

ISOLATION OF OVATOXIN-A. A KEY STEP FOR HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF OVATOXINS

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Caterina Fattorusso¹, Marco Persico¹, Oleh Tkachuk¹, Mark Poli³, Keersten Ricks³, Pearse Mc Carron⁴, Elizabeth M.
Mudge⁴, Christopher O. Miles⁴, David Kulis⁵, and Don Anderson⁵*

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World Seafood Congress 2023
in association with International Conference on Molluscan Shellfish Safety
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Risk assessment

A specialised field of applied science that involves reviewing scientific data and studies in order to evaluate risks associated with certain hazards. It involves four steps:

STEP 1 >

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the **identification** of biological, chemical, and physical **agents capable of causing adverse health effects**

STEP 2 >

HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION: The second step in risk assessment, this involves **defining** the nature of the adverse health effects **associated with** biological, chemical and physical **agents** which may be **present in food**. The process should, if possible, involve an understanding of the doses involved and related responses.

STEP 3 >

EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT: One of the key steps in risk assessment, this relates to a thorough **evaluation of who, or what, has been exposed to a hazard** and a quantification of the amounts involved.

STEP 4 >

RISK CHARACTERIZATION: The final stage of risk assessment, in which **the likelihood that a particular substance will cause harm is calculated** in the light of the nature of the hazard and the extent to which people, animals, plants and/or the environment are exposed to it.



"The dose makes the poison"



Paracelsus (1493-1541)

Concentration levels, FATE, Bio-accumulation, Trophic transfer



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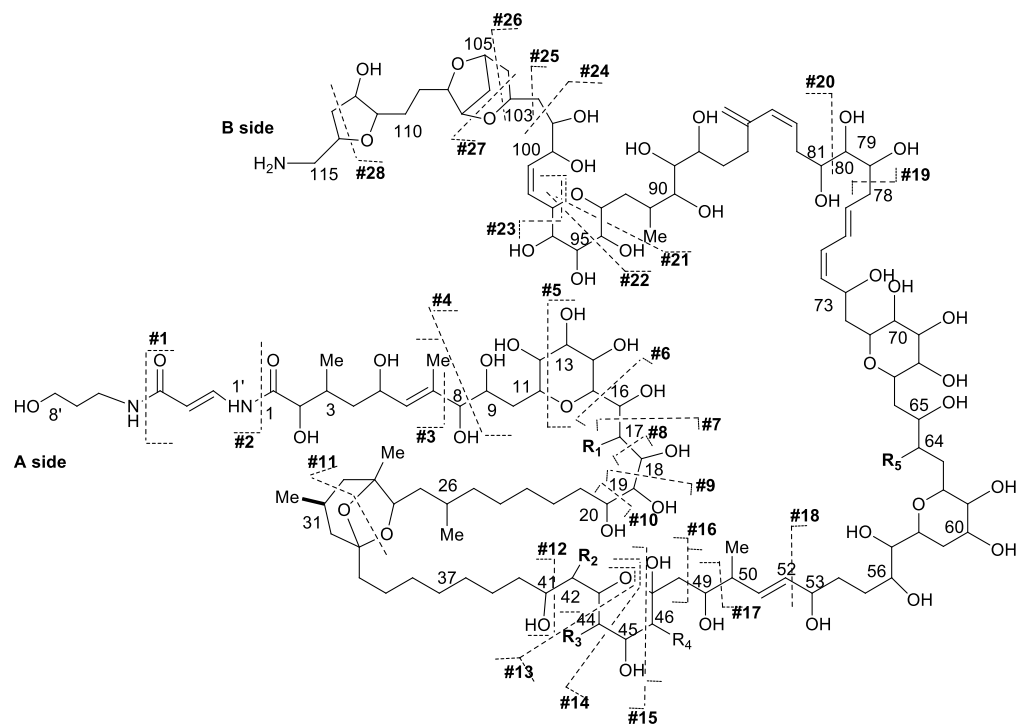
THE CHALLENGE OF NATURAL TOXINS

- HABs are sporadic/periodic events
- Toxic outbreaks occur under particular circumstances
- Many congeners, difficult to synthesize
- **Well characterized and quantified reference material is the priority**

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 1 >

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the **identification of biological, chemical, and physical agents capable of causing adverse health effects**

