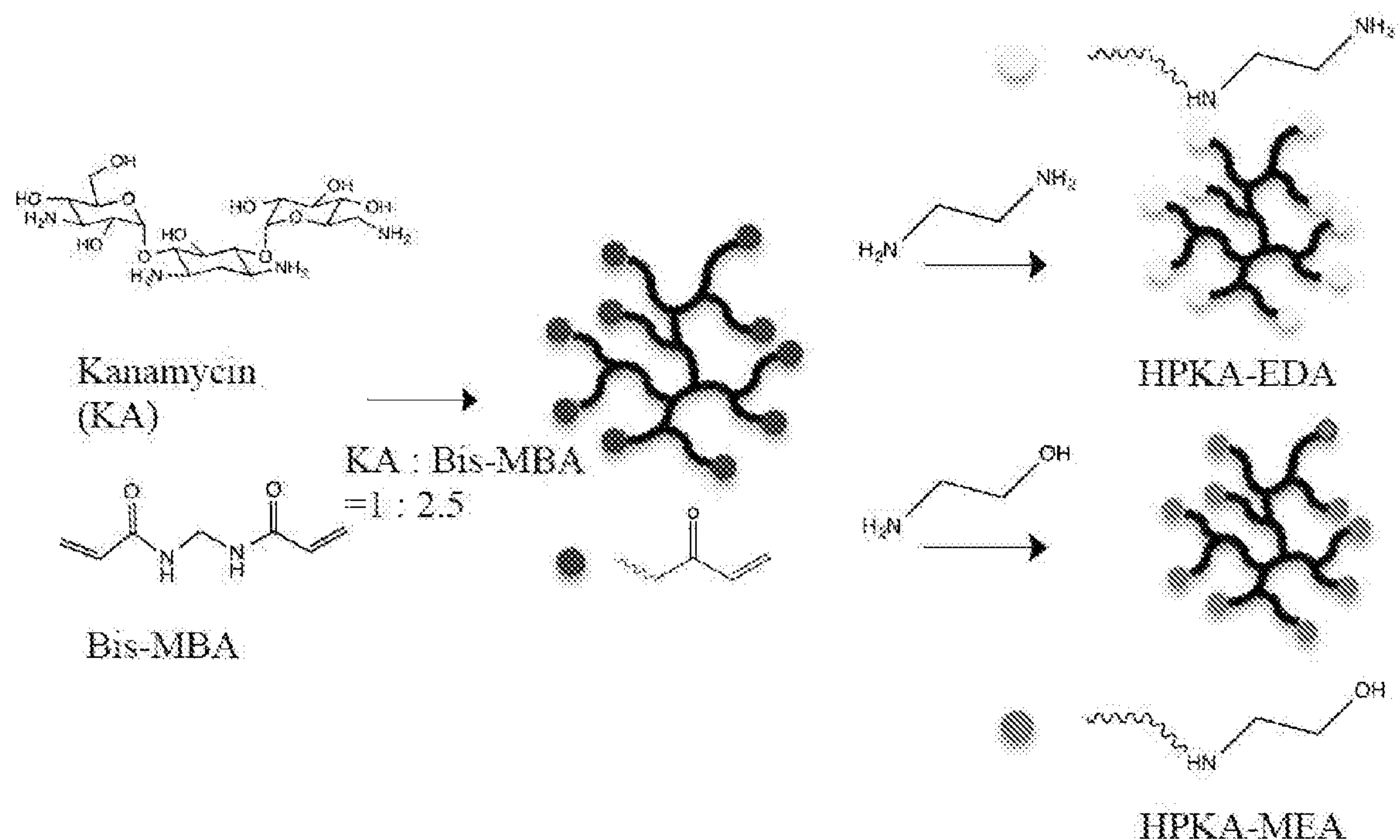


Scheme 1. The synthesis of aminoglycoside-terminated hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

The synthesis of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides was as follows. Briefly, 2.5 mmol aminoglycosides (KA, NE, or GE) sulfate was mixed with 3.75 mmol bis-MBA in 50 mL D.I. water supplemented with sodium bicarbonate that neutralized the sulfate on the aminoglycoside, to generate hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides (i.e., hyperbranched polyaminoglycosidyl kanamycin (HPKA), hyperbranched polyaminoglycosidyl neomycin (HPNE), or hyperbranched polyaminoglycosidyl gentamicin (HPGE)). Each reaction mixture was stirred 3 days under nitrogen stream at 60 °C. Each of the resulting solutions was concentrated by rotary evaporation, followed by dialysis against Milli Q water for 3 days. The purified products were recovered by lyophilization as fluffy powders.

1.3 End-Capping of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

To evaluate the potential effect of end-capping the aminoglycosides, hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides not terminated by aminoglycoside were prepared using hyperbranched polykanamycin as an example (scheme 2). The feeding molar ratio of MBA and kanamycin was increased to 5:2, generating vinyl groups-terminated HPKA* intermediate. Ethylenediamine (EDA) or monoethanolamine (MEA) was then used as end capping reagent to react with HPKA*, producing HPKA terminated by EDA (HPKA-EDA) or MEA (HPKA-MEA).



Scheme 2. The synthesis of ethylene diamine- or monoethanol amine-terminated hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

To obtain HPKA with various exterior functional groups, 2.5 mmol KA was first mixed with 6.25 mmol MBA in 50 mL D.I. water supplemented with sodium bicarbonate that neutralize the sulfate existed in aminoglycoside and reacted for 3 days at 50 °C under nitrogen stream. 0.5 mL EDA or MEA was then added as the capping agent into the reaction mixture, followed by reacting for 1 day at 40 °C to obtain HPKA-EDA or HPKA-MEA. The resulting solution was again concentrated by rotary evaporation, followed by dialysis against Milli Q water for 3 days. The purified product was also recovered by lyophilization as fluffy powder. The hyperbanchcd polyaminoglycosides were characterized by nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometry. ¹H NMR data of HPKA, HPNE, and HPGE consisted of the following peak (400 MHz, D₂O, δ): 1.0-1.5 (CHCH₂CH); 2.2-3.3 (O=CCH₂CH₂, O=CCH₂CH₂, NCH, CHNH, CHNH₂, CHCH₂NH₂, CHCH₂NH, CHCH₂N), 3.3-3.8 (CH₂OH), 4.4 (NHCH₂NH), 5.0-6.0 (CH(OCH)₂CH). HPKA-MEA and HPKA-EDA consisted of the following peaks: 1.0-1.5 (CHCH₂CH); 2.2-3.3 (O=CCH₂CH₂, O=CCH₂CH₂, NCH, CHNH, CHNH₂, CHCH₂NH₂, CHCH₂NH₂, CHCH₂N, CH₂CH₂OH), 3.3-3.8 (CH₂OH), 4.4 (NHCH₂NH), 5.0-6.0 (CH(OCH)₂CH).

1.4 Molecular Weight and Polydispersity of Hyperbranched Polyaminoglycosides.

The molecular weight and polydispersity index (PDI) of HPA were determined by size exclusion chromatography-light scattering (SEC-LS) characterization, and the data was summarized in Table 1.

5 Table 1. Characterizations of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides.

Polysaccharides	Mn ^a (g mol ⁻¹)	Mw ^a (g mol ⁻¹)	PDI ^a	DB ^b	Nitrogen ^c (wt%)
HPKA	4.30×10 ³	6.70×10 ³	1.56	0.49	10.71
HPNE	1.63×10 ⁴	2.07×10 ⁴	1.27	0.58	12.23
HPGE	2.35×10 ⁴	3.92×10 ⁴	1.67	0.32	14.21
HPKA-EDA	3.73×10 ³	5.74×10 ³	1.54	0.45	15.18
HPKA-MEA	3.63×10 ³	7.07×10 ³	1.95	0.46	12.70

^a Molecular weight was determined by SEC-LS characterization. ^b DB (degree of branching) was estimated base on quantitative ¹³C NMR. ^c Nitrogen (wt%) was determined by CHN element analysis.

The molecular weight for HPA was found to be dependent on the aminoglycoside identities, which was most likely due to their different reactivity. The molecular weight and PDI for HPKA-EDA and HPKA-MEA were found to be similar with HPKA. These HPAs were further characterized by ¹H NMR, FTIR, and ¹³C NMR (Supporting information). Generally, the consumption of peaks at 5.6-6.6 ppm from double bonds of diacrylate and the appearance of newly formed saturated double bounds at 2.2-3.0 ppm confirmed the polymerization between aminoglycosides and bis-MBA (Figs. 3A-3E). FTIR spectra showed bands located at ~2930 and ~2840 cm⁻¹, which were assigned to CH₂ stretching vibration. Meanwhile, the bands at ~1650 cm⁻¹ and ~1530 cm⁻¹ were assigned to carbonyl stretching of bis-MBA and amino bending vibration of aminoglycosides, respectively, further confirming the successful polymerization (Figs. 4A-4E). Quantitative ¹³C NMR provided evidence for the formation of hyperbranched structure. As a typical hyperbranched polymer, HPA is composed of dendritic unit, linear unit, and terminal unit. The appearance of various peaks between 25-60 ppm was due to the formation of ethylene group (i.e., -CH₂-CH₂-) under different chemical environments (i.e., dendritic unit and linear unit). The detailed assignments for these ethylene groups were determined according to previous reports, and the results were given in Figs. 5A-5E. The degree of branching (DB) was estimated based on the following equation: DB = 2D / (2D+L).^{15, 25} The DBs of HPKA, HPNE, and HPGE ranged from 0.32 to 0.58 (Table 1). The difference in DBs was again attributed to the different reactivity of aminoglycoside. For HPKA-MEA and

HPKAEDA, the DBs were comparable with HPKA (i.e., 0.45 for HPKA-EDA and 0.46 for HPKA-MEA).

Example 2: NO Release Characteristics of Certain Embodiments

5 *Synthesis of N-diazeniumdiolate NO Donor-Modified Polysaccharides.*

Macromolecular scaffolds (e.g., silica, polyamidoamine dendrimers, chitosan) for NO-release application often require additional modification steps to create reactive sites for the addition of NO donor. Hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides benefit from the existence of linear units which provide secondary amines that can be directly functionalized
10 with *N*-diazeniumdiolate NO donor (or other NO donors).

To impart NO release capacity, HPAs were reacted with high pressure (10 atm) of NO under basic solution, yielding *N*-diazeniumdiolate NO donor-functionalized HPA (i.e., HPKA/NO, HPNE/NO, HPGE/NO, HPKA-EDA/NO, and HPKA-MEA/NO). Briefly, hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides (20 mg) were mixed with 20 μ L sodium methoxide
15 (5.4 M) in 1 mL D.I. water. The reactor was flushed with argon three times, followed by three additional longer times (10 min each) to remove oxygen. The reactor was then filled with 10 atm NO pre-purified by KOH pellet. The pressure was maintained to allow the formation of *N*-diazeniumdiolate NO donor on the secondary amines of the polymers. After 3 days, the reactor was flushed with argon again using the same procedure as
20 mentioned above to remove the unreacted NO. The product (i.e., HPKA/NO, HPNE/NO, HPGE/NO, HPKA-EDA/NO, and HPKA-MEA/NO,) was precipitated by acetone, followed by washing with methanol, and dried in vacuum box.

Characterization of NO Bound HPA

The successful formation of *N*-diazeniumdiolate NO donor was confirmed by UV-
25 vis spectroscopy, as indicated by the appearance of peak at ~ 250 nm that is absent for the non-NO-releasing scaffold (Fig. 6). ^1H NMR and SEC-LS characterization (not shown) confirmed the integrity of scaffold after reacting with NO.

Characterization of nitric oxide release.

A chemiluminescence nitric oxide analyzer was used to evaluate NO-release
30 properties of the scaffolds in PBS (pH 7.4, 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$). NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides with accurately weighed mass (~ 1 mg) were added to deoxygenated 10 mM phosphate buffered saline (PBS, 30 mL, pH 7.4) at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. Nitrogen was bubbled through this solution at a flow rate of 70 mL min^{-1} to carry the liberated NO to a Sievers

chemiluminescence nitric oxide analyzer (Boulder, CO). Additional nitrogen flow was supplied to the flask to match the collection rate of the instrument at 200 mL min⁻¹. The real-time NO release profiles were recorded until the observed NO levels decreased below 10 ppb mg⁻¹ scaffold. The total NO storage was normalized to the mass of added scaffold as $\mu\text{mol NO mg}^{-1}$ scaffold.

For aminoglycoside-terminated HPA, differences in total NO storages ($\sim 0.41 \mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$ to $\sim 0.60 \mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$) and NO-release kinetics ($t_{1/2} \sim 81 \text{ min}$ to $\sim 147 \text{ min}$) were observed (see Table 2). This was attributed to the difference in the amine concentration of these constructs, as indicated by the nitrogen content (Table 1). HPGE/NO that contained highest amine concentration exhibited greatest NO totals and most extended NO-release kinetics compared to HPKA/NO and HPNE/NO. Without being bound by theory, the longer half-life was likely due to the formation of intramolecular hydrogen bonding by the neighboring cationic amines that stabilized *N*-diazoniumdiolate anions. It is also possible that the presence of surrounding amines increases the localized pH, slowing down proton-initiated *N*-diazoniumdiolate decomposition.

Table 2. Nitric oxide release characterization for polysaccharides.^a

Polysaccharides	$t[\text{NO}]$ ($\mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$) ^b	$t[\text{NO}]_{2\text{h}}$ ($\mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$) ^c	$t_{1/2}$ (min) ^d
HPKA/NO	0.41 ± 0.08	0.23 ± 0.07	81 ± 30
HPNE/NO	0.54 ± 0.14	0.29 ± 0.08	103 ± 33
HPGE/NO	0.60 ± 0.14	0.25 ± 0.07	147 ± 23
HPKA-EDA/NO	1.20 ± 0.21	0.46 ± 0.07	185 ± 25
HPKA-MEA/NO	1.28 ± 0.28	0.77 ± 0.17	74 ± 21

^a $n \geq 3$ separate syntheses; ^b Total NO storage per milligram polyesters; ^c NO released amount for the initial 2h; ^d Half-life of NO release.

Exchanging the terminal groups of HPKA from KA to EDA or MEA resulted in an unexpected increase in NO-release totals (Fig. 7). HPKA-EDA/NO and HPKA-MEA/NO exhibited greater NO totals ($\sim 1.20 \mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$) compared to HPKA/NO ($\sim 0.41 \mu\text{mol mg}^{-1}$), even though the amine content did not change significantly, as indicated by the nitrogen content (wt%). Without being bound by theory, the higher nitrogen content observed for HPKA-EDA was believed to be due to the introduction of more primary amines that do not contribute to the formation of stable *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donors. Thus, without being bound to a particular theory, it is theorized that the difference in NO totals was due to the position of secondary amines that affected their reactivity with NO. For HPKA, the secondary amines provided from linear units would be randomly distributed along the

polymer backbone (Scheme 1). The interior secondary amines may have limited reactivity to form the NO donor.

In comparison, the synthesis of HPKA-EDA and HPKA-MEA would result in the secondary amines concentrating at the exterior of the scaffold, leading to an enhanced NO donor formation efficacy (Scheme 2). The identity of exterior functional groups also greatly affected NO-release kinetics. Without being bound to a particular theory, it is believed this enhancement is attributable to the difference in chemical structure. The NO-release kinetics of HPKA-EDA/NO ($t_{1/2}$ ~185 min) was more extended compared to HPKA-MEA/NO ($t_{1/2}$ ~74 min). It is believed that the formation of hydrogen bonding and localized pH (e.g., localized pH differences) play a role on the resulting NO-release kinetics. It is believed that the terminal primary amine from EDA stabilized the NO donor and increased the local pH, leading to a slower NO release profile (Fig. 7).

Example 3: Anti-Microbial Characteristics of Certain Embodiments

The following describes testing that was performed using example embodiments of HPAs. The antibacterial activities of control and NO-releasing HPA were evaluated against various dental disease causing bacteria species (i.e., *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and *S. mutans*). Specifically, *P. gingivalis* and *A. actinomycetemcomitans* belong to Gram-negative class, and they are commonly related to periodontal diseases. *S. mutans* and *A. viscosus* are Gram-positive species, and they have been considered as key etiological agents for dental caries. The wide range of dental bacteria species chosen in the present disclosure ensured the potential universality of the resulting conclusion in the aspect of oral therapeutics.

Planktonic bactericidal assays.

Planktonic bacteria species (i.e., *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *S. mutans*, and *A. viscosus*) were initially stored in 15% glycerol PBS at -80 °C. To perform the bactericidal assay, a frozen stock was grown in BHI broth (W-C anaerobic broth for *P. ginigvalis*) at 37 °C overnight, and allowed for growing to 10⁸ colonies forming unit per milliliter (CFU mL⁻¹) determined by optical density (OD 600 nm). *P. ginigvalis* was cultured anaerobically. *A. actinomycetemcomitans* and *A. viscosus* were cultured in a microaerophilic environment. *S. mutans* was cultured aerobically. Bacteria were then diluted to 10⁶ CFU/mL in 1% BHI (W-C anaerobic broth for *P. ginigvalis*)-supplemented PBS and exposed to various NO-releasing and respective control materials for 2 hours at 37 °C.

Bactericidal study against planktonic dental pathogens.

Bactericidal assay was performed under nutrient-supplemented condition (i.e., 1% broth-supplemented PBS, pH 7.4, 37 °C). Minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC, mg mL⁻¹), a 3-log reduction in bacterial viability, was used to quantify the scaffolds antibacterial efficacy. To quantify the antibacterial capacities of materials against planktonic bacterial, the minimum bactericidal concentration (e.g., the minimum concentration of materials required to achieve a 3-log reduction in viability after 2 hours) was determined.

NO dose was derived by multiplying the amount of NO delivered over the 2 h exposure time (i.e., t[NO]_{2h}) and the corresponding MBC values. The values of MBC and NO dose were provided in Table 3 and Table 4. The much lower MBC values for NO-releasing HPA compared to control (i.e., non-NO-releasing) HPA demonstrated that NO was the bactericidal agent. Indeed, it is believed that NO can exert antibacterial capacities through the introduction of extracellular nitrosative and intracellular oxidative stress, leading to cell death via multiple mechanisms. Further inspection of MBC values and NO dose revealed that the Gram-negative bacteria (i.e., *A. actinomycetemcomitans* and *P. gingivalis*) were more sensitive to NO treatment compared to Gram-positive bacteria species (i.e., *S. mutans* and *A. viscosus*). Without being bound to a particular theory, this was attributed to the thicker peptidoglycan cell membrane of Gram-positive bacteria that is more resistant to NO diffusion, consistent with previous observations.

Table 3. The minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC, mg mL⁻¹) and NO dose (μmol mL⁻¹) of polyaminoglycosides against gram-negative dental pathogens.^a

Polysaccharides	<i>P. gingivalis</i>		<i>A. actinomycetemcomitans</i>	
	MBC (mg mL ⁻¹)	NO dose (μmol mL ⁻¹)	MBC (mg mL ⁻¹)	NO dose (μmol mL ⁻¹)
HPKA	16		16	
HPKA/NO	2	0.46	1	0.23
HPNE	16		8	
HPNE/NO	0.5	0.15	0.5	0.15
HPGE	>16		16	
HPGE/NO	4	1.00	2	0.50
HPKA-EDA	>16		16	
HPKA-EDA/NO	4	1.84	2	0.92
HPKA-MEA	>16		16	
HPKA-MEA/NO	2	1.54	1	0.77

^a n ≥ 3 replicates

Table 4. The minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC, mg mL⁻¹) and NO dose (μmol mL⁻¹) of polysaccharides against gram-positive dental pathogens.^a

Polysaccharides	<i>S. mutans</i>		<i>A. viscosus</i>	
	MBC (mg mL ⁻¹)	NO dose (μmol mL ⁻¹)	MBC (mg mL ⁻¹)	NO dose (μmol mL ⁻¹)
HPKA	>16		>16	
HPKA/NO	4	0.92	2	0.46
HPNE	>16		8	
HPNE/NO	4	1.16	1	0.29
HPGE	>16		>16	
HPGE/NO	>16	>4.00	4	1.00
HPKA-EDA	>16		16	
HPKA-EDA/NO	16	7.36	2	0.92
HPKA-MEA	>16		>16	
HPKA-MEA/NO	8	6.16	4	3.08

^an ≥ 3 replicates

For HPA with different aminoglycoside identity, HPKA/NO and HPNE/NO that have higher DBs (degrees of branching) exhibited superior bactericidal activities compared to HPGE/NO that has lower DB. It is believed that with the increase in DBs of hyperbranched polymer, the spatial structure would become more compact associated with decreased hydrodynamic size. Thus, the enhanced bactericidal ability of HPKA/NO and HPNE/NO may be a result of a smaller size compared to HPGE/NO that enabled more efficient bacterial-scaffold association and penetration, ultimately improving intracellular NO delivery efficacy. Of note, the MBC values and NO dose observed for HPKA/NO and HPNE/NO were significantly lower (i.e., MBC ≤ 4 mg mL⁻¹) than that of previously reported NO-releasing scaffolds (i.e., MBC ≤ 48 mg mL⁻¹), suggesting the superiority of using NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides to battle dental pathogens.