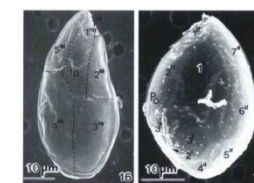
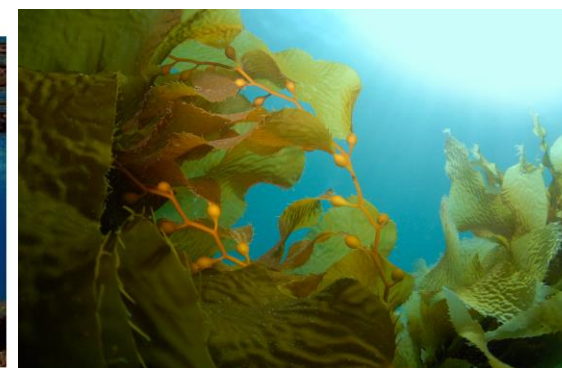
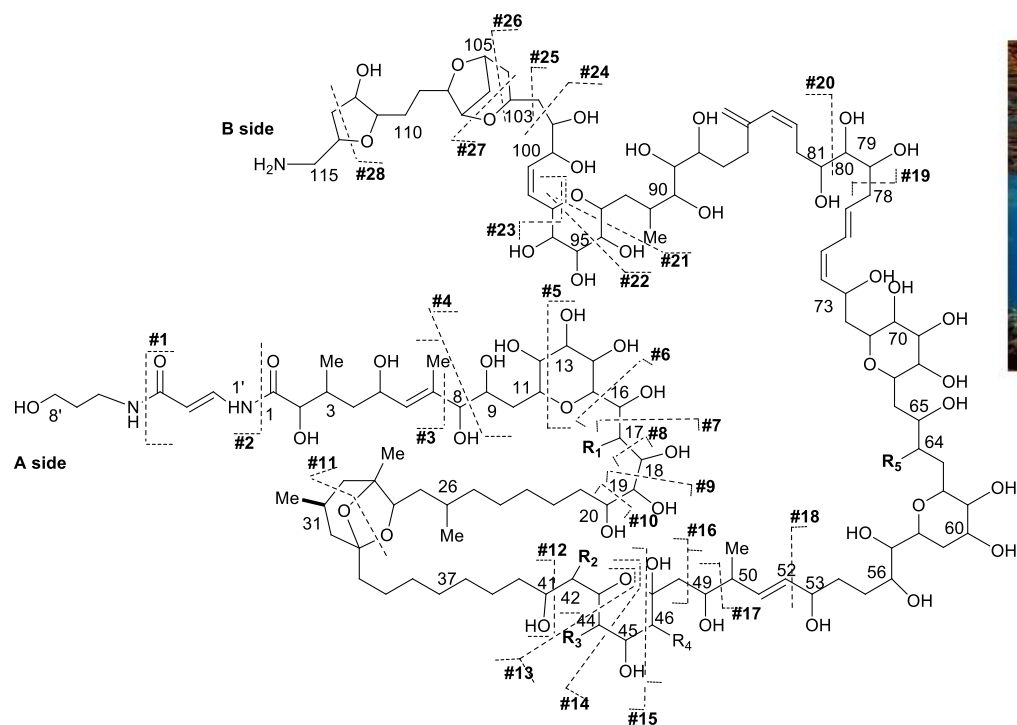


Toxin	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Other
PLTX	OH	H	OH	OH	OH	
OVTX-a	H	OH	H	OH	H	
OVTX-b	H	OH	H	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₄ O in region N-C8'
OVTX-c	H	OH	OH	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₄ O in region N-C8'
OVTX-d	H	OH	OH	OH	H	
OVTX-e	H	OH	H	OH	H	+ O in region C8-C8'
OVTX-f	H	OH	H	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₄ in region C95-C102
OVTX-g	H	OH	H	OH	H	
OVTX-h	H	OH	H	H	H	Open ring in region C42-C49
OVTX-i	H	OH	H	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₂ O ₂ - 1 unsaturation in region C49-C52 - O in region C53-C78
OVTX-j1	H	OH	OH	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₂ O ₂ - 1 unsaturation in region C49-C52 - O in region C53-C78
OVTX-j2	H	OH	H	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₂ O ₂ - 1 unsaturation in region C49-C52
OVTX-k	H	OH	OH	OH	H	+ C ₂ H ₂ O ₂ - 1 unsaturation in region C49-C52
Isobaric PLTX	H	OH	OH	OH	H	+ O in region C8-C8'

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 1 >

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the identification of biological, chemical, and physical agents capable of causing adverse health effects

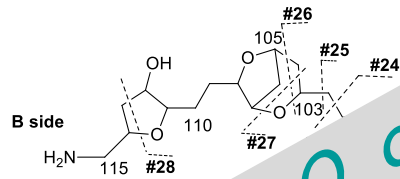


Ostreopsis ovata
From Faust et al 1996

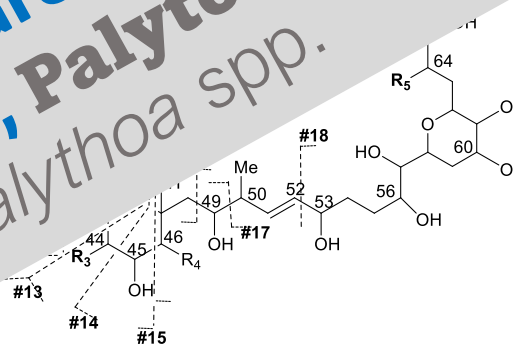
Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 1 >

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the identification of biological, chemical, and physical agents capable of causing adverse health effects



OVATOXINS from *O. ovata* and *O. fattorussoi*, **OSTREOCINS** from *O. siamensis*, **Mascarenotoxins** from *O. mascarenensis*, **Palytoxins** from *Palythoa* spp.



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Taxonomic Reference List of Harmful Micro Algae

Home | Literature | Log in

Diatoms | Haptophytes | Dinoflagellates | Raphidophyceans | Dictyochophyceans | Pelagophyceans | Cyanobacteria | Greylist | Harmful non-toxic

HABs taxon details

★ ***Ostreopsis* J.Schmidt, 1901**

AphiaID 109524 (urn:lsid:marinespecies.org:taxname:109524)

Classification Biota > ★ Chromista > ★ Harosra > ★ Alveolata > ★ Myzozoa > ★ Dinozoa > ★ Dinoflagellata > ★ Dinophyceae > ★ Gonyaulacales > ★ Ostreopsidaceae > ★ *Ostreopsis*

Status accepted

Rank Genus

Typetaxon ★ *Ostreopsis siamensis* Johs.Schmidt, 1901

Parent ★ Ostreopsidaceae Lindemann, 1928

Direct children (7)

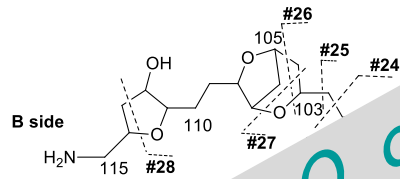
[show all]
[sort alpha..]

- Species ★ *Ostreopsis fattorussoi* Accoroni, Romagnoli & Totti, 2016
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis heptagona* D.R.Norris, J.W.Bomber & Balech, 1985
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis lenticularis* Y.Fukuyo, 1981
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis mascarenensis* Quod, 1994
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis ovata* Fukuyo, 1981
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis rhodesiae* Verma, Hoppenrath & S.A.Murray, 2016
- Species ★ *Ostreopsis siamensis* Johs.Schmidt, 1901

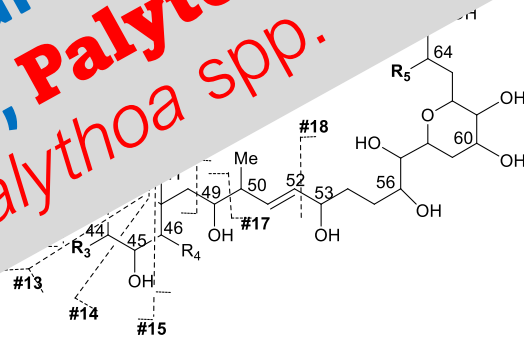
Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the identification of biological, chemical, and physical agents capable of causing adverse health effects



OVATOXINS from *O. ovata* and *O. fattorussoi*, **OSTREOCINS** from *O. siamensis*, **Mascarenotoxins** from *O. mascarenensis*, **Palytoxins** from *Palythoa* spp.



Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the **identification of** biological, chemical, and physical **agents capable of causing adverse health effects**