Exchanging the exterior functional groups of HPKA from KA to EDA or MEA resulted in a decrease in their bactericidal efficacies, as evidenced by the increased NO dose required to achieve the same killing against tested dental pathogens. In addition, the NO doses of HPKA-EDA/NO and HPKA-MEA/NO were observed to be comparable for eradicating dental pathogens, despite their distinct NO-release kinetics. These data suggested the existence of aminoglycoside terminal group was a factor that contributed to the enhanced bactericidal capacity of HPKA/NO compared to HPKA-EDA/NO and HPKA-MEA/NO.

Confocal fluorescence microscopy for visualizing intracellular NO accumulation and bacterial cell membrane disruption.

To elucidate the mechanism of this observed difference in bactericidal action, confocal fluorescence microscope was used to visualize intracellular NO and cell membrane damage, using DAF-2DA and PI fluorescence probe, respectively (Figs. 8A and 8B). After exposing *S. mutans* to HPKA/NO, an initial intracellular NO accumulation (at 30 min) was observed, followed by the appearance cell membrane damage and depletion of the accumulated NO (starting from 60 min). However, only the appearance of intracellular NO with little cell membrane damage was observed after exposure of *S. mutans* to HPKA-MEA/NO at the same concentration. The confocal fluorescence data indicated that the improved bactericidal action for HPKA/NO was the result of more efficient cell membrane damage through the synergistic effects between kanamycin terminal group and NO.

The exemplary bacteria (i.e., *S. mutans*) was cultured to 108 CFU mL⁻¹ as described above and diluted to 106 CFU mL⁻¹ with medium (i.e., PBS) supplemented with 10 µM DAF-2DA for detection of intracellular NO accumulation and 30 µM PI for detection of cell membrane damage. Bacteria solutions (3 mL) were pre-incubated in a glass bottom confocal dish for 45 min at 37 °C. A Zeiss 510 Meta inverted laser scanning confocal microscope (Carl Zeiss, Thornwood, NY) with a 488 nm Ar excitation laser (20.0 mW 2.0% intensity) with a BP 505-530 nm filter was used to obtain DAF-2DA signal (green). A 543 nm HeNe excitation laser (1.0 mW, 20.0% intensity) with a BP 560–615 nm filter was used to obtain PI signal (red). Both bright field and fluorescence images were collected using an N.A. 1.2 C-apochromat water immersion lens with a 40× objective. Bacteria culture was exposed to HPKA/NO or HPKA-MEA/NO at final concentration of 100 µg mL⁻¹. Images were collected every 15 min.

In Vitro Cytotoxicity.

The toxicity against mammalian cells is an important factor when evaluating a newly developed antibacterial agent. To evaluate the potentials of these hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides for oral therapeutics, cytotoxicity against human gingival fibroblasts (HGF-1), a common cell line used for the evaluation of dental materials, was tested at various concentrations. The viability of HGF-1 was monitored by MTS assay after 2 h exposure time.

Human gingival fibroblasts (HGF-1) were grown in FibroLife fibroblast serum-free media, and incubated in 5 vol % CO₂ under humidified conditions at 37 °C. The cells were

trypsinized after reaching 80% confluency, followed by seeding onto tissue culture treated polystyrene 96-well plates at a density of $\sim 2 \times 10^4$ cells/mL. The plates were further incubated at 37 °C for 24 h. The supernatant was then aspirated and replaced with 100 μ L of fresh growth medium with varying concentrations of hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides scaffolds. After 2 h incubation at 37 °C, the supernatant was aspirated and washed with DPBS. A mixture of DMEM/MTS/PMS (105/20/1, v/v/v) solution (100 μ L) was then added to each well, and incubated for 3 h at 37 °C. The absorbance of the colored solutions was quantified at 490 nm using a ThermoScientific Multiskan EX plate reader (Waltham, MA). The mixture of DMEM/MTS/PMS and untreated cells were used as a blank and control, respectively. Results were expressed as percentage of relative cell viability as follows:

$$\% \text{ cell viability} = [(\text{Abs}_{490} - \text{Abs}_{\text{blank}}) / (\text{Abs}_{\text{control}} - \text{Abs}_{\text{blank}})] \times 100\% \text{ (eq. 1)}$$

A killing curve was constructed for non-NO-releasing and NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides by plotting % cell viability versus concentration (mg mL⁻¹).

For control hyperbranched polymer terminated with aminoglycoside, HPNE exhibited highest toxicity, while HPGE exhibited lowest toxicity, consistent with their bactericidal ability. Exchanging exterior functional groups of HPKA from KA to EDA or MEA decreased the toxicity of scaffold at high concentrations (i.e., ≥ 8 mg mL⁻¹), indicating that aminoglycoside terminal groups may induce certain degree of adverse effects against mammalian cells at these concentrations (Figs. 9A and 9B). The addition of NO-release capacities inhibited the viability of HGF-1 compared to control hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides (Figs. 4A-4E). Nevertheless, HPKA/NO was found to be non-toxic (i.e., $\geq 80\%$ cell viability), and HPNE/NO was found to exhibit minimal toxicity (i.e., $\geq 50\%$ cell viability) to HGF-1 at their effective bactericidal concentrations (i.e., 4 mg mL⁻¹).

Conclusion

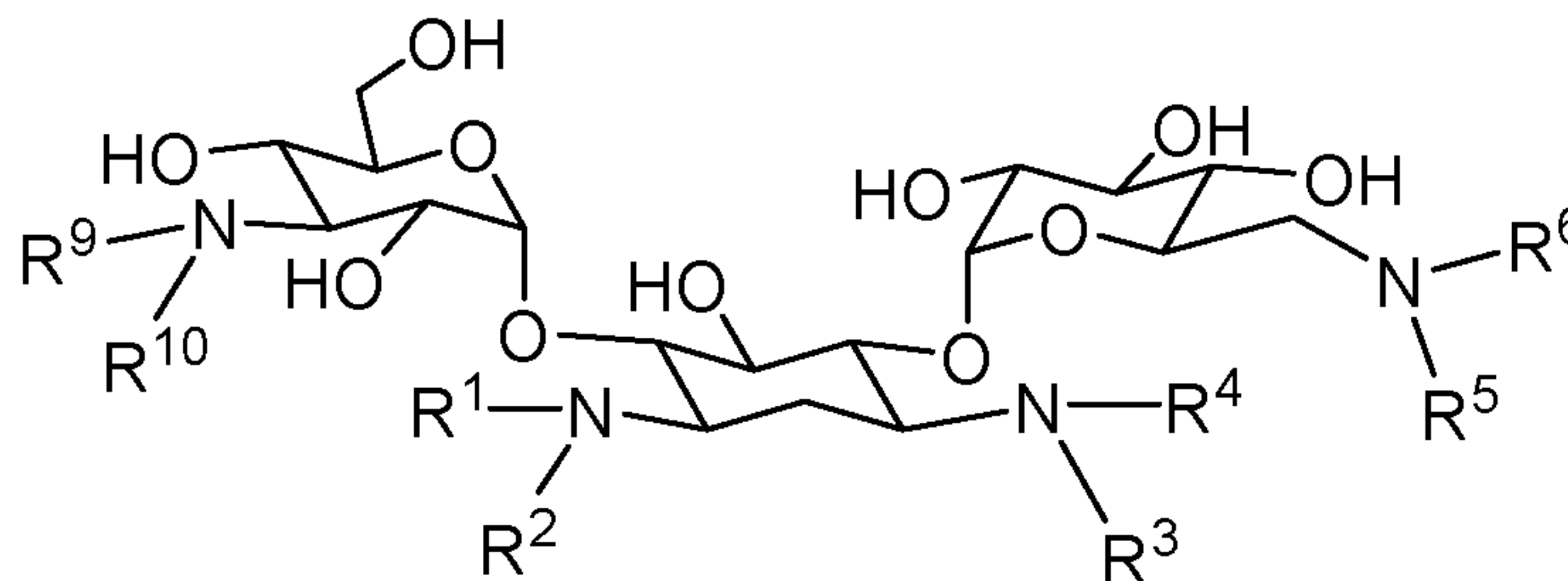
Herein, a synthetic protocol for preparing NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides capable of NO storage and release kinetics over wide ranges was provided. The total NO storage and associated NO-release kinetics were highly dependent on the identity of aminoglycoside monomer and specific exterior functional groups. The antibacterial action of the NO-releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside was examined against common dental pathogens. The combination of aminoglycoside terminal group and

NO-release capacities that led to more efficient cell damage contributed to the improved bactericidal ability of scaffolds. In some embodiments, it was found that the combination of an aminoglycoside terminal group and NO produced greater bacteria membrane damage and bactericidal action.

5 Indeed, the NO-releasing hyperbranched polykanamycin and polyneomycin exhibited broad-spectrum bactericidal action. The favorable NO payloads, release kinetics, bactericidal action, and cytotoxicity suggest that these biopolymer scaffolds show high promise for a number of therapeutic applications beyond oral health. As an example, in some embodiments HPKA/NO and HPNE/NO exhibited broad-spectrum antibacterial
10 activities against both Gram-positive cariogenic and Gram-negative periodontal pathogens. As these hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides were also found to not elicit significant toxicity to mammalian cells, they may be promising their potentials for oral therapeutics.

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

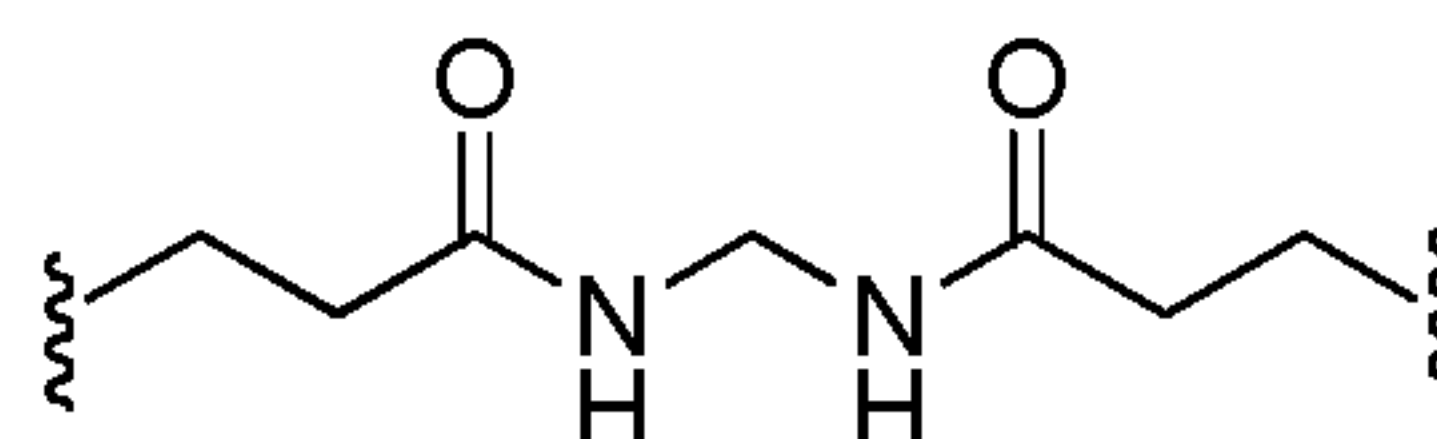
1. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside unit comprising Formula II:



Formula II

5 wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^9 , and R^{10} is independently selected from the -H or represents a covalent bond to one or more linking units;

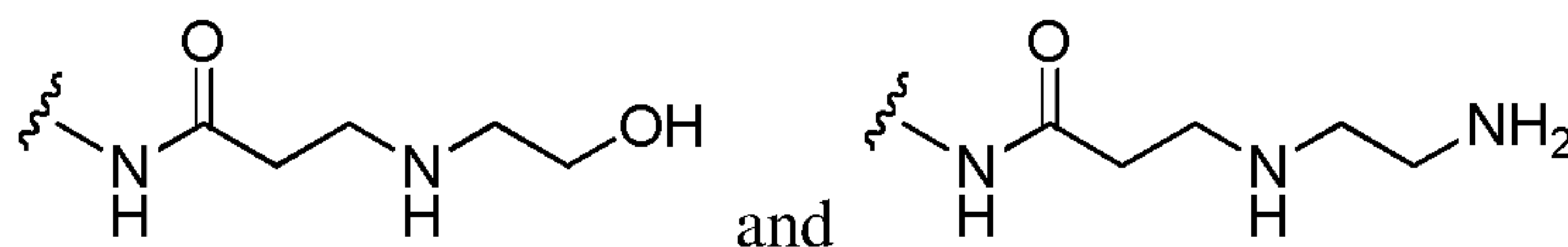
wherein a linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following structure:



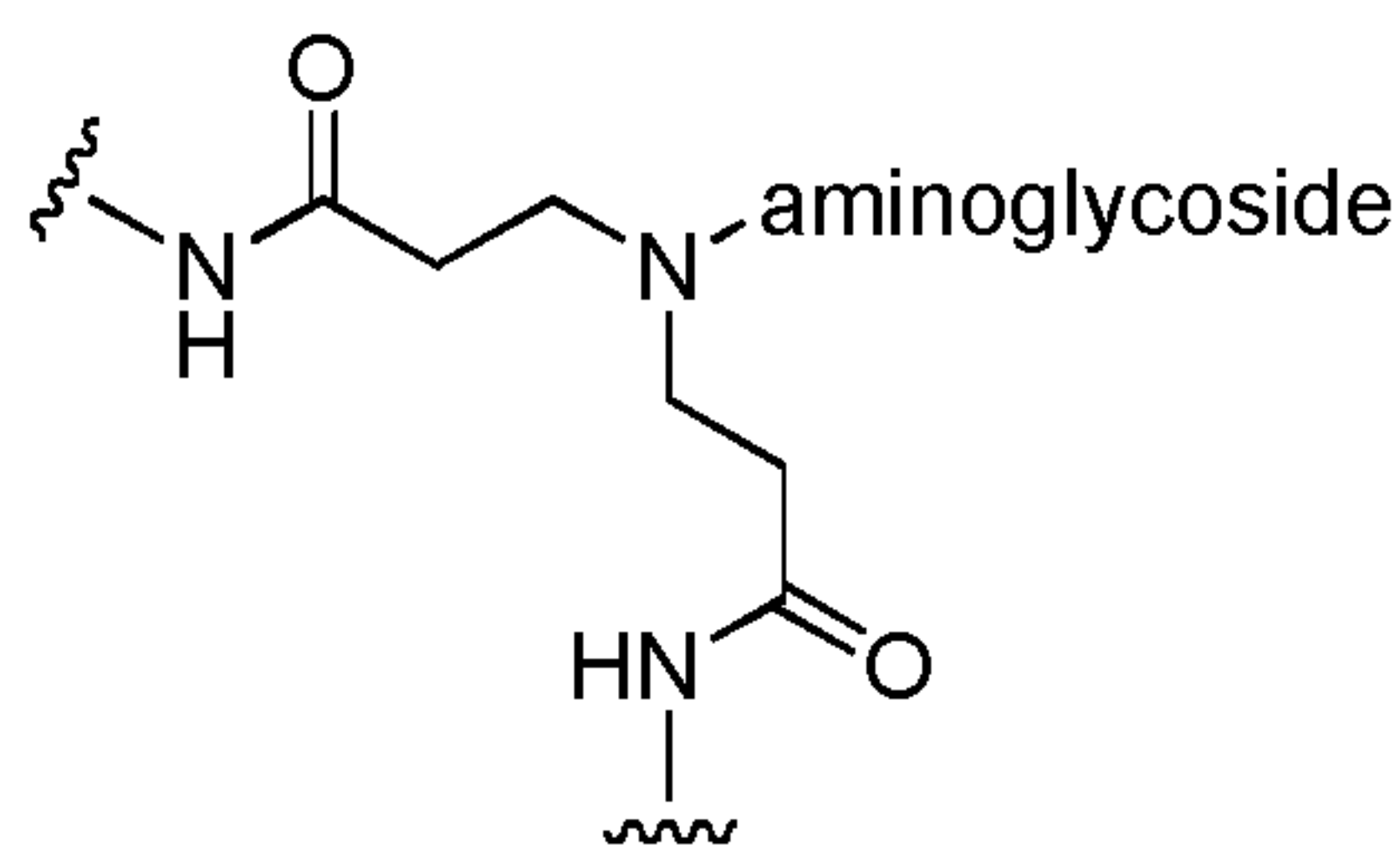
10 wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and

wherein at least one aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is derived from kanamycin.

15 2. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, additionally comprising one or more terminal units selected from:

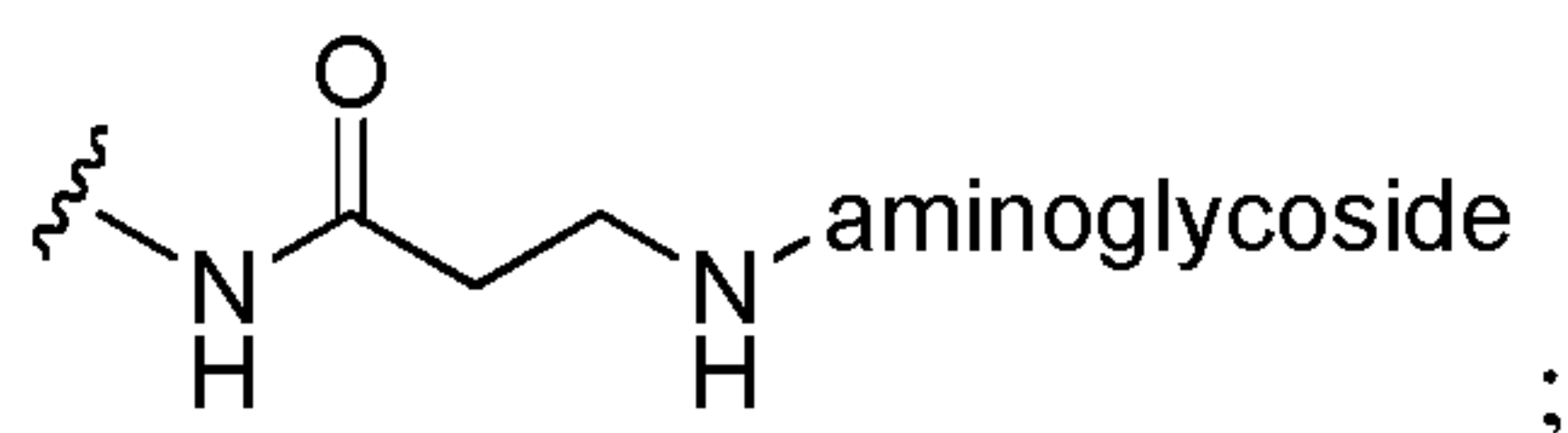


20 3. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, additionally comprising one or more dendritic units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

4. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, additionally comprising one or more linear units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula II.

5

5. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, wherein at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a NO donor.

6. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, wherein at least a secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

10

7. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a number average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 4 kDa.

8. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a weight average molecular weight of less than or equal to about 7 kDa.