Ostreopsis-related poisonings



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Palythoa-related poisonings

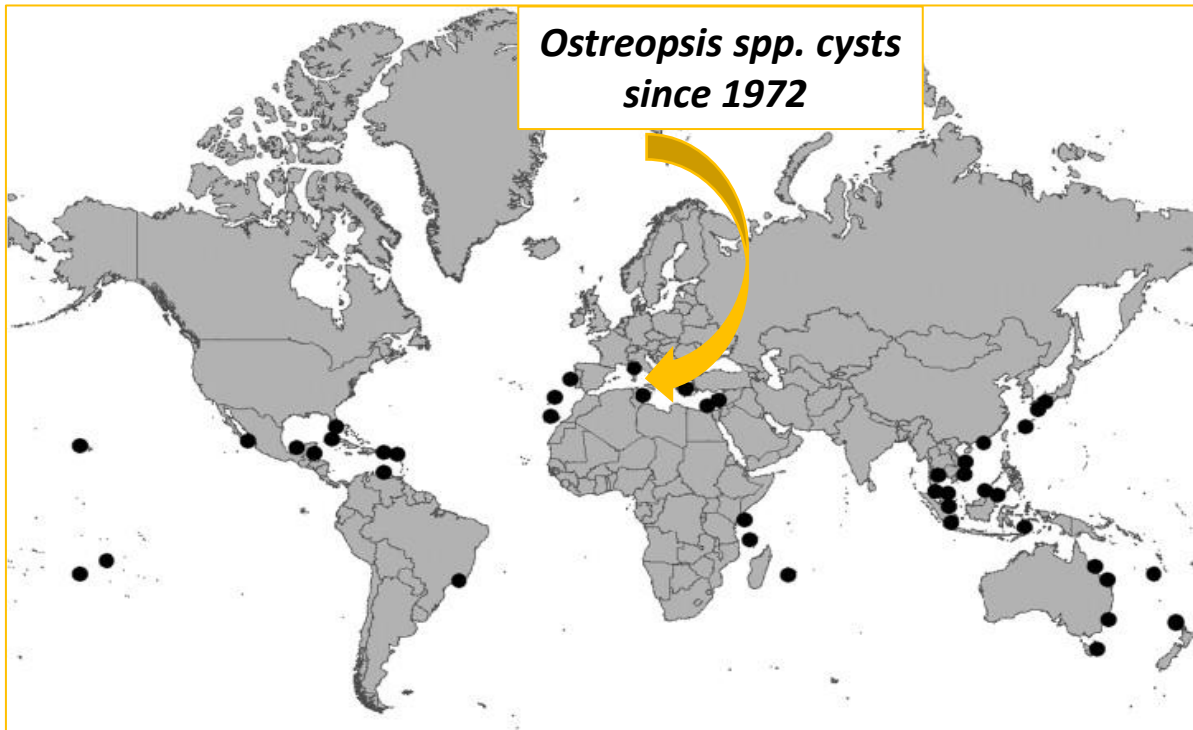


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Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the identification of biological, chemical, and physical agents capable of causing adverse health effects



MID '90s

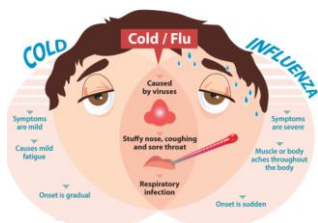
BENTHIC HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS (BHAB) of *Ostreopsis* spp. in the Mediterranean area as the result of:

- Nutrient enrichment along coastal waters
- Global warming
- Dispersal and redistribution of algal cells through ship ballast waters and plastic debris

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 1 >

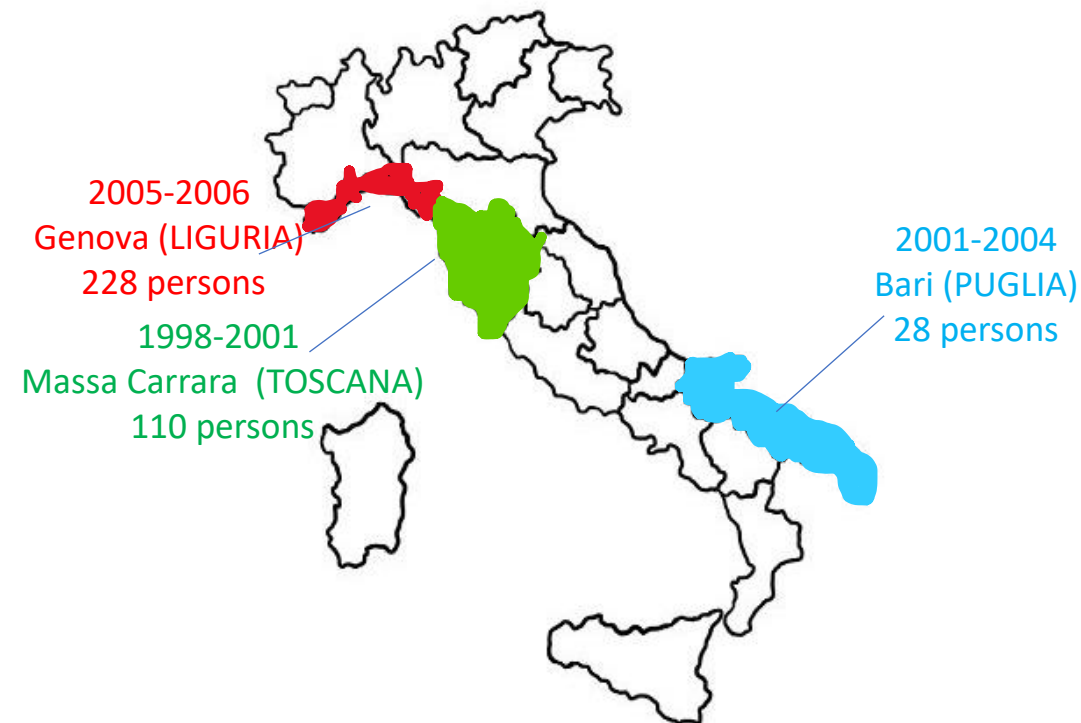
HAZARD IDENTIFICATION: The first step in risk assessment, this involves the **identification of** biological, chemical, and physical **agents capable of causing adverse health effects**



- fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- Difficulty breathing/dyspnea and/or bronchoconstriction
- Cough/dry or mildly productive cough
- Arthralgia/joint pain/myalgia
- Weakness and discomfort of the extremities/fatigue/malaise
- Headache
- Dysguesia/nausea and/or vomiting/diarrhea
- Dizziness/lightheadedness/vertigo
- Mucous hypersecretion/rhinorrhea
- Dermatitis/skin irritation/ pruritus/erythema/swelling
- Chest Pain
- Wheezes
- Conjunctivitis/lacrimation/tearing
- Mucosal irritation (eye, nose, lip, tongue)/sneezing
- Dry throat/sore throat/ pharyngeal pain/pharyngitis/odynophagia
- Chills/shivering
- Numbness/paresthesia/glassy eyes/ speech disturbance/collapse
- Rhabdomyolysis
- Tachycardia

n° of cases

	Ostreopsis-related poisonings					
	228	28	100	4	43	57
fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Difficulty breathing/dyspnea and/or bronchoconstriction	X	X		X	X	X
Cough/dry or mildly productive cough	X	X	X			X
Arthralgia/joint pain/myalgia			X		X	X
Weakness and discomfort of the extremities/fatigue/malaise					X	X
Headache	X				X	X
Dysguesia/nausea and/or vomiting/diarrhea	X			X	X	
Dizziness/lightheadedness/vertigo					X	X
Mucous hypersecretion/rhinorrhea	X	X			X	X
Dermatitis/skin irritation/ pruritus/erythema/swelling	X				X	X
Chest Pain						X
Wheezes		X				
Conjunctivitis/lacrimation/tearing	X	X			X	X
Mucosal irritation (eye, nose, lip, tongue)/sneezing			X	X	X	X
Dry throat/sore throat/ pharyngeal pain/pharyngitis/odynophagia	X			X		X
Chills/shivering						
Numbness/paresthesia/glassy eyes/ speech disturbance/collapse						
Rhabdomyolysis						
Tachycardia						



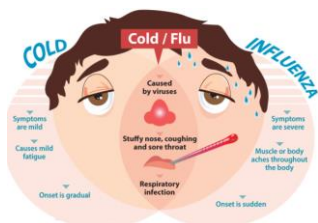
Environmental Science and Technology (2016) 50, 1023 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5b05469>

Environmental Science and Technology (2014) 48(6), 3532 <https://doi.org/10.1021/es405617d>

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

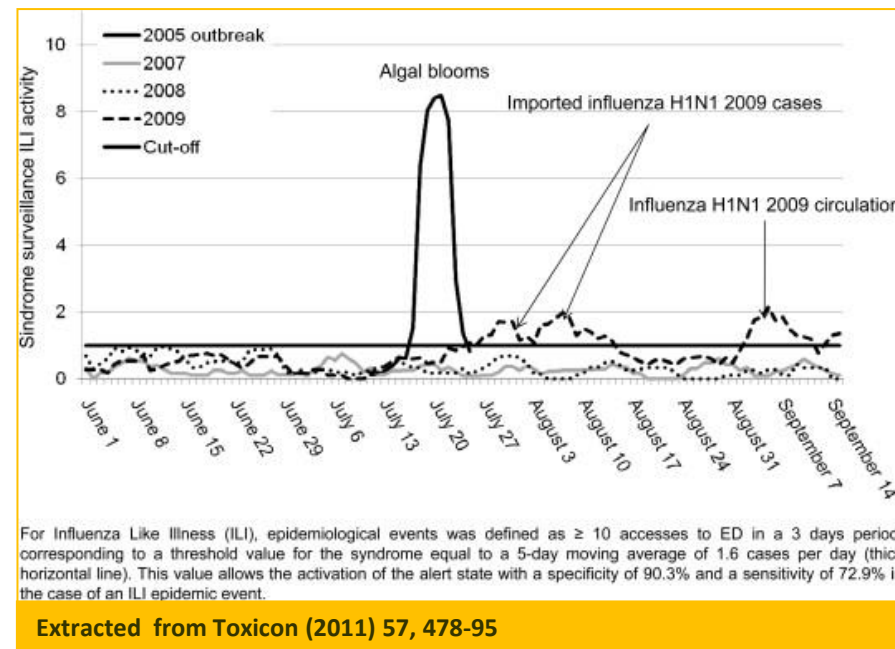
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n° of cases

	<i>Ostreopsis-related poisonings</i>					
	228	28	100	4	43	57
fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Difficulty breathing/dyspnea and/or bronchoconstriction	X	X		X	X	X
Cough/dry or mildly productive cough	X	X	X			X
Arthralgia/joint pain/myalgia			X		X	X
Weakness and discomfort of the extremities/fatigue/malaise					X	X
Headache	X				X	X
Dysguesia/nausea and/or vomiting/diarrhea	X			X	X	
Dizziness/lightheadedness/vertigo					X	X
Mucous hypersecretion/rhinorrhea	X	X			X	X
Dermatitis/skin irritation/ pruritus/erythema/swelling	X				X	X
Chest Pain						X
Wheezes		X				
Conjunctivitis/lacrimation/tearing	X	X			X	X
Mucosal irritation (eye, nose, lip, tongue)/sneezing			X	X	X	X
Dry throat/sore throat/ pharyngeal pain/pharyngitis/odynophagia	X			X		X
Chills/shivering						
Numbness/paresthesia/glassy eyes/ speech disturbance/collapse						
Rhabdomyolysis						
Tachycardia						



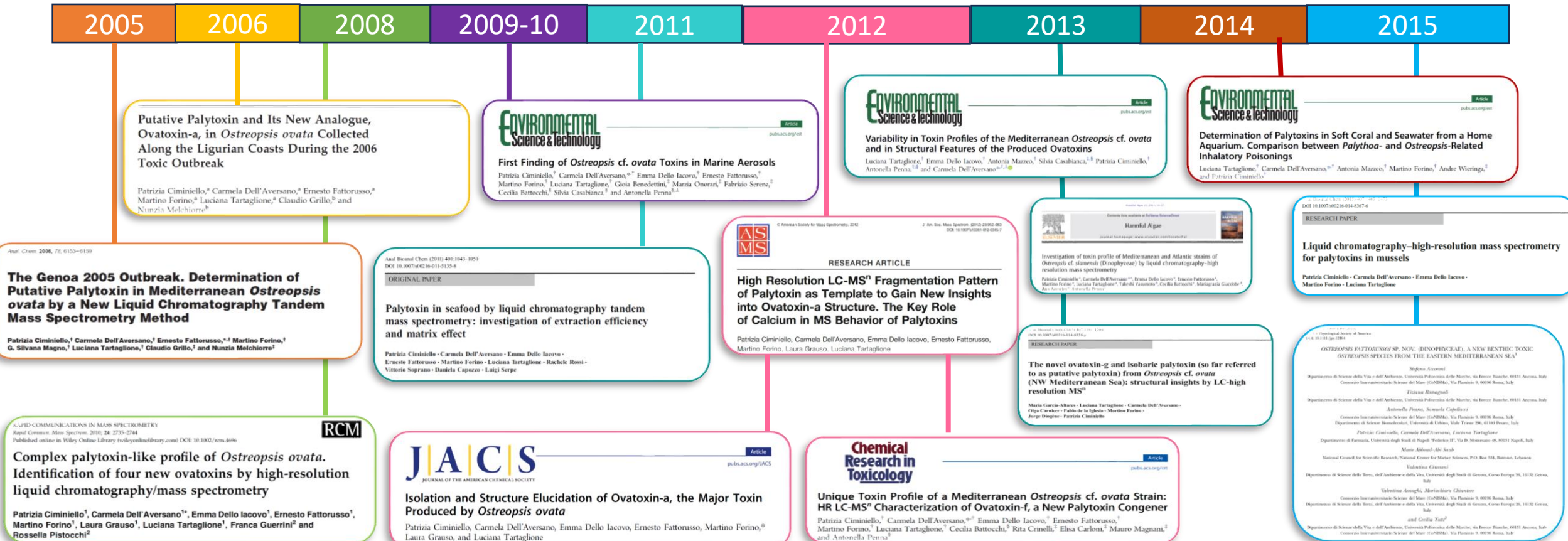
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Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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2005