15

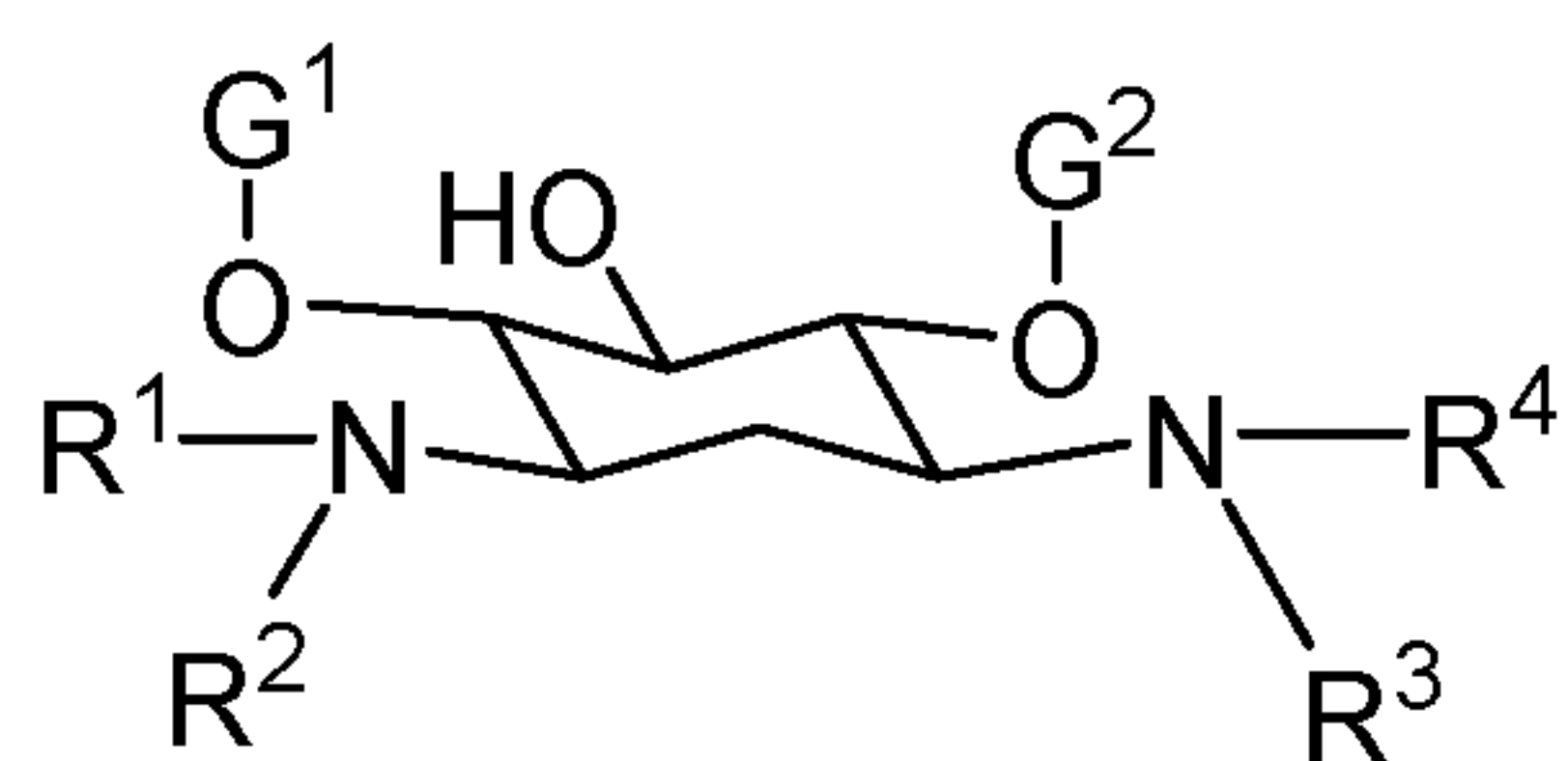
9. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 1, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides has a NO storage capacity of greater than or equal to about 0.4 μmol NO/mg hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

10. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 9, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside provides greater than or equal to about 99% bacterial reduction in a bacterial viability assay performed under static conditions over 2 hours against one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans* at a concentration of less than or equal to about 2 mg / mL.

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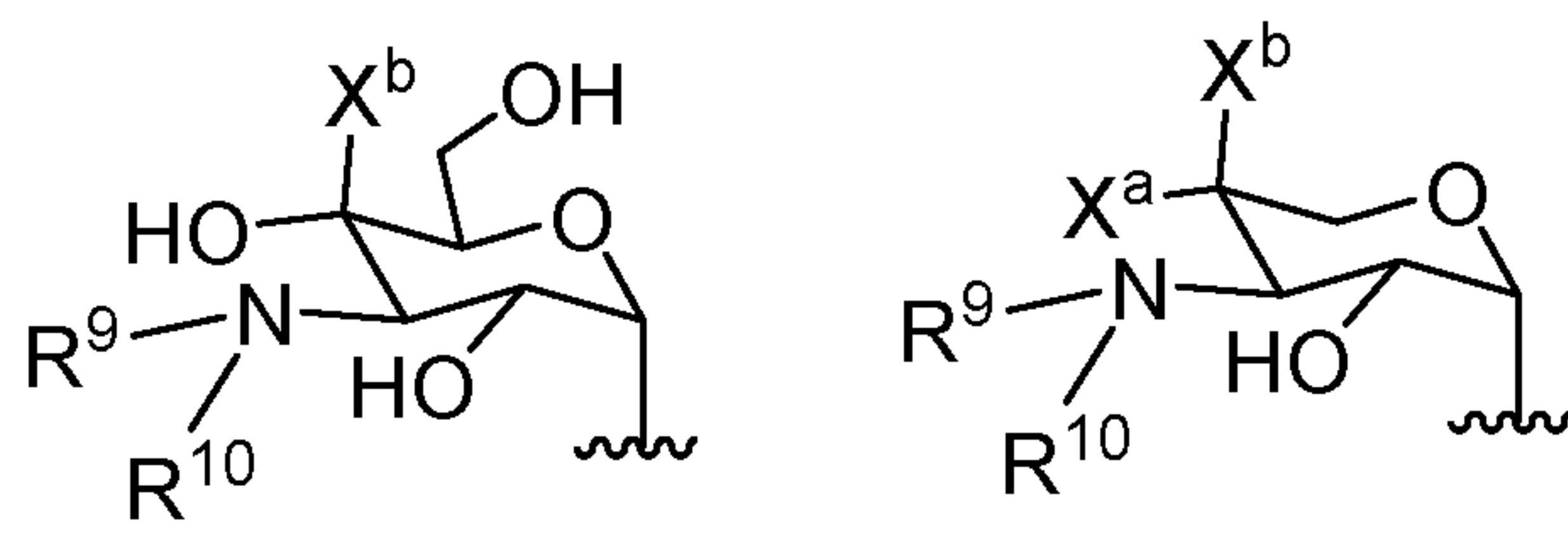
11. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside comprising a structure of Formula I:



Formula I

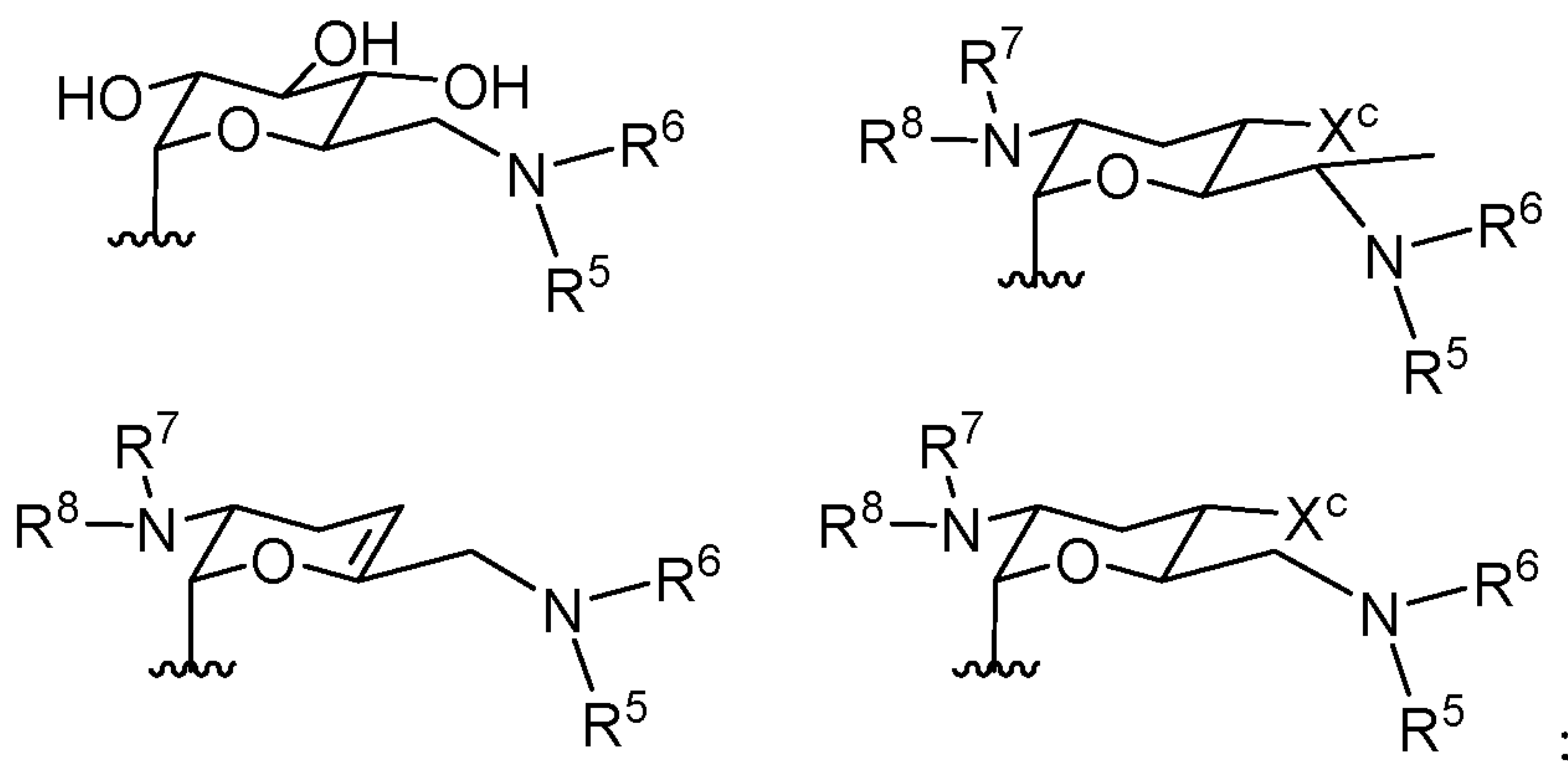
;

wherein G^1 is selected from the group consisting of:



;

wherein G^2 is selected from the group consisting of:

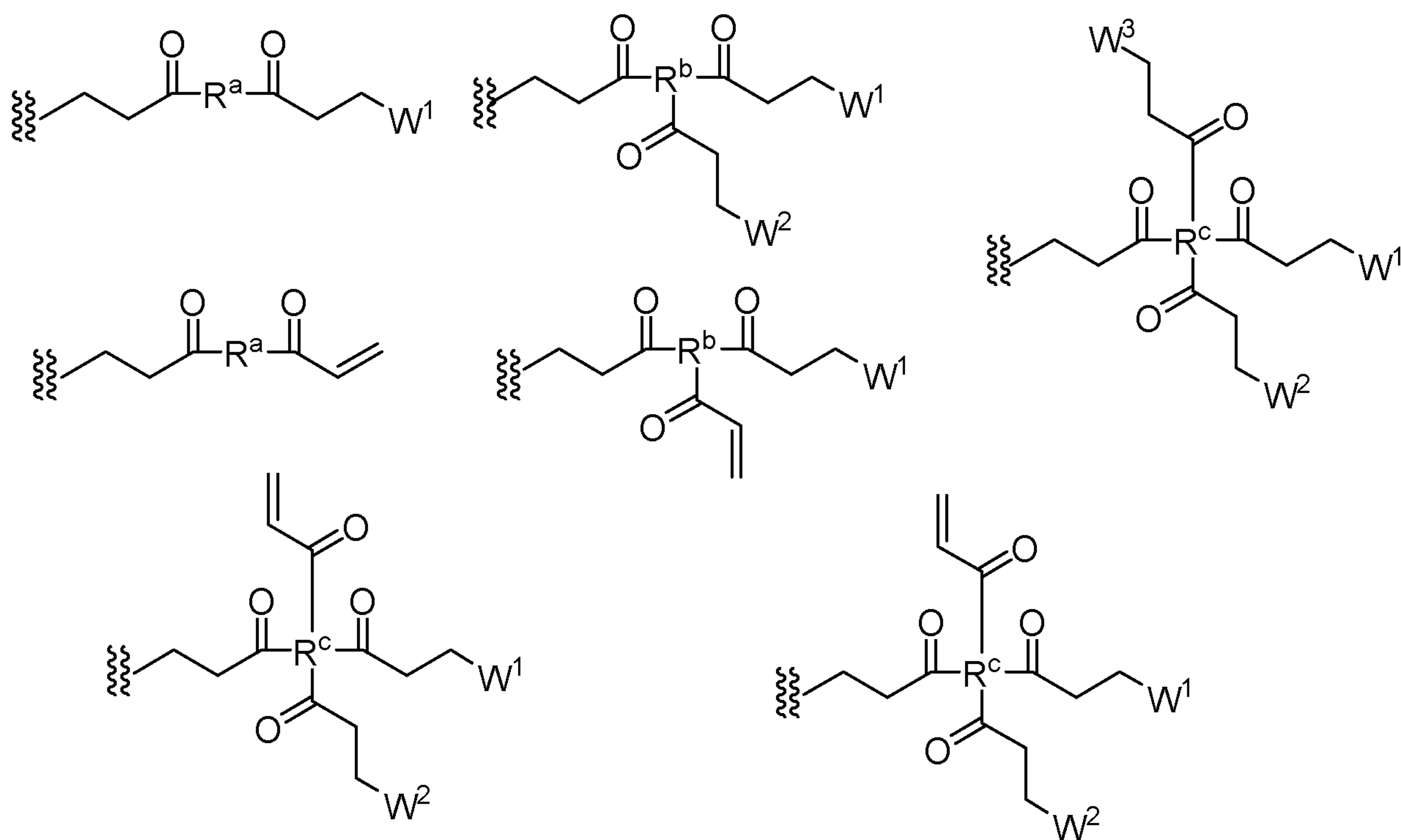


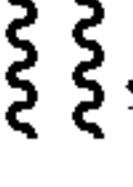
;

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit;

X^a , X^b , and X^c are independently selected from -H, -OH, and C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

wherein at least one of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



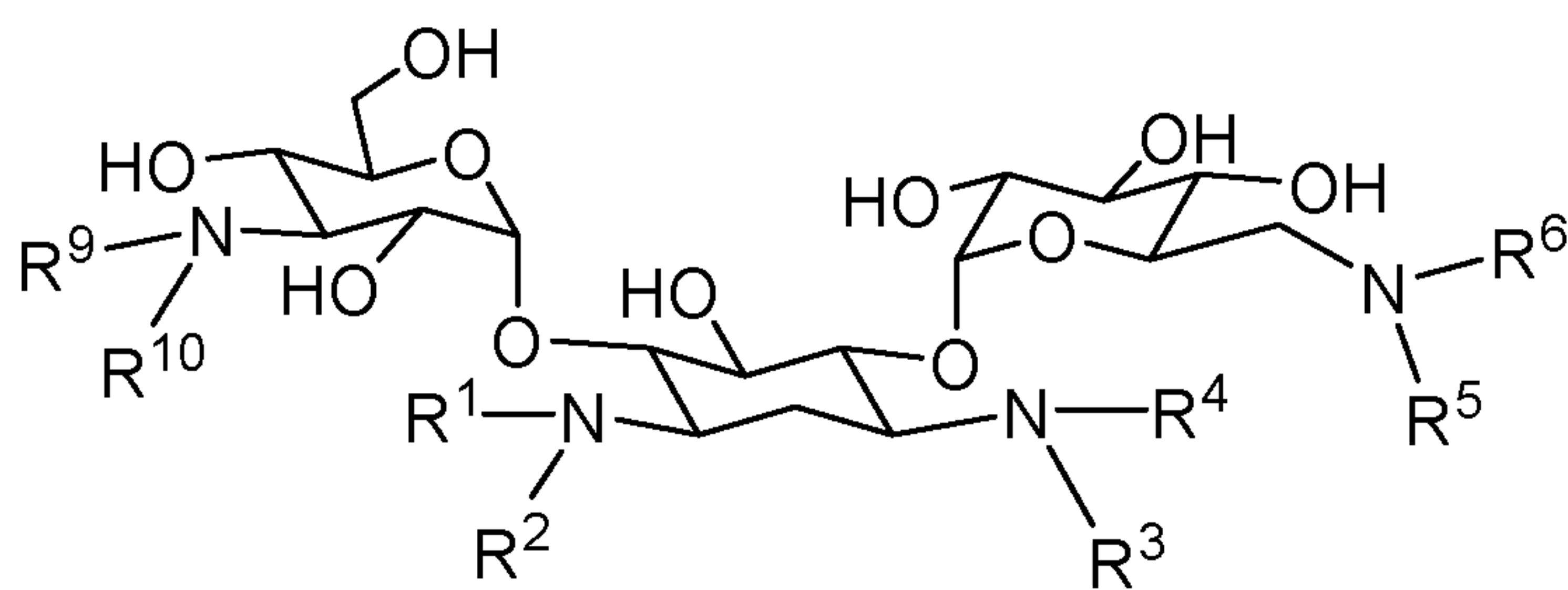
wherein “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside;

W¹, W², or W³, where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides or one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside;

R^a, R^b, and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)); and

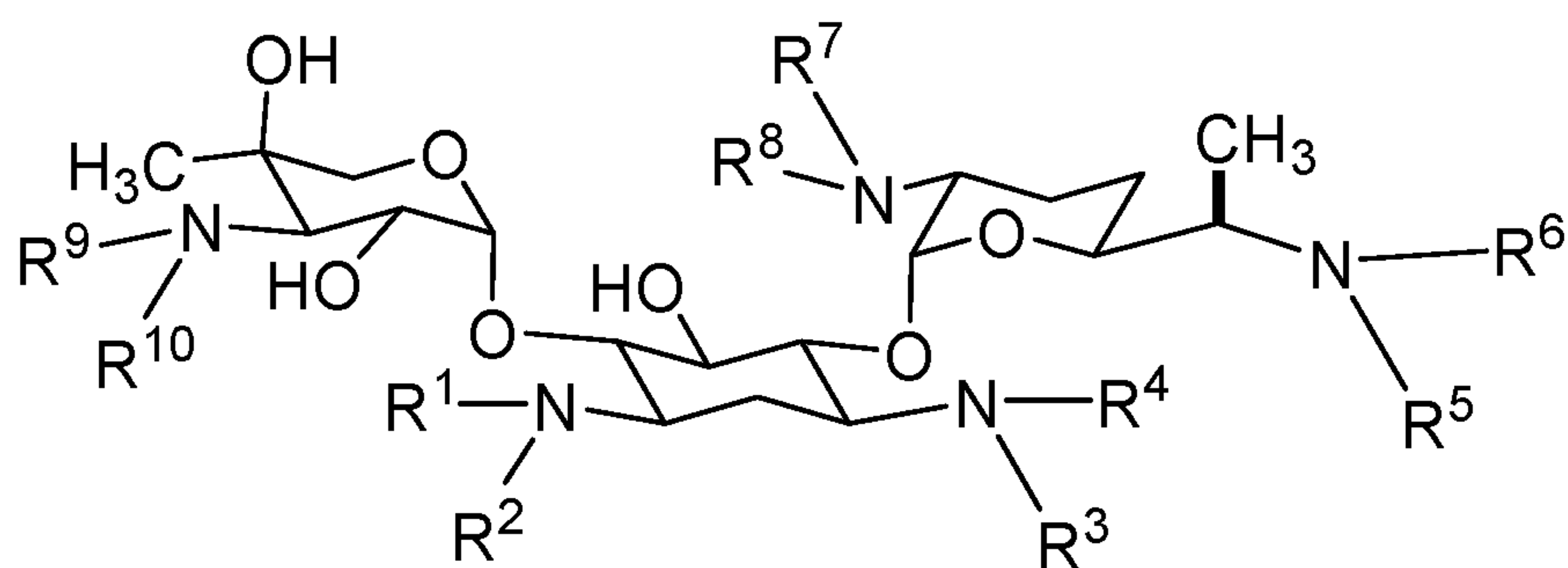
wherein the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of -NH-((CH₂)_aX¹)_b-(CH₂)_cH where of X¹ is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

12. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 11, wherein the first aminoglycoside comprises a structure of Formula II:



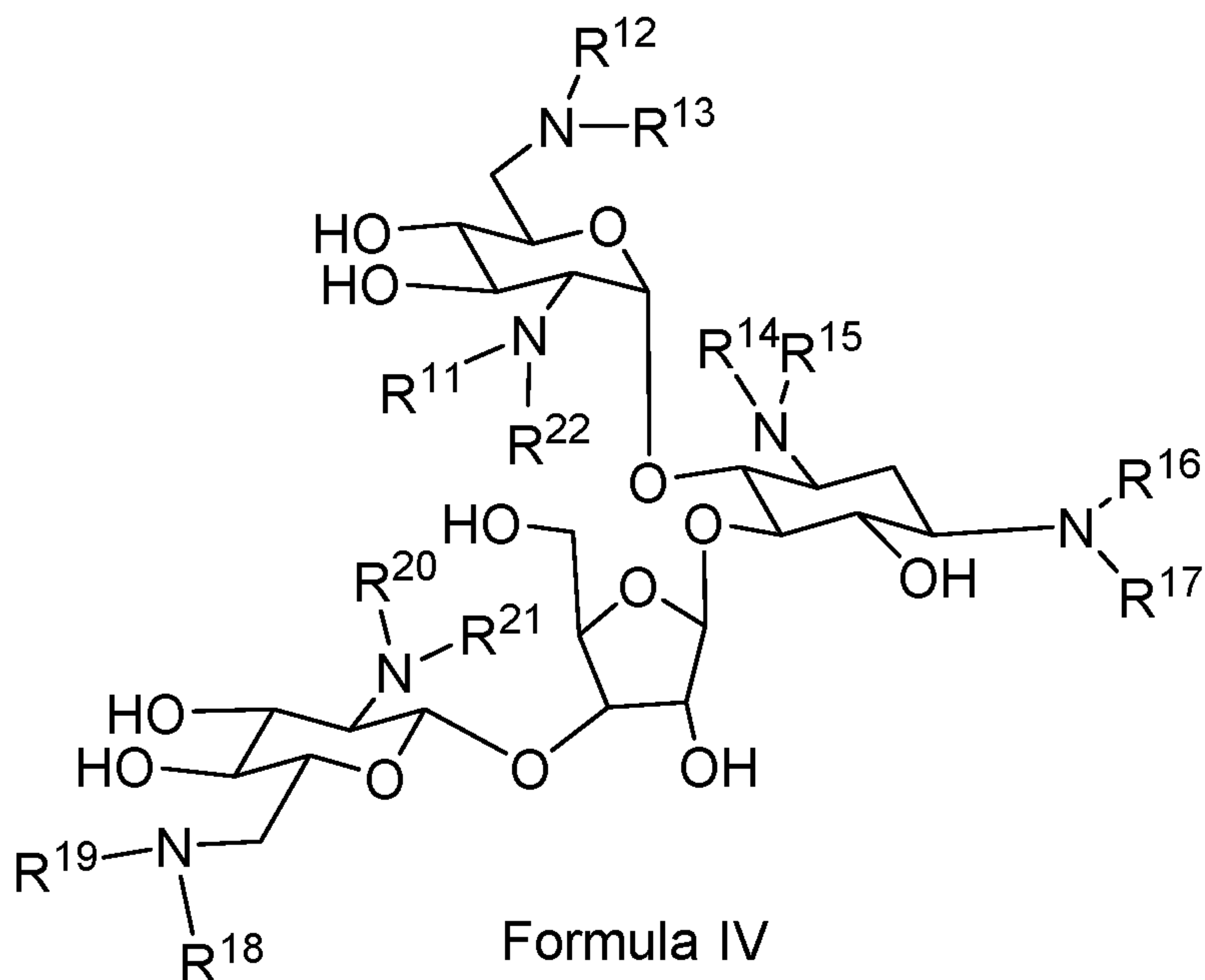
Formula II

13. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 11, wherein the first aminoglycoside comprises a structure of Formula III:



Formula III

5 14. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, wherein the first aminoglycoside comprises a structure of Formula IV:



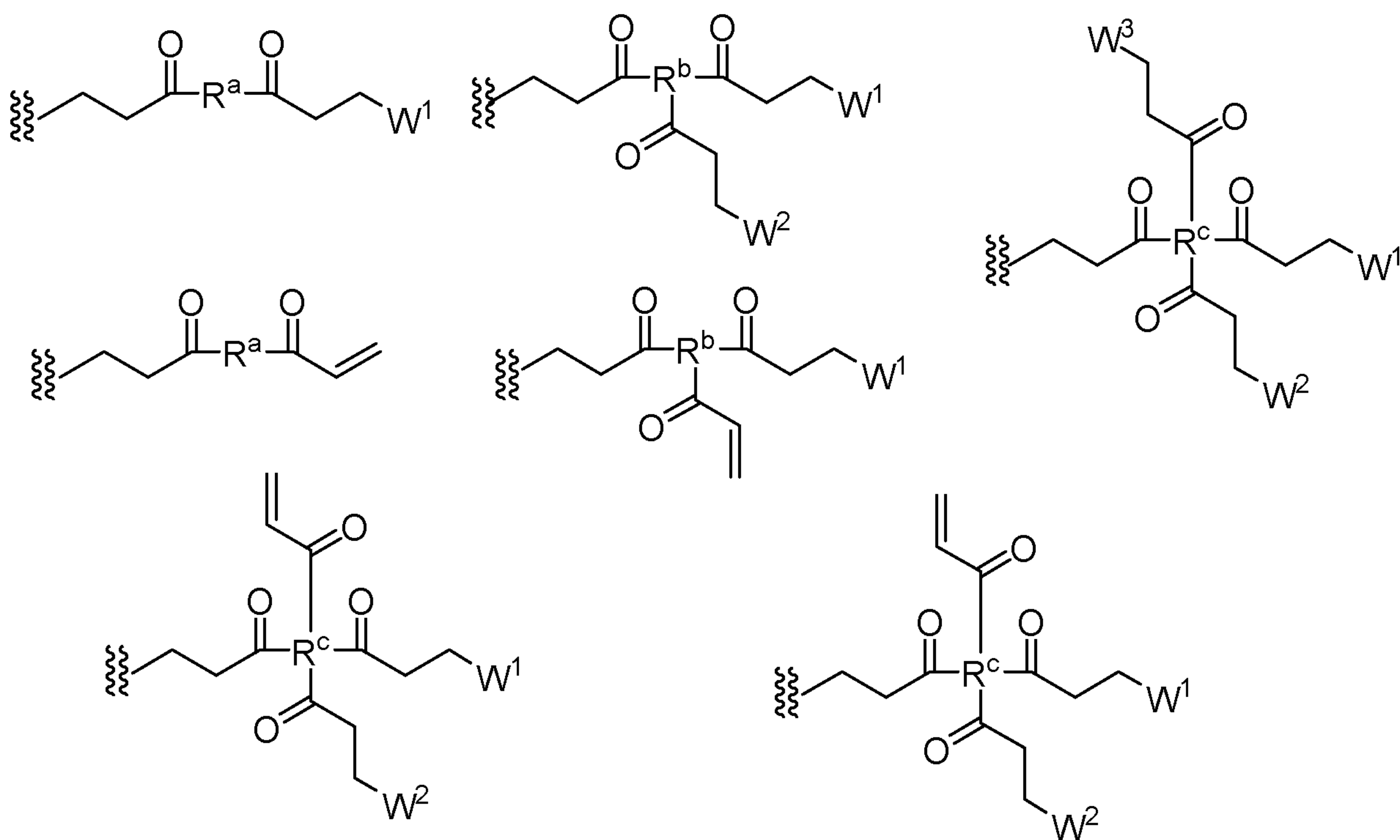
Formula IV

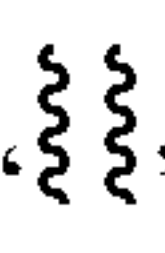
;

wherein R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6

alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C₁-C₆ alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C₁-C₆ alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit;

wherein at least one of R¹¹, R¹², R¹³, R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶, R¹⁷, R¹⁸, R¹⁹, R²⁰, R²¹,
 5 and R²² is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



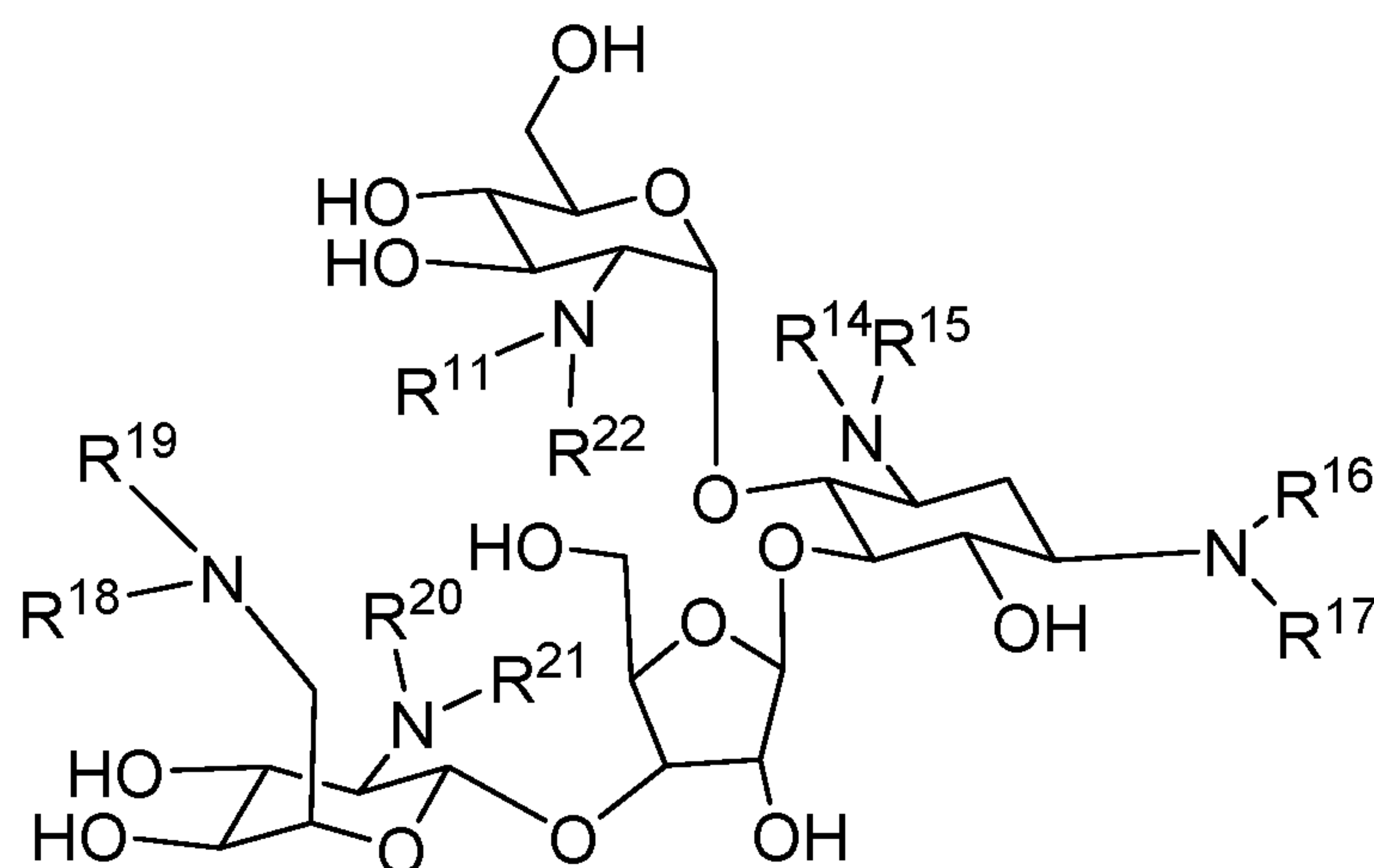
wherein “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside;

wherein W¹, W², or W³, where present, are independently selected from one
 10 or more additional aminoglycosides or one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside;

wherein R^a, R^b, and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting
 of optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6
 15 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C₁-C₆ alkyl(s)); and

wherein the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of -NH-((CH₂)_aX¹)_b-(CH₂)_cH where of X¹ is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

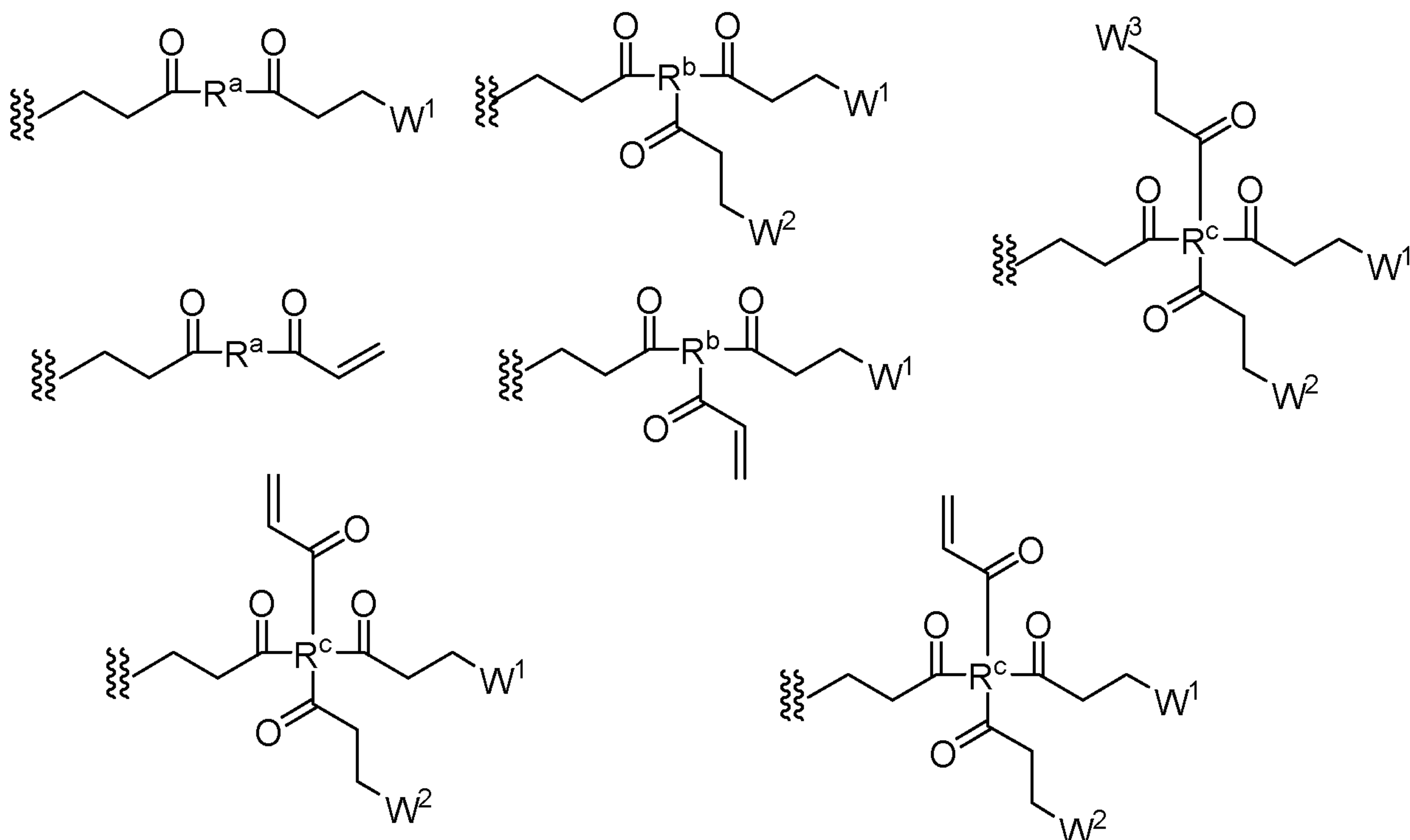
15. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, wherein the first aminoglycoside comprises a structure of Formula V:



Formula V

wherein R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit;

wherein at least one of R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



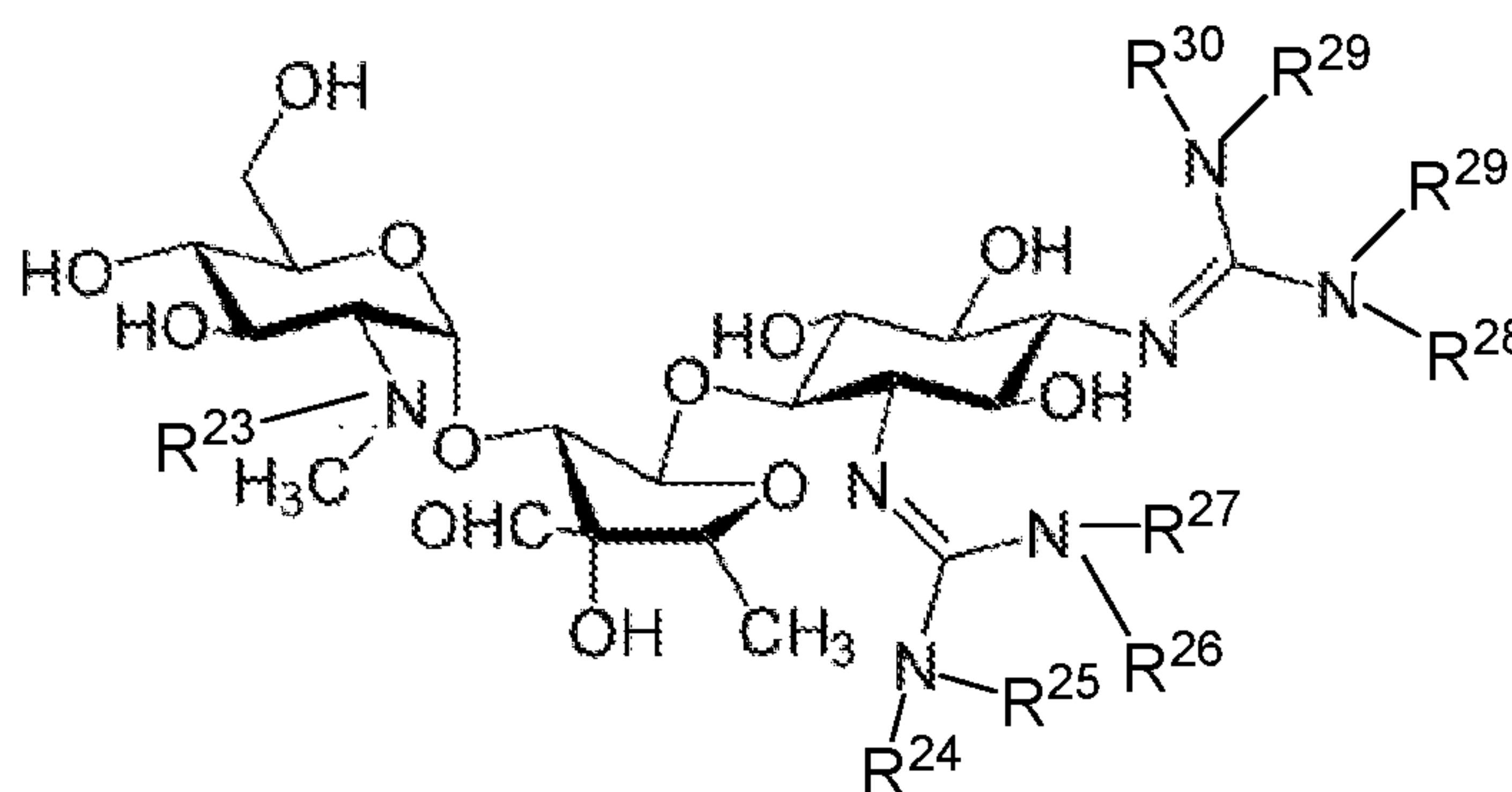
wherein “ ξ ” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside;

wherein W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides or one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside;

wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)); and

wherein the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

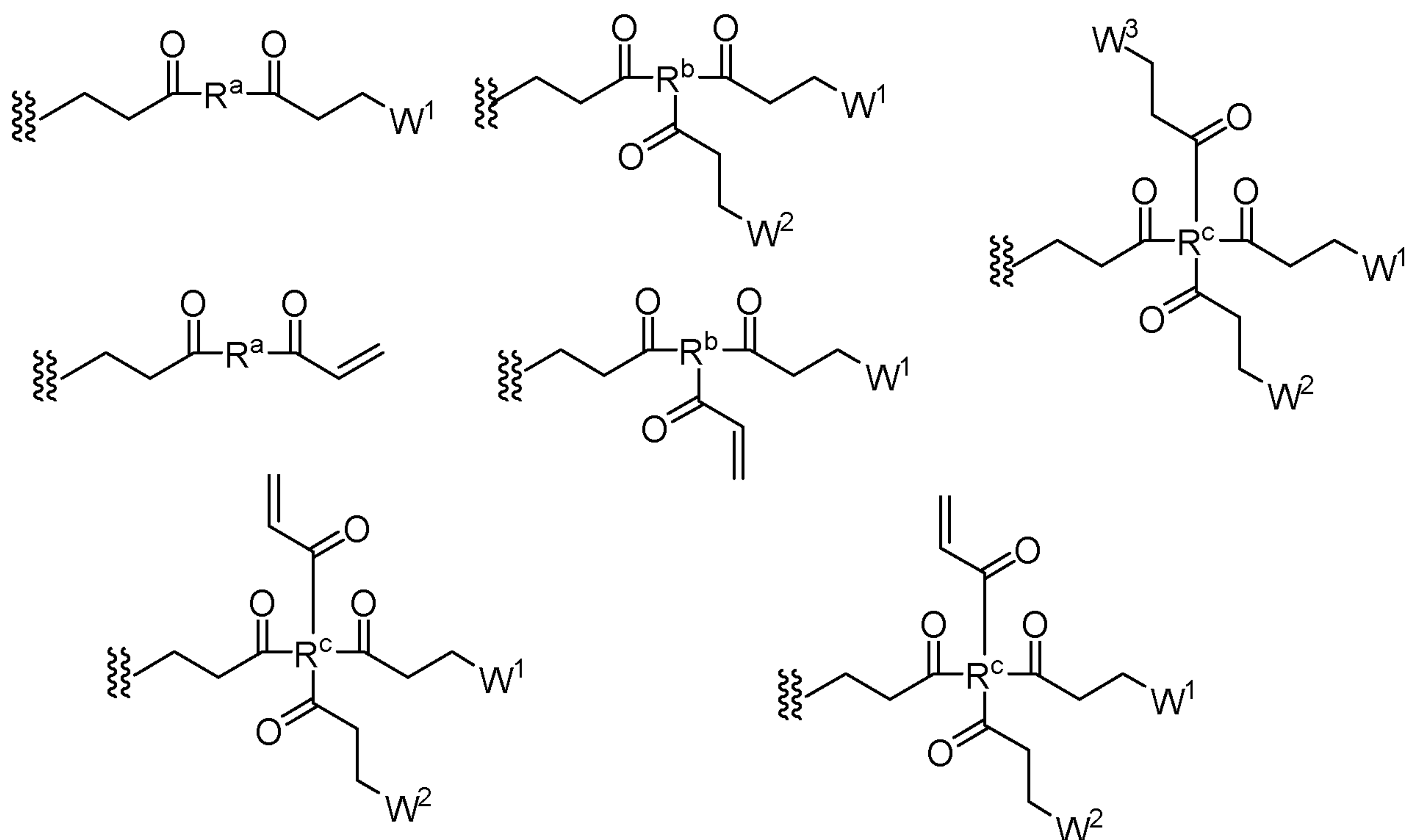
16. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, wherein the first aminoglycoside comprises a structure of Formula VI:



Formula VI

wherein R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{28} , R^{29} , and R^{30} are independently selected from the group consisting of $-H$, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit;

wherein at least one of R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{28} , R^{29} , and R^{30} is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



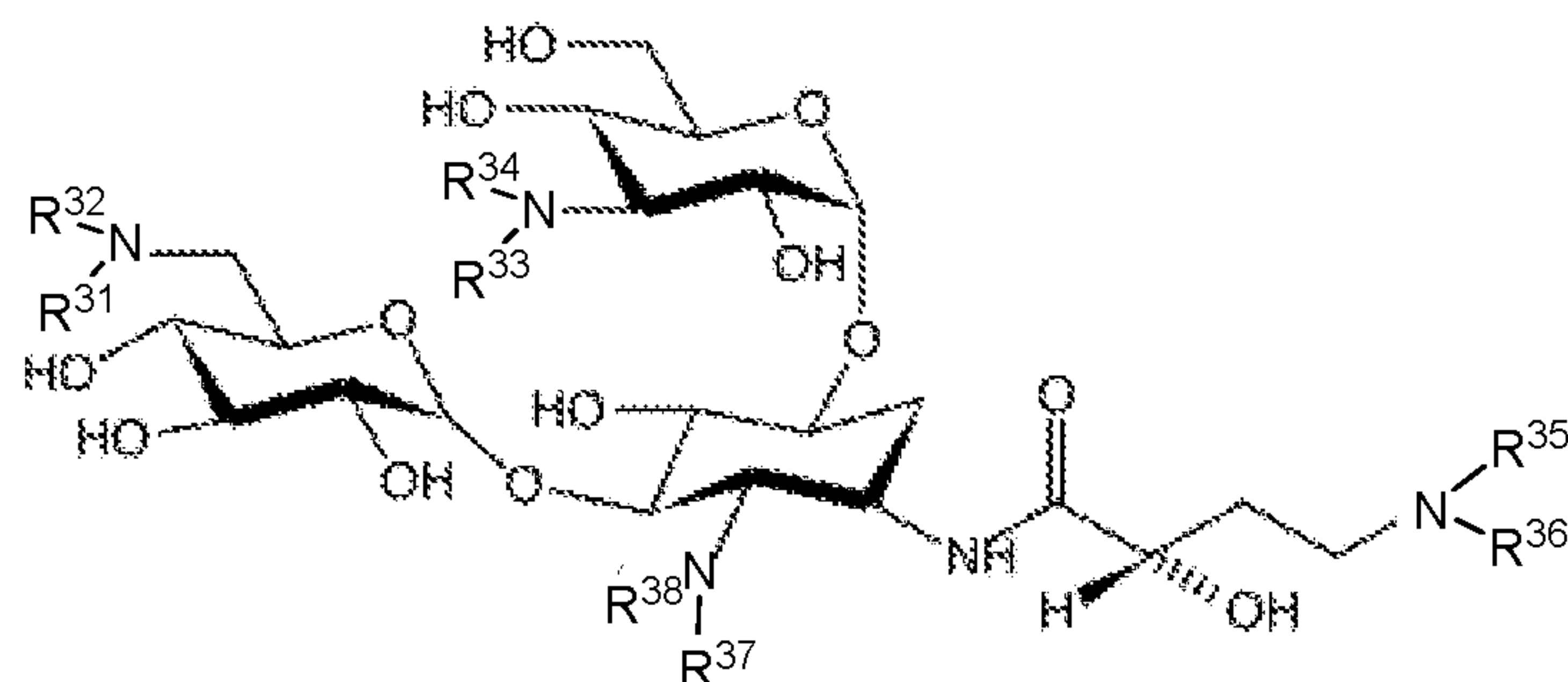
5 wherein “ $\sim$ ” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside;

wherein W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides or one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside;

10 wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)); and

15 wherein the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

17. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising an aminoglycoside with the structure of Formula VII:

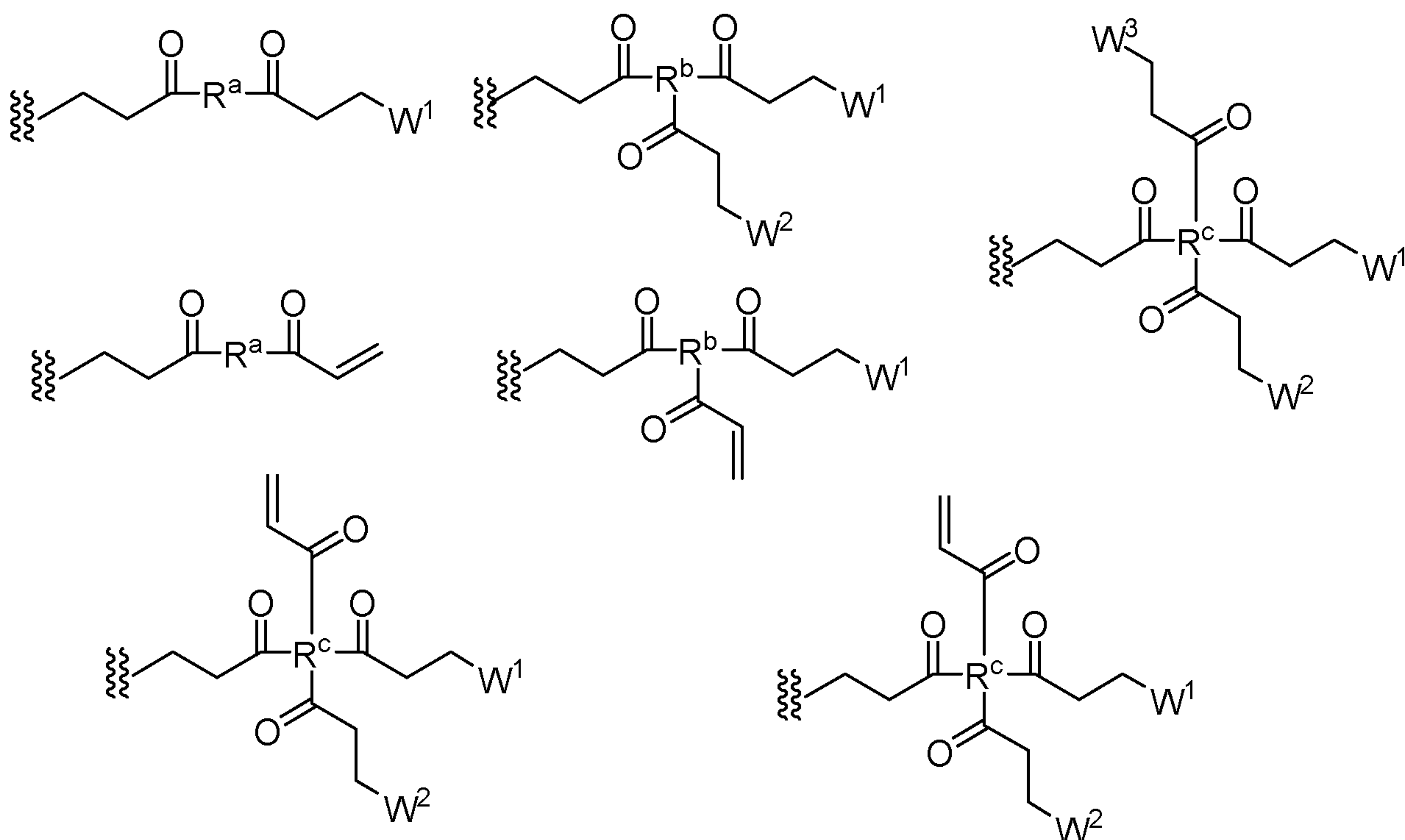


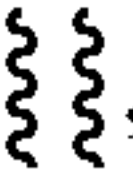
Formula VII

;

5 wherein R^{31} , R^{32} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , and R^{38} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H, optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units with intervening C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups, and a covalent bond to a linking unit;

10 wherein at least one of R^{31} , R^{32} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , and R^{38} is a covalent bond to one or more linking unit selected from the following:



wherein “” indicates an attachment to the first aminoglycoside;

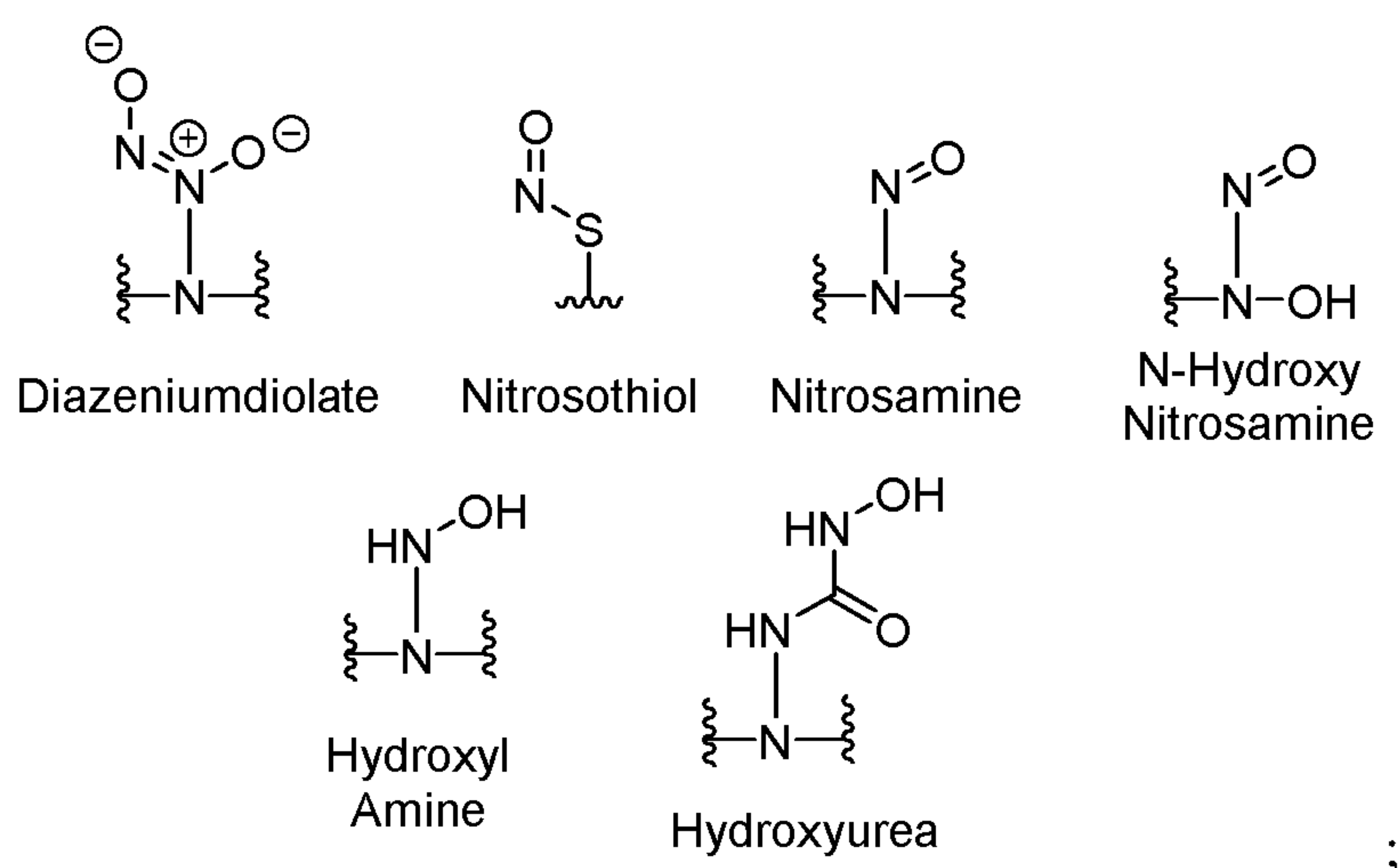
wherein W^1 , W^2 , or W^3 , where present, are independently selected from one or more additional aminoglycosides or one or more end-capping substituents and at least one linking unit provides a covalent bridge from the first aminoglycoside to a second aminoglycoside;

5 wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)); and

10 wherein the one or more end-capping substituents, where present, independently have a formula of $-NH-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$ where of X^1 is O or NH and a, b, and c are independently an integer from 0 to 10.

18. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claim 11 to 17, further comprising a NO-donating group.

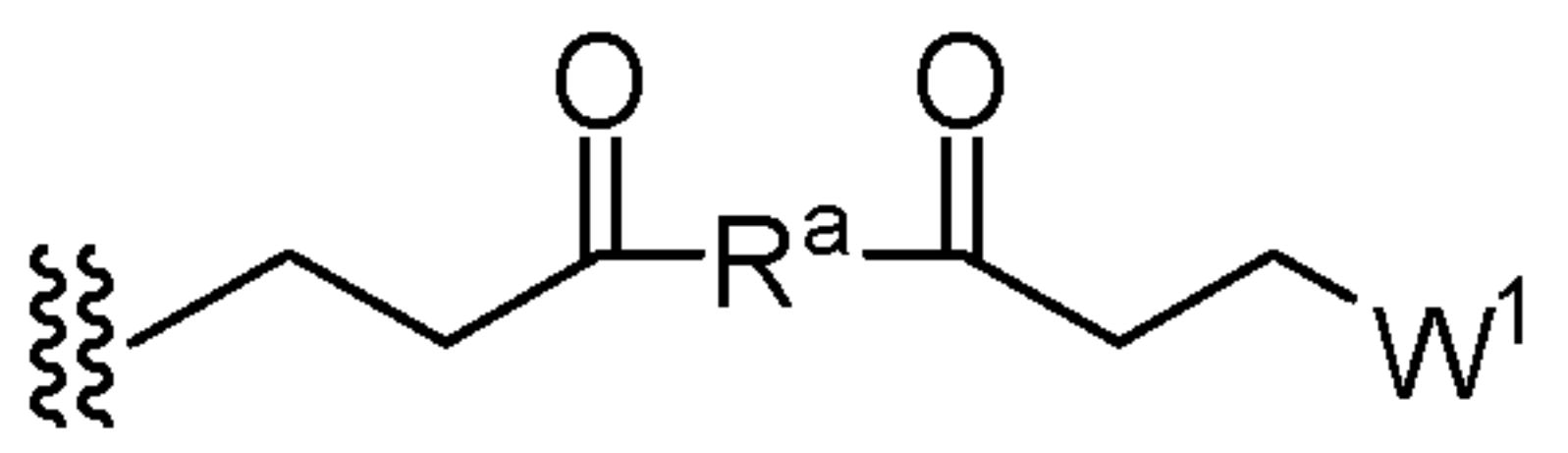
15 19. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 18, wherein the NO donating group is selected from the group consisting of:



where “ ξ ” indicates attachment to other atoms within the hyperbranched aminoglycoside.

20 20. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 19, wherein the NO donating group is a diazeniumdiolate.

21. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claim 11 to 20, wherein the linking unit is:



22. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 11 to 21, wherein R^a is $\text{-NH-CH}_2\text{-NH-}$.

23. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claim 11 to 22, wherein W^1 is the second aminoglycoside.

24. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 11 to 23, wherein R^1 to R^{38} are independently selected from the group consisting of -H and a covalent bond to a linking unit.

25. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 11 to 24, wherein the end-capping substituents, where present, are $\text{-NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2$ or $\text{-NHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$.

26. A method for preparing the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 11 to 25, comprising:

contacting the first aminoglycoside with a multifunctional polymerizing agent and one or more additional aminoglycosides to form a hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

27. The method of Claim 26, further comprising adding an end-capping agent to the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside to covalently cap any unreacted functionalities on the polymerizing agent.

28. The method of Claim 26 or 27, further comprising exposing the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside to NO to provide a NO-donating hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside.

29. The method of Claim 28, wherein the NO exposing step is carried out in alkaline conditions.

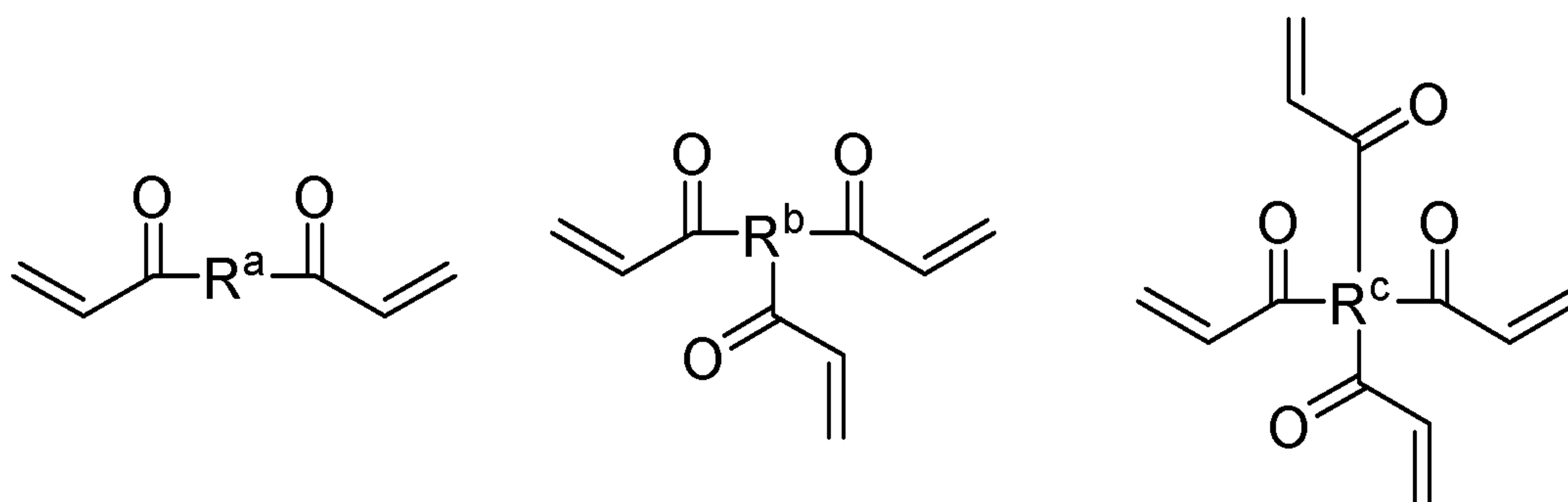
30. The method of any one of Claims 26 to 29, wherein the polymerizing agent comprises a bifunctional, trifunctional, or tetrafunctional molecule.

31. The method of any one of Claims 26 to 30, wherein the polymerizing agent
5 comprises a Michael acceptor.

32. The method of any one of Claims 26 to 31, wherein the polymerizing agent comprises a diacrylate, a triacrylate, or a tetraacrylate.

10 33. The method of any one of Claims 26 to 32, wherein the polymerizing agent comprises one or more of N,N'-methylenebis(acrylamide), ethylene glycol diacrylate, propane diol diacrylate, butandiol diacrylate, trimethylolpropane triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, pentaerythritol triacrylate, glycerol propoxylate (1PO/OH) triacrylate, or trimethylolpropane propoxylate triacrylate.

15 34. The method of any one of Claims 26 to 33, wherein the polymerizing agent comprises one or more of the following structures:



20 wherein R^a , R^b , and R^c are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted polyamino having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)), or optionally substituted polyether having 1 to 6 repeat units (with C_1 - C_6 alkyl(s)).

25 35. The method of Claim 34, wherein the polymerizing agent is N,N'-methylenebis(acrylamide).

36. The method of any one of Claims 27 to 35, wherein the end-capping agent comprises one or more of $H_2N-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-H$, $H_2N-((CH_2)_aNH)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, $H_2N-((CH_2)_aX^1)_b-(CH_2)_cH$, or $HX^1-((CH_2)_aX^2)_b((CH_2)_cX^3)_d-(CH_2)_eH$,

where each instance of a, b, c, d, or e is independently selected from an integer from 0 to 10; and

where each instance of X^1 , X^2 , and X^3 is independently selected from O, S, or NH.

5

37. The method of any one of Claims 27 to 36, wherein the end-capping agent comprises $H_2NCH_2CH_2NH_2$ and/or $H_2NCH_2CH_2OH$.