2006

2008

2009-10

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

Anal. Chem. 2006, 78, 6153–6159

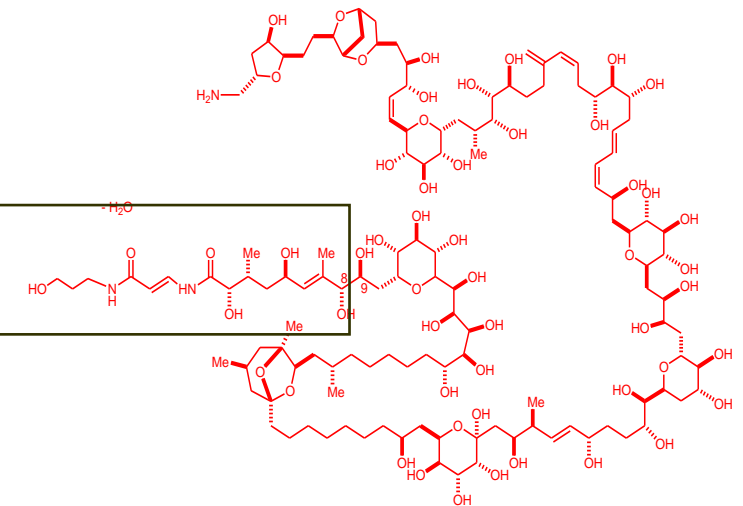
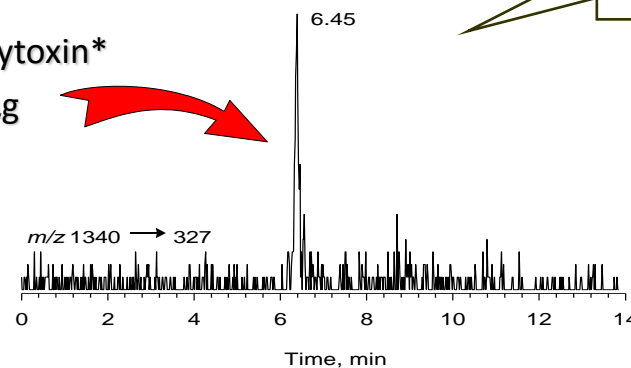
The Genoa 2005 Outbreak. Determination of Putative Palytoxin in Mediterranean *Ostreopsis ovata* by a New Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry Method

Patrizia Ciminiello,[†] Carmela Dell'Aversano,[†] Ernesto Fattorusso,^{*,†} Martino Forino,[†]
G. Silvana Magno,[†] Luciana Tartaglione,[†] Claudio Grillo,[‡] and Nunzia Melchiorre[‡]



Putative palytoxin*

1.35 μg



Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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Putative Palytoxin and Its New Analogue, Ovatoxin-a, in *Ostreopsis ovata* Collected Along the Ligurian Coasts During the 2006 Toxic Outbreak

Patrizia Ciminiello,^a Carmela Dell'Aversano,^a Ernesto Fattorusso,^a Martino Forino,^a Luciana Tartaglione,^a Claudio Grillo,^b and Nunzia Melchiorre^b



Ovatoxin-a **54%**

Ovatoxin-b

Ovatoxin-d/e

Ovatoxin-c

Putative palytoxin **0.6%**

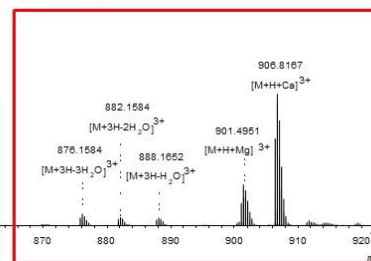
RAPID COMMUNICATIONS IN MASS SPECTROMETRY
 Rapid Commun. Mass Spectrom. 2010, 24, 2738-2744
 Published online in Wiley Online Library (wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/rcm.4696

RCM

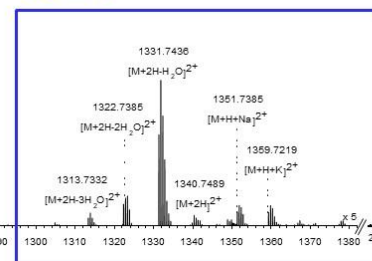
Complex palytoxin-like profile of *Ostreopsis ovata*. Identification of four new ovatoxins by high-resolution liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry

Patrizia Ciminiello¹, Carmela Dell'Aversano¹, Emma Dello Iacovo¹, Ernesto Fattorusso¹, Martino Forino¹, Laura Grauso¹, Luciana Tartaglione¹, Franca Guerrini² and Rossella Pistocchi²

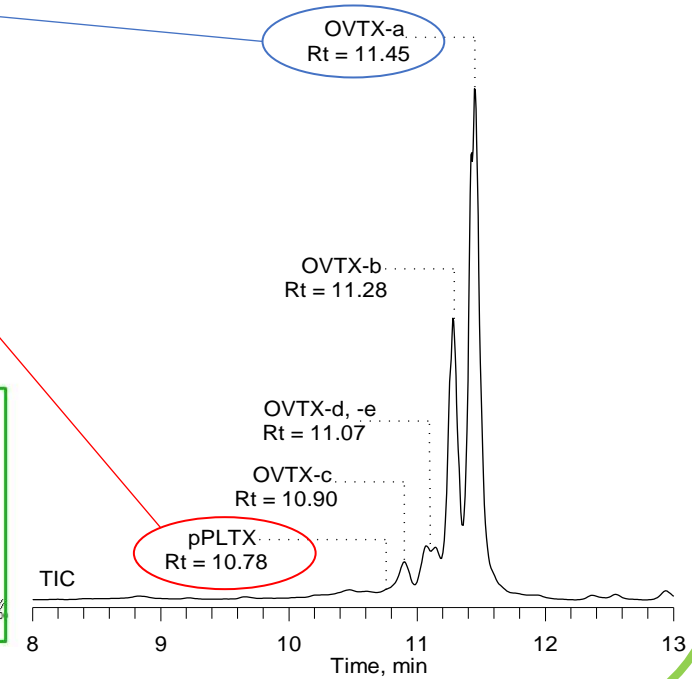
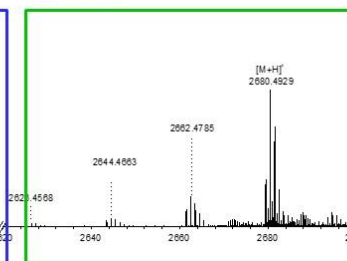
z = 3⁺