38. A method of decreasing microbial contamination comprising,

10

contacting a surface contaminated with a plurality of microbes with a compound comprising:

a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor;

15

wherein the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes.

39. The method of Claim 38 wherein said plurality of microbes comprises one or more of viruses, gram positive bacteria, gram negative bacteria, drug resistant bacteria, molds, yeasts, fungi, and combinations thereof.

20

40. The method of Claim 38 or 39, wherein the surface is an organic surface.

25

41. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 40, wherein the surface is human skin or animal skin.

42. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 41, wherein the surface is in the mouth.

30

43. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 42, wherein said application does not induce skin irritation.

44. The method of Claim 38 or 39, wherein the surface an inorganic surface.

45. The method of Claim 44, wherein the inorganic surface is an external or internal surface of a medical device.

46. The method of Claim 45, wherein application of the device is a dental device.

5

47. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 46, wherein the microbial load comprises drug-resistant bacteria.

48. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 47, wherein the microbial load
10 comprises one or more dental pathogens.

49. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 48, wherein the microbial load comprises one or more of *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, or *S. mutans*.

15

50. The method of any one of Claims 38 to 49, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as recited in any one of Claims 1 to 25.

51. A method of treating and/or preventing dental caries, the method comprising:
20 contacting the surface of a patient's mouth that is contaminated with one or more dental pathogens with a compound comprising:

a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor;

25

wherein the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the pathogens, thereby reducing the number of viable pathogens.

52. The method of Claim 51, wherein the microbial load comprises one or more of
30 *P. aeruginosa*, *S. aureus*, *P. gingivalis*, *A. actinomycetemcomitans*, *A. viscosus*, and/or *S. mutans*.

53. The method of Claim 51 or 52, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as recited in any one of Claims 1 to 25.

54. Use of a compound in the preparation of a medicament for decreasing microbial contamination, the compound comprising,

5 a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor;

wherein the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes.

10 55. The use of Claim 54 wherein said compound is formulated to treat a plurality of microbes comprising one or more of viruses, gram positive bacteria, gram negative bacteria, drug resistant bacteria, molds, yeasts, fungi, and combinations thereof.

56. The use of Claim 54 or 65, wherein said compound is formulated to be delivered to an organic surface.

15 57. The use of any one of Claims 54 to 56, wherein said compound is formulated to be delivered to human skin or animal skin.

58. The use of Claim 57, wherein the surface is in the mouth.

59. The use of any one of Claims 54 to 56, wherein said compound is formulated to be delivered to an inorganic surface.

20 60. The use of Claim 59, wherein the surface is an external or internal surface of a medical device.

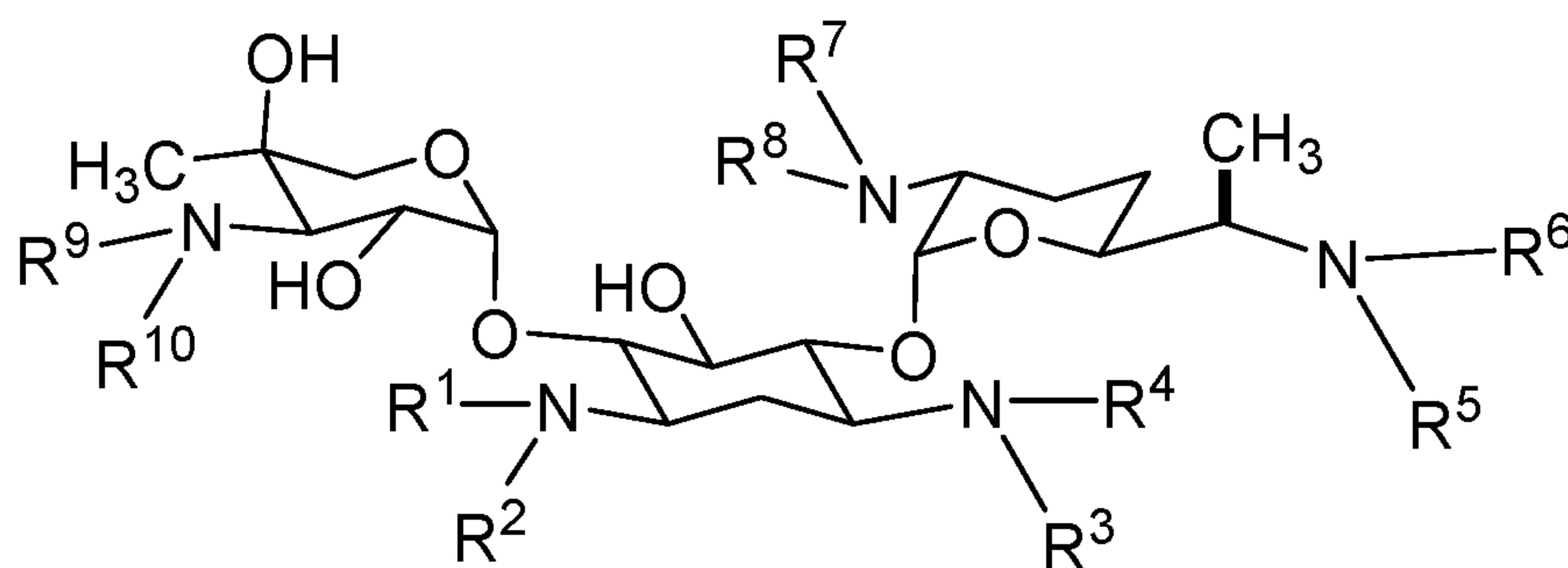
61. The use of Claim 60, wherein the device is a dental device.

62. The use of any one of Claims 54 to 61, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside is as recited in any one of Claims 1 to 25.

25 63. A compound comprising a nitric oxide releasing hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside comprising an amine-

containing group covalently bound to a nitric oxide donor; wherein the nitric oxide donor generates nitric oxide and induces damage to the membrane and/or DNA of the microbes, thereby reducing the number of viable microbes.

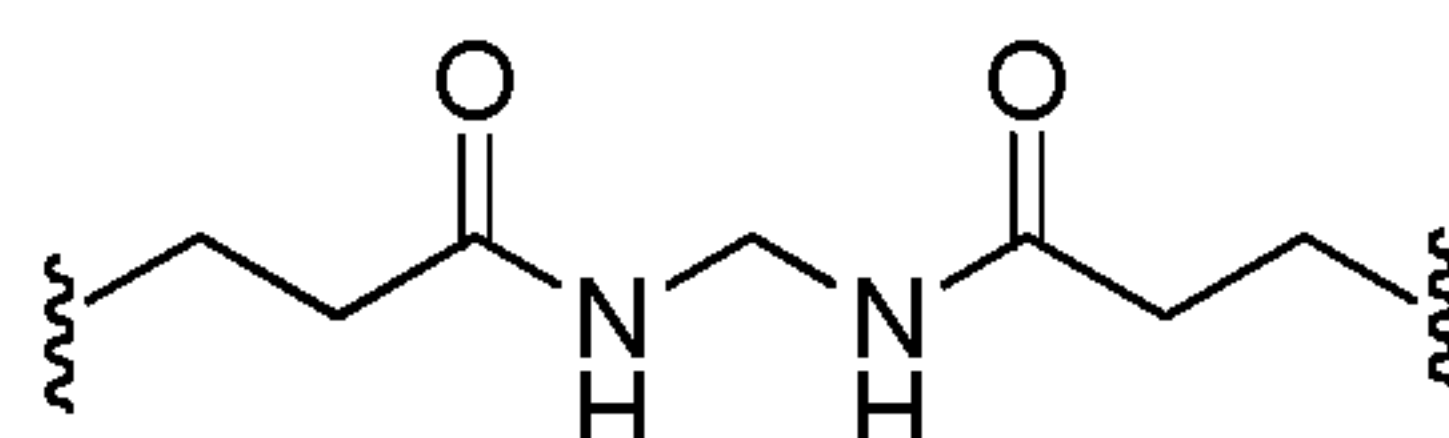
64. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside unit
5 comprising the structure of Formula III:



Formula III

wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} is independently -H or a covalent bond to one or more linking units;

wherein a linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the
10 following structure:

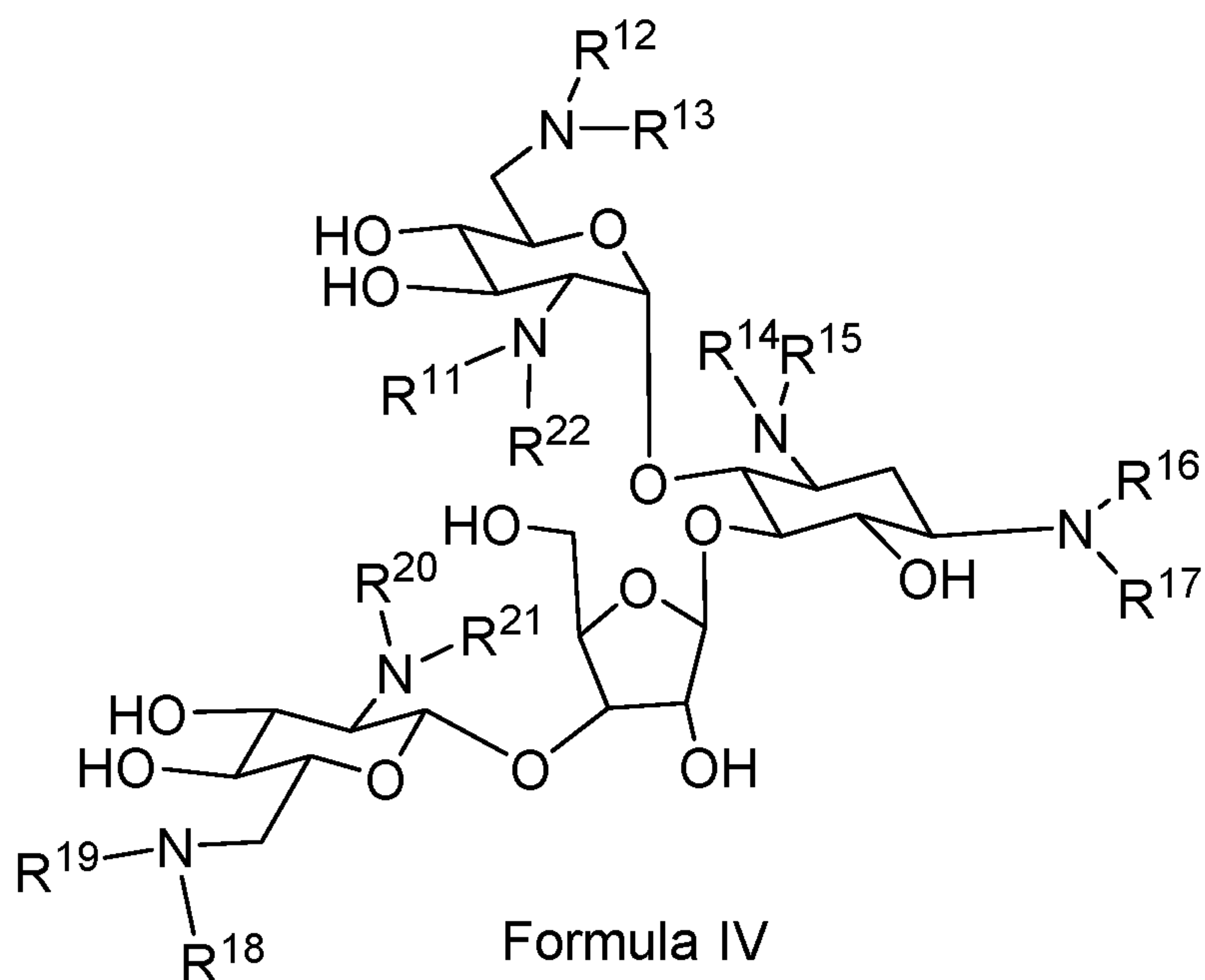


wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and

wherein the aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides
15 is derived from gentamicin.

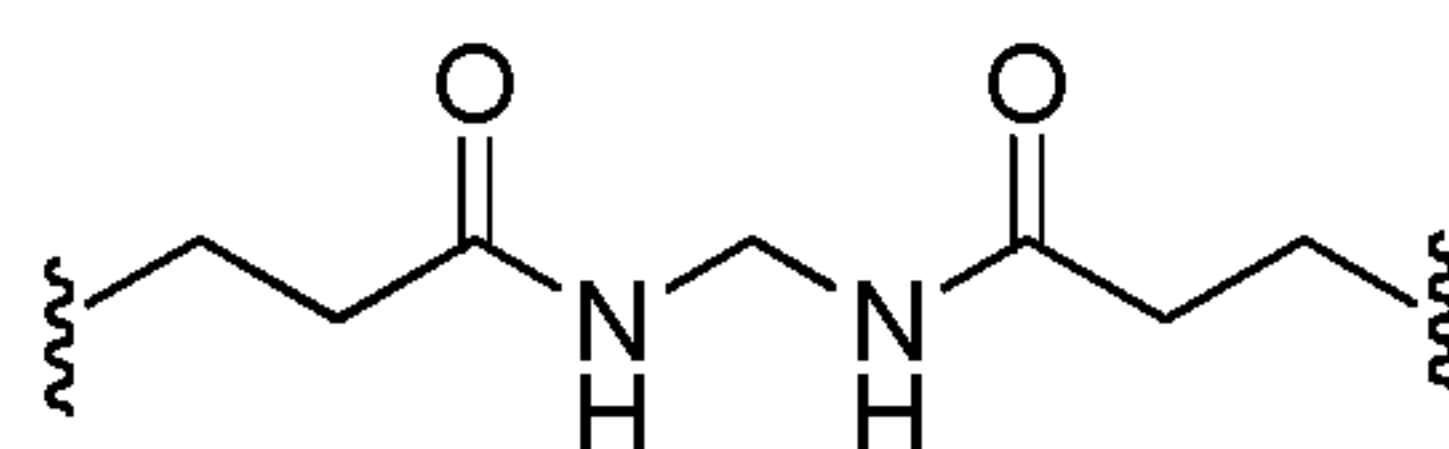
65. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside Claim 64, wherein at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a *N*-diazoniumdiolate NO donor.

20 66. A hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside, comprising a first aminoglycoside unit comprising the structure of Formula IV:



wherein each of R^{11} , R^{12} , R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} , R^{21} , and R^{22} is independently -H or a covalent bond to one or more linking units;

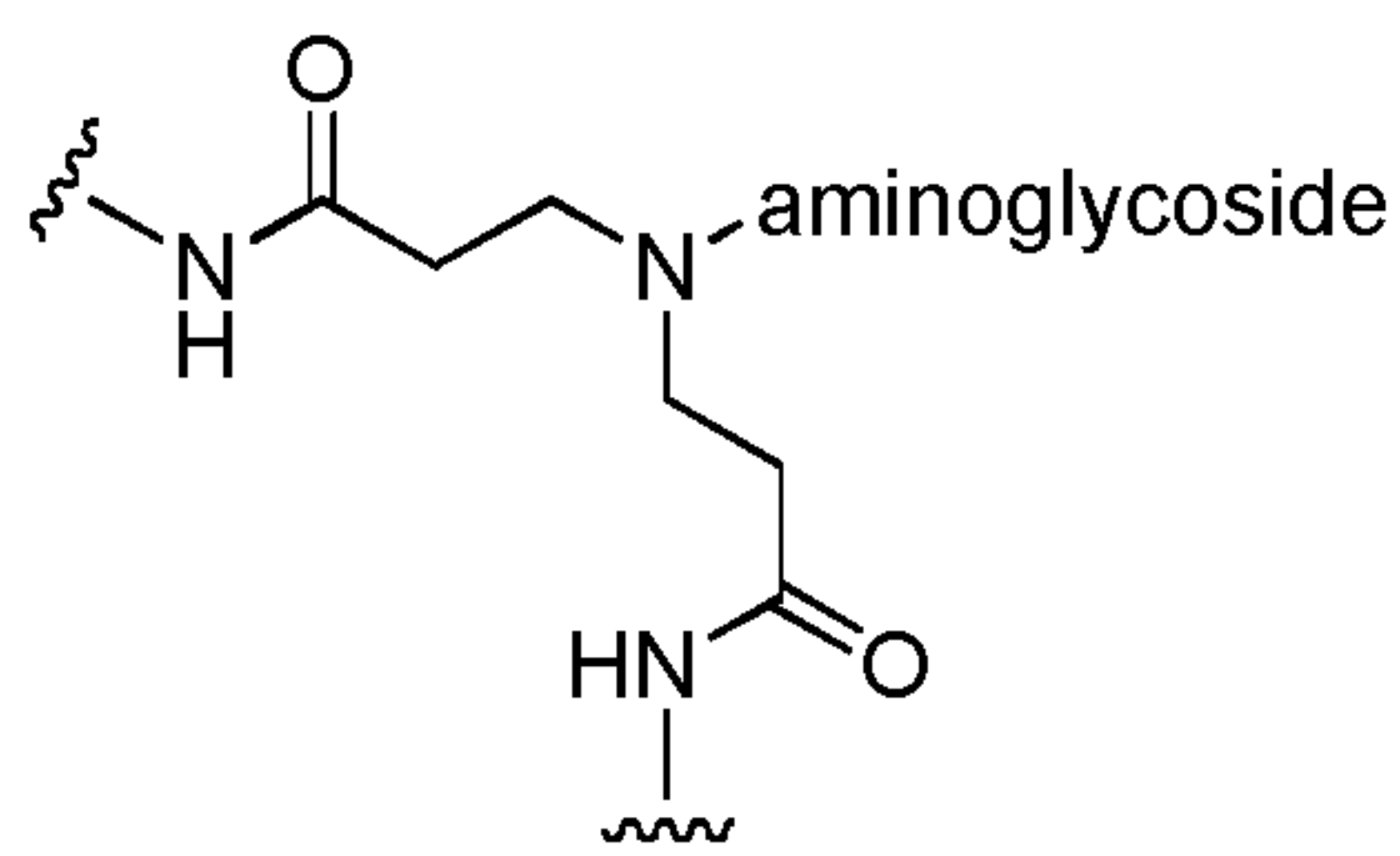
wherein a linking unit of the one or more linking units is represented by the following structure:



wherein at least one linking unit forms a covalent bridge between the first aminoglycoside unit and a second aminoglycoside unit; and

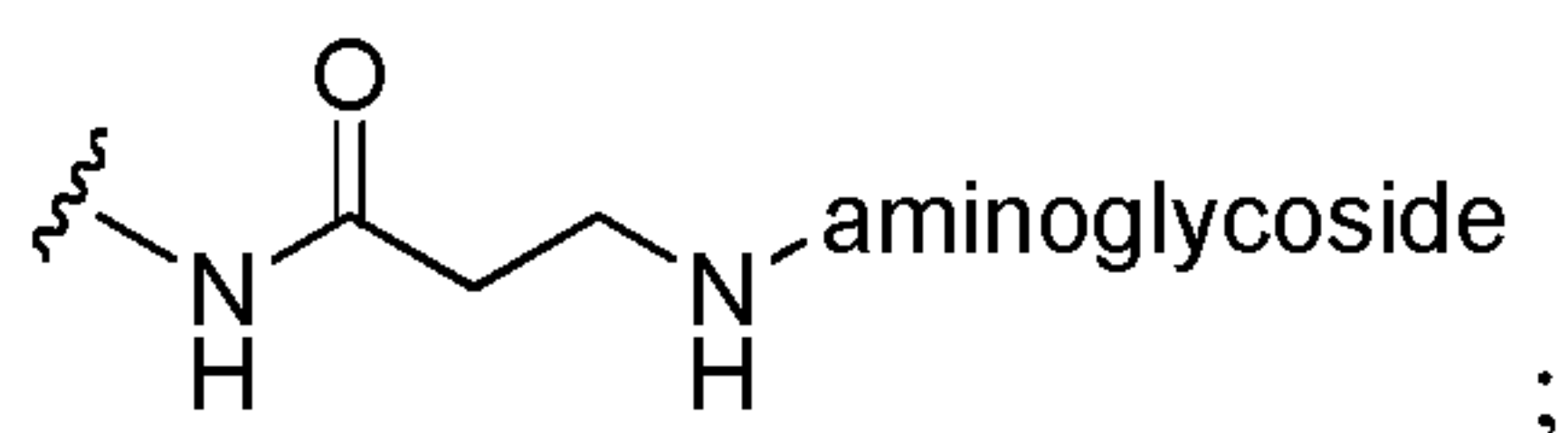
wherein the aminoglycoside unit of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides is derived from neomycin.

67. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 66, additionally comprising one or more dendritic units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula IV.

68. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 66 or 67, additionally comprising one or more linear units selected from:



where “-N-aminoglycoside” represents the structure of Formula III.

69. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 66 to 68, wherein
 5 at least one secondary amine of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycosides comprises a *N*-
 diazeniumdiolate NO donor.

70. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to
 69, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a half-life for nitric oxide release in
 10 a range between about 10 to about 240 minutes.

71. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 70, wherein the hyperbranched
 polyaminoglycoside has a half-life for nitric oxide release in a range between about 70 to
 about 190 minutes.

72. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to
 69, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a total NO release after 2 hours in a
 range between about 0.2 to about 0.8 μmol of NO per milligram of the hyperbranched
 polyaminoglycoside.

73. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to
 69, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a degree of branching (DB) of at
 least about 0.3.

74. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 73, wherein the hyperbranched
 polyaminoglycoside has a degree of branching (DB) of at least about 0.4.

75. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to
 69, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a degree of branching (DB) in a
 range between about 0.3 to about 0.6.

76. The hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of Claim 75, wherein the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside has a degree of branching (DB) in a range between about 0.4 to about 0.5.

5 77. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising:
the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to 69;
and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10 78. A method of delivering nitric oxide to a subject, comprising:
administering an effective amount of the hyperbranched polyaminoglycoside of any
one of Claims 1 to 25 and 63 to a subject.

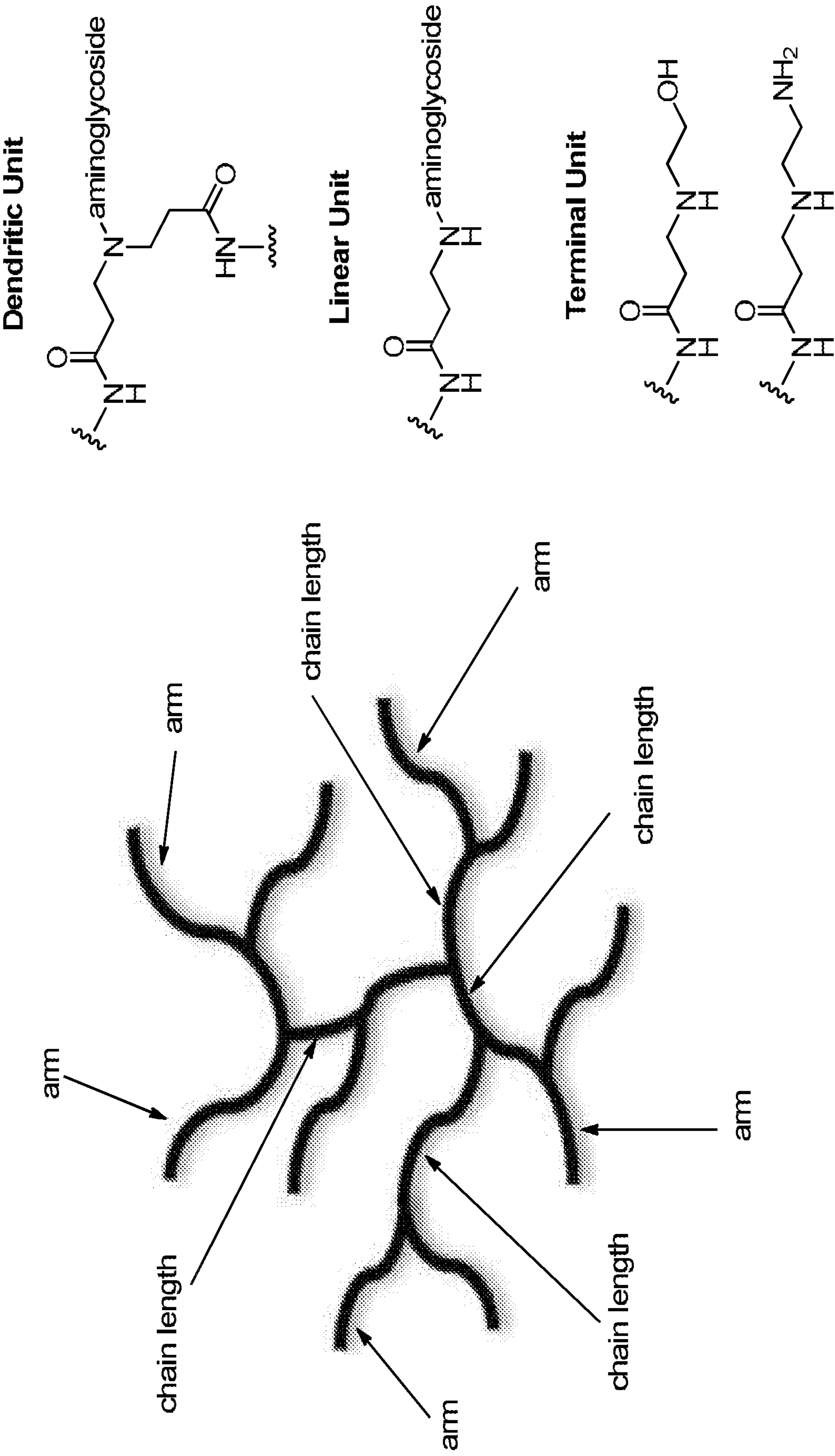


Fig. 1

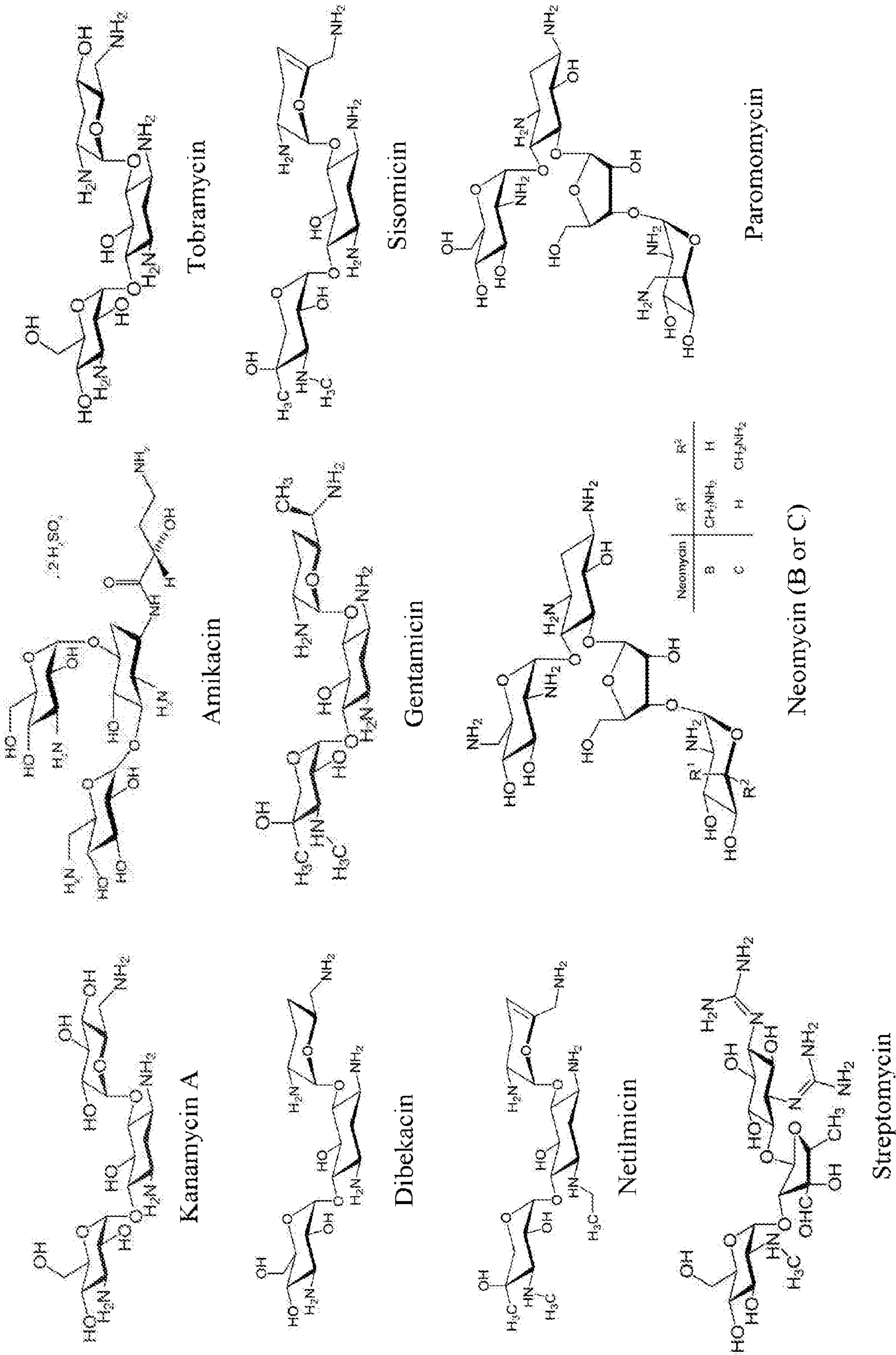
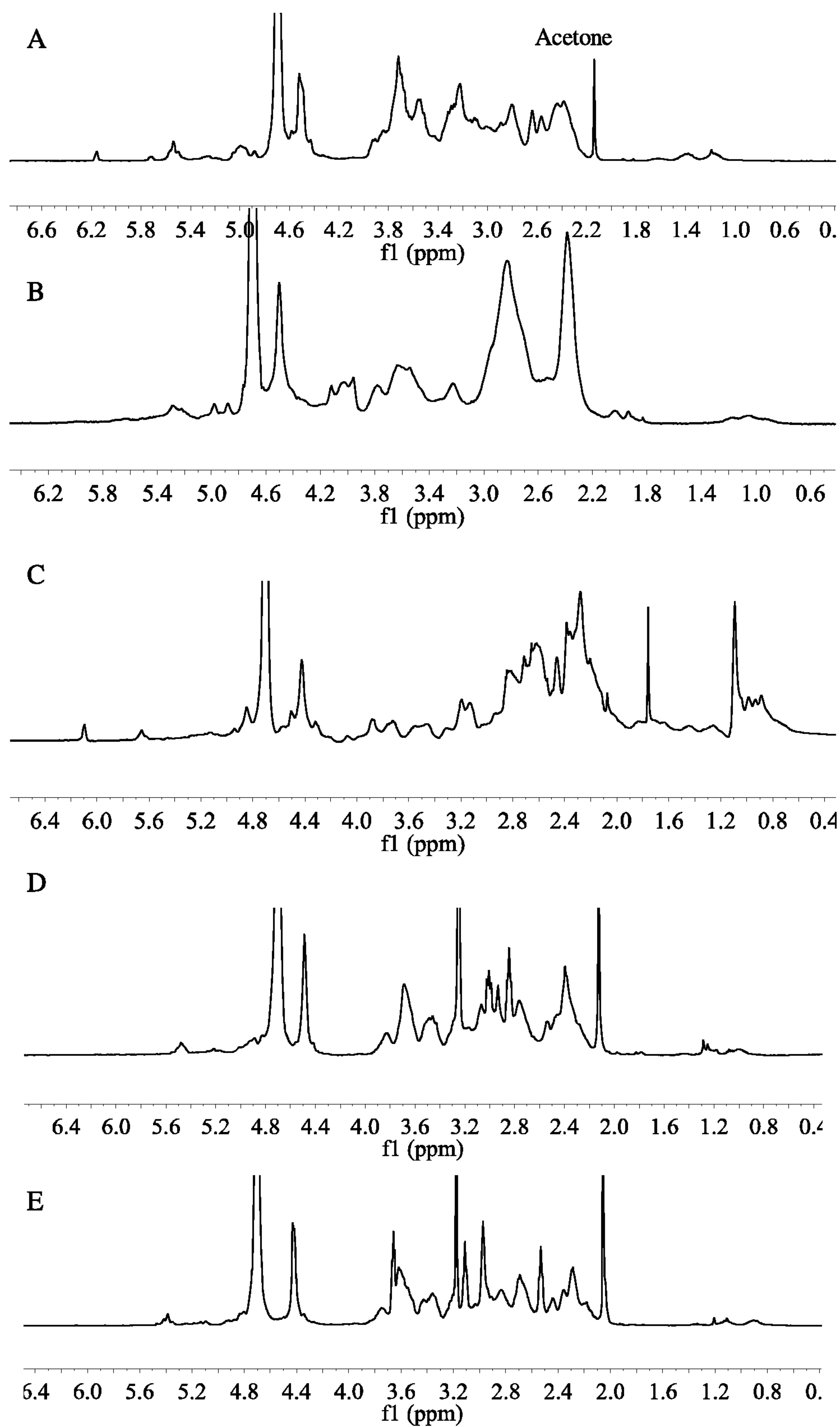
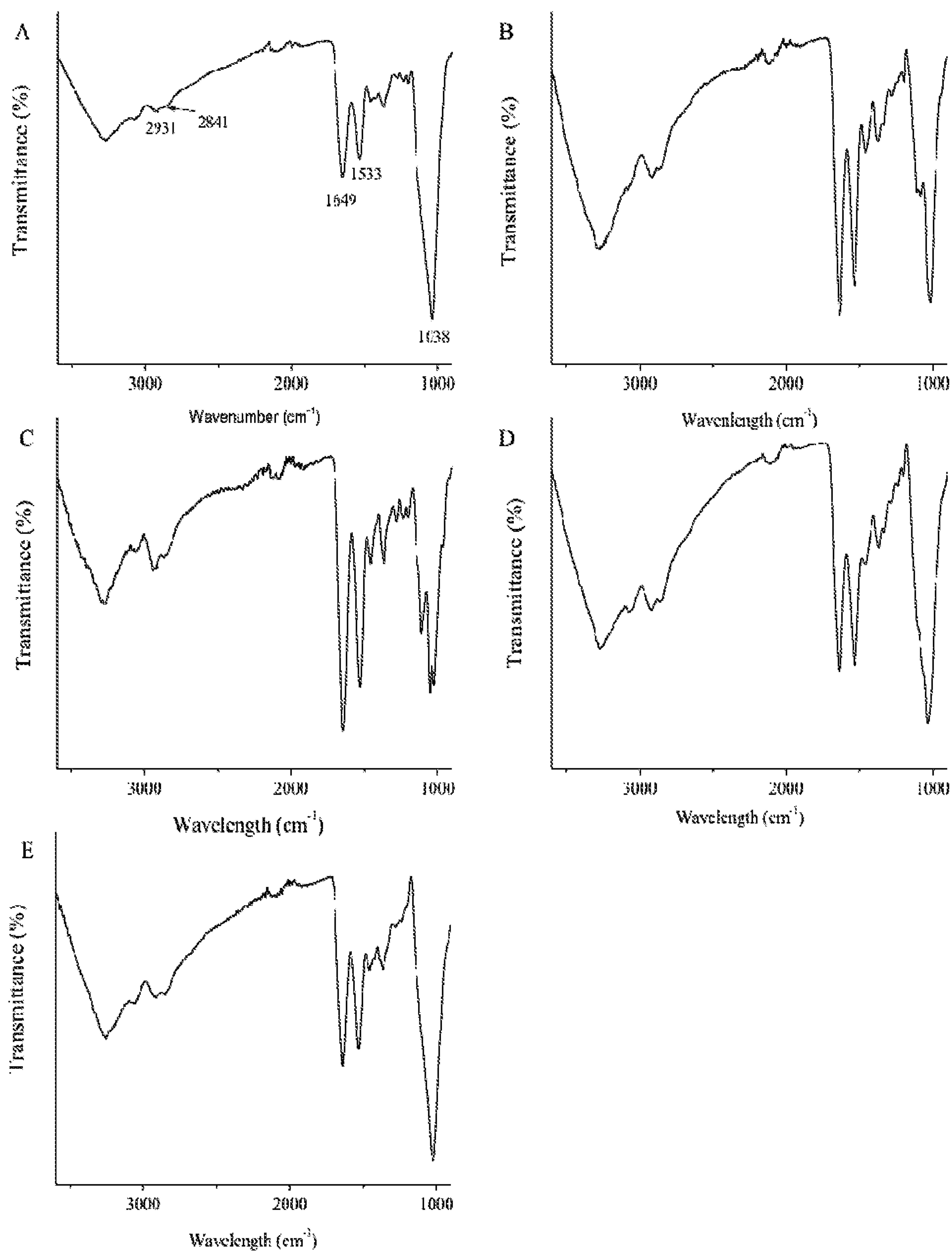
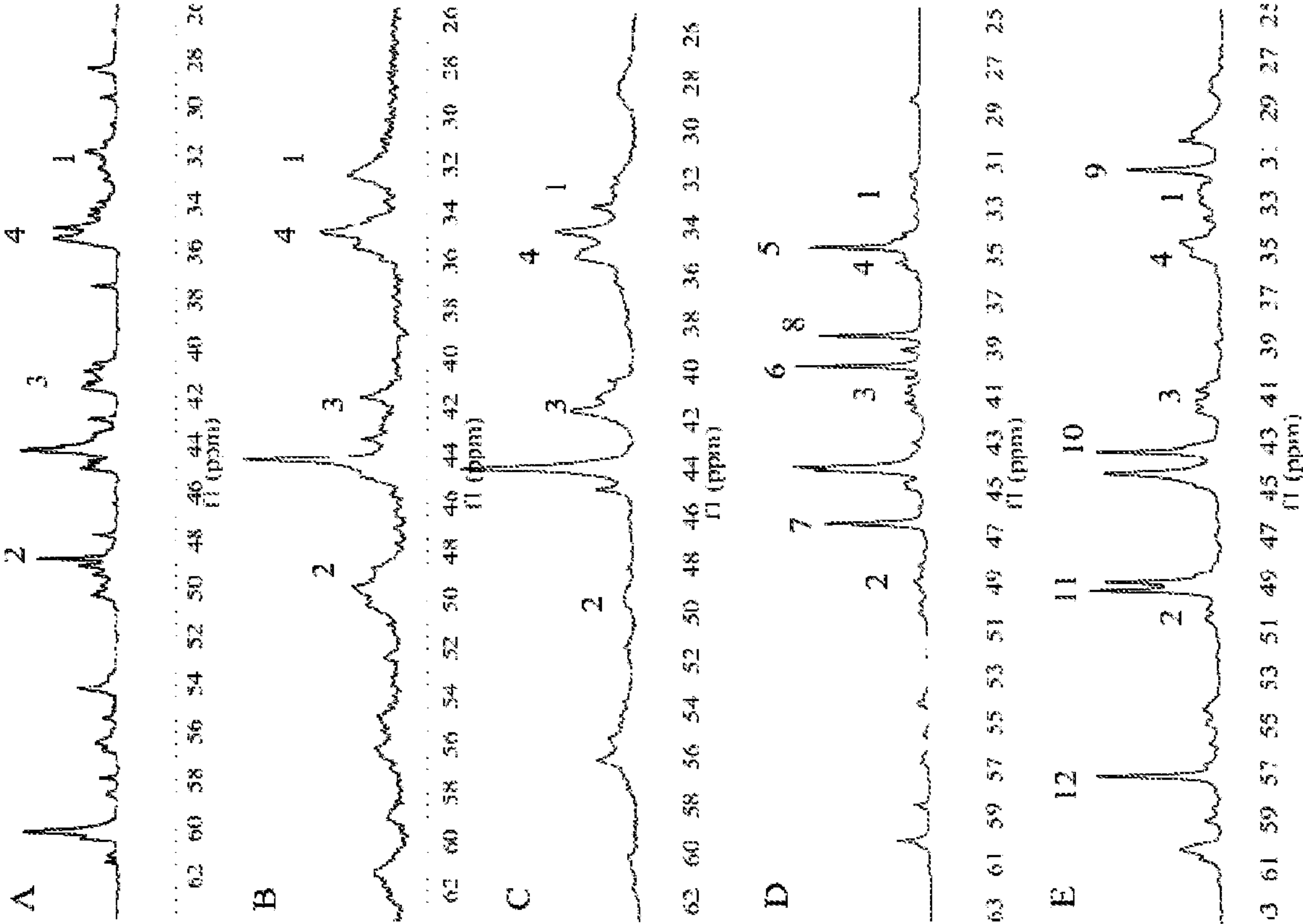
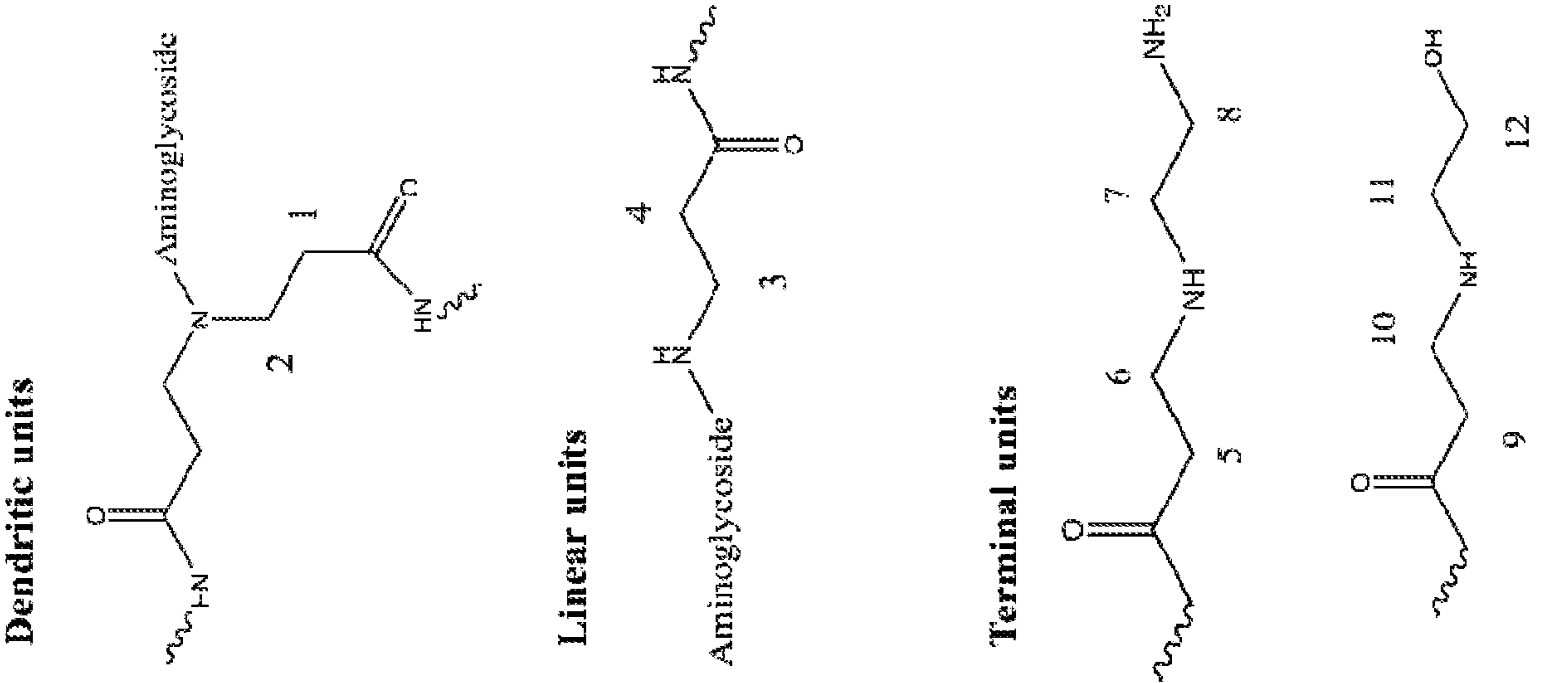