z = 2⁺



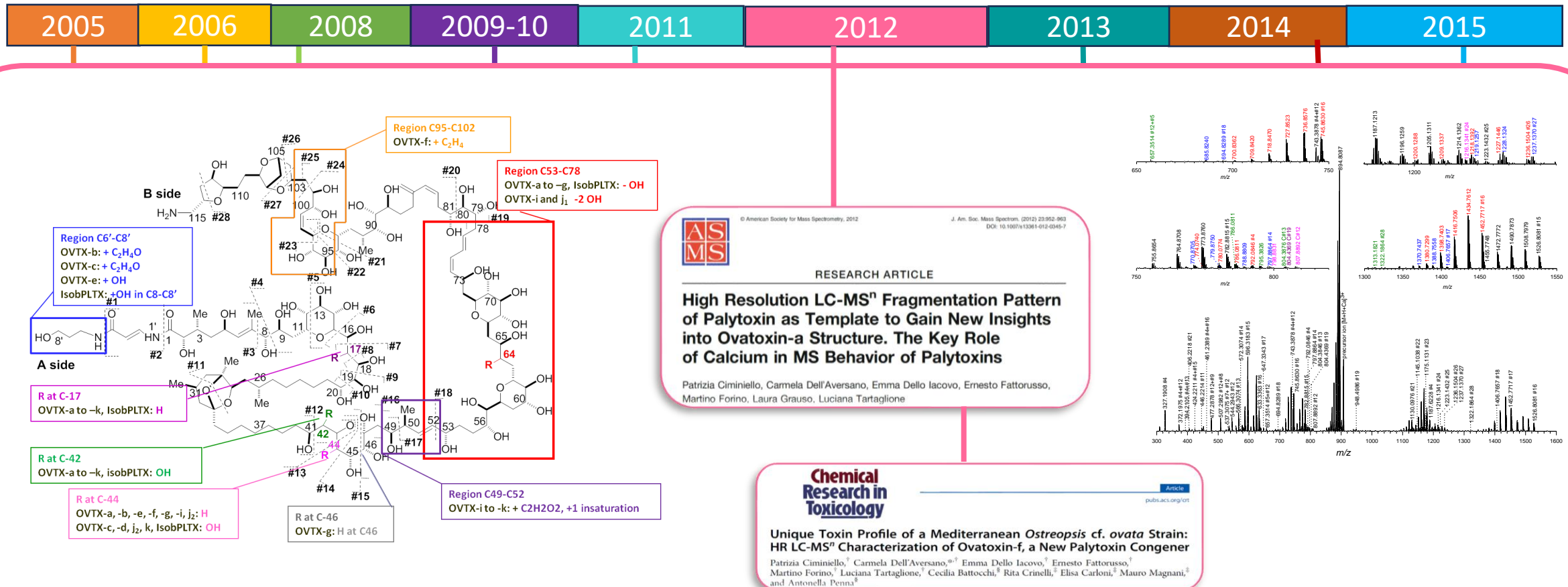
z = 1⁺



Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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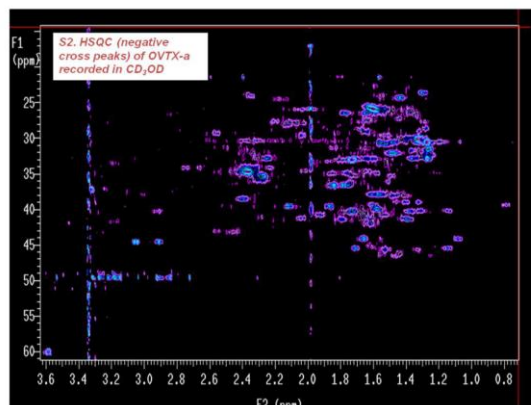
2011

2012

2013

2014

2015



© American Society for Mass Spectrometry, 2012

J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom. (2012) 23(16):1663
DOI: 10.1007/s13361-012-0945-7

RESEARCH ARTICLE

High Resolution LC-MSⁿ Fragmentation Pattern of Palytoxin as Template to Gain New Insights into Ovatoxin-a Structure. The Key