Fig. 2

**Figs. 3A-3E**



Figs. 4A-4E



Figs. 5A-5E

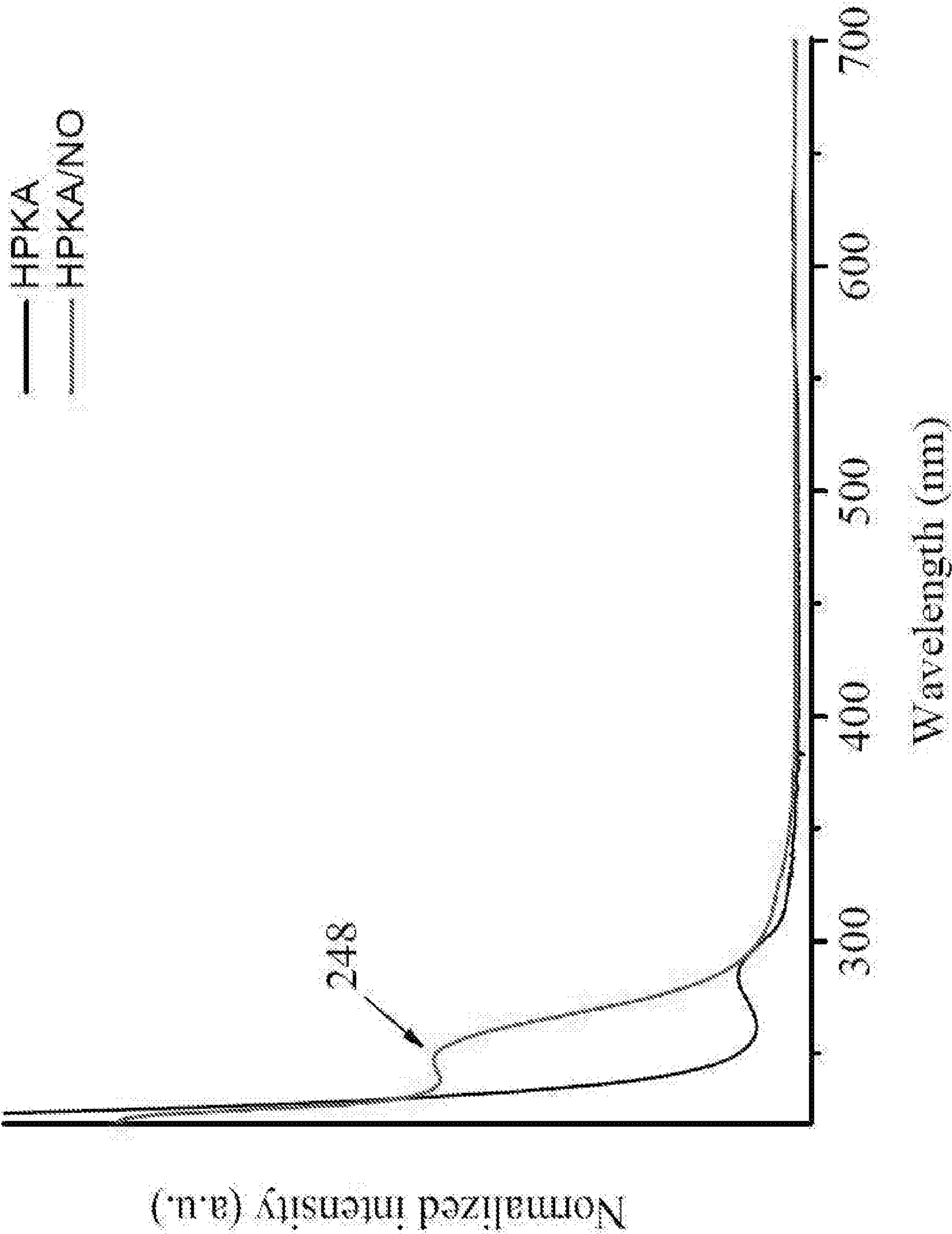


Fig. 6

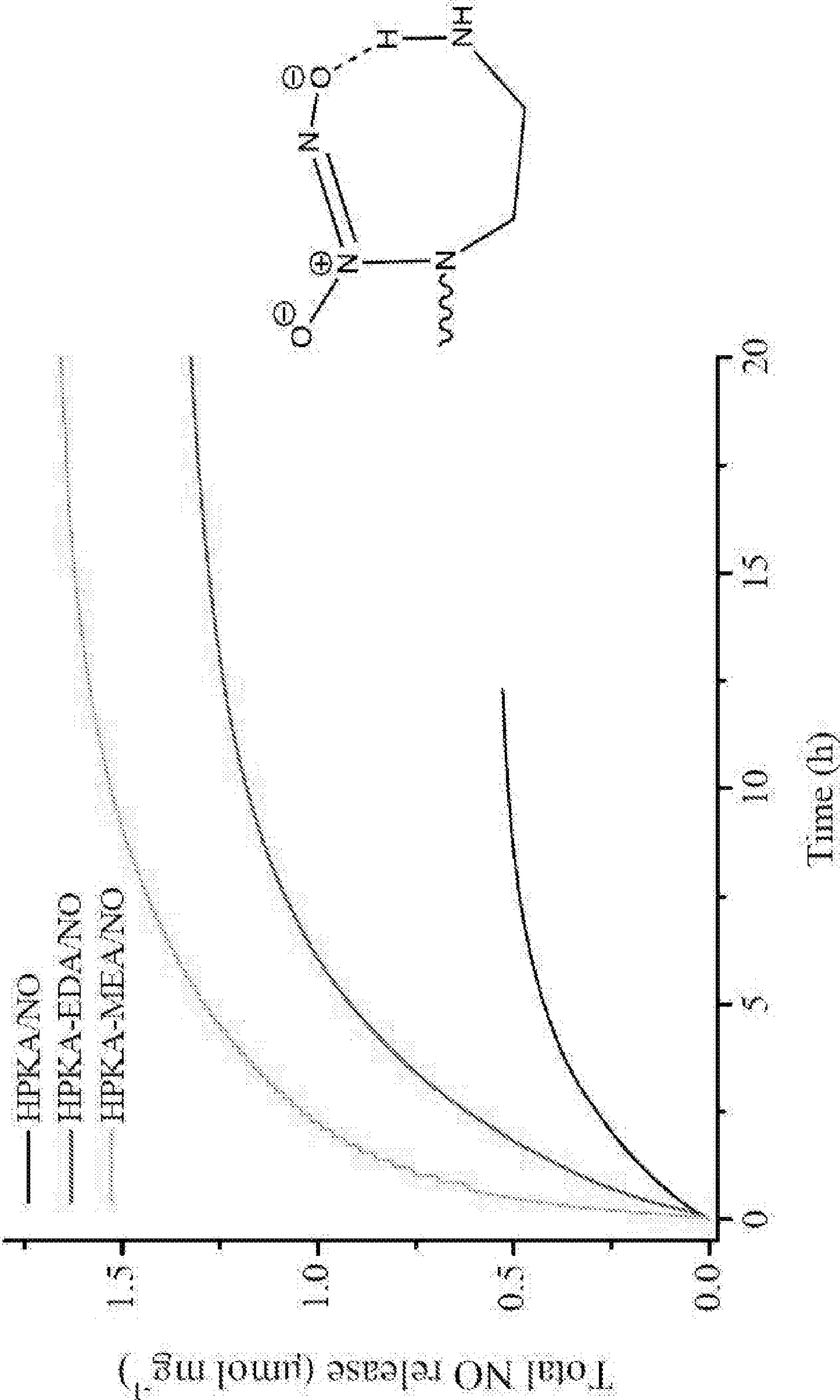
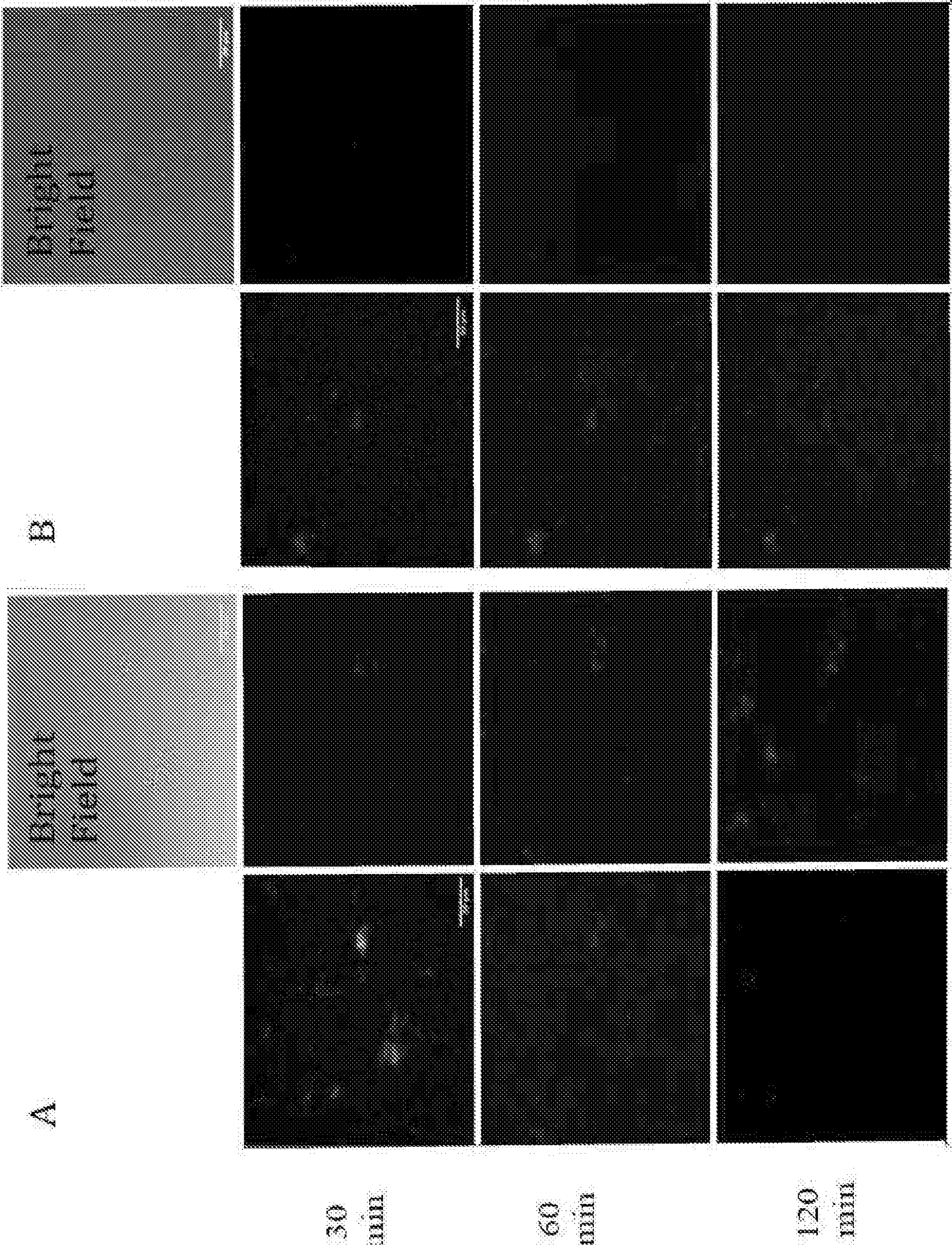
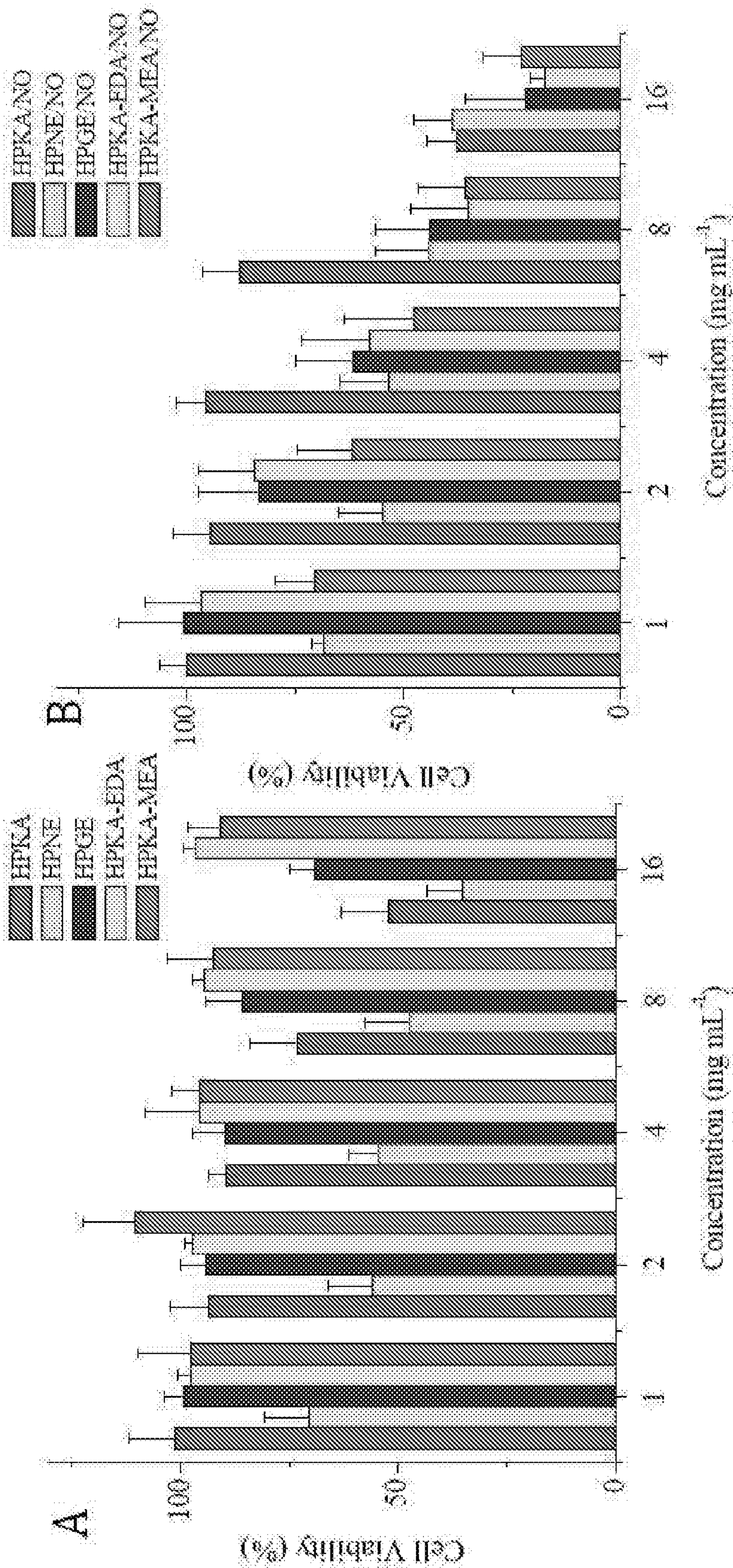


Fig. 7



Figs. 8A and 8B



Figs. 9A and 9B

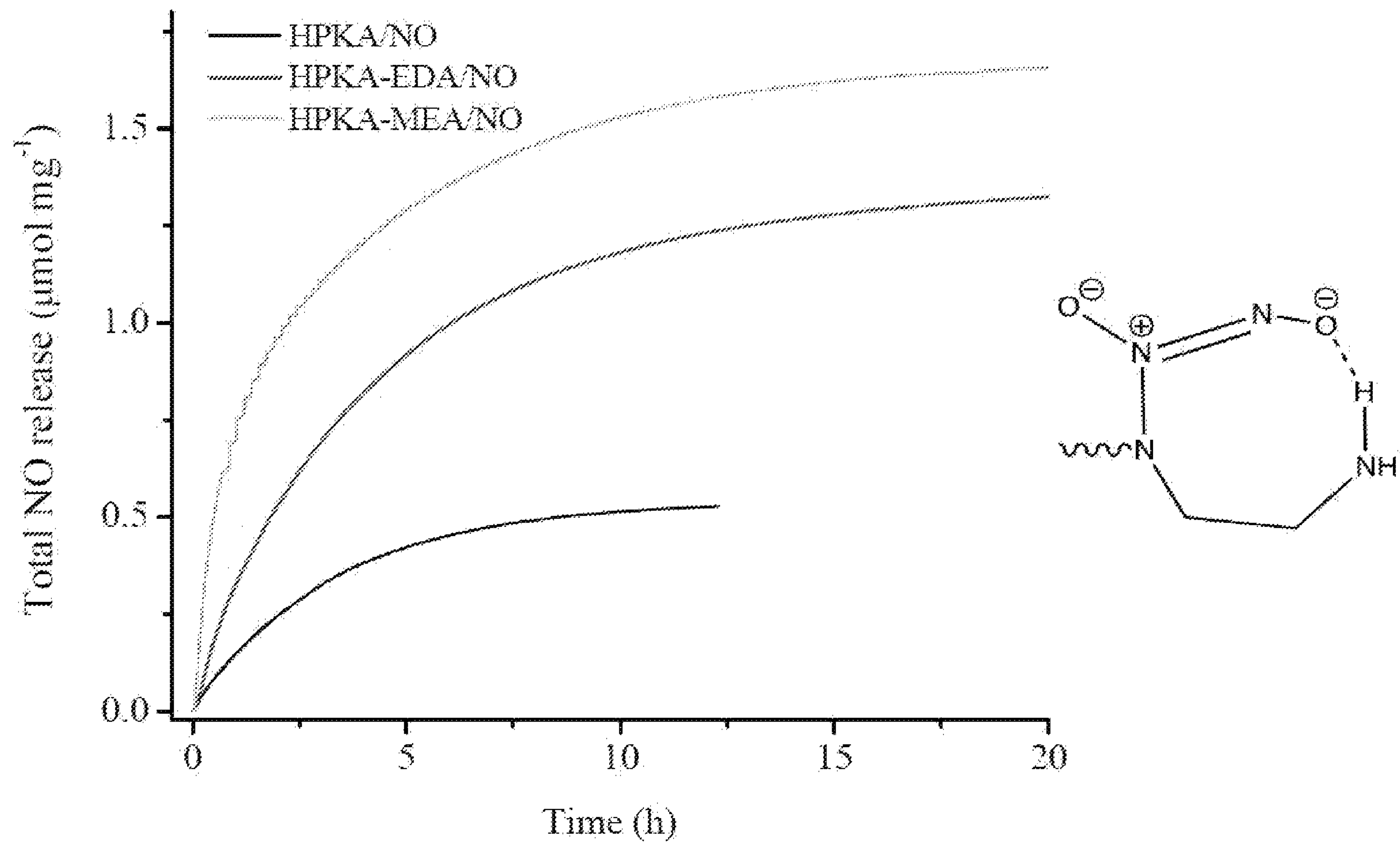


Fig. 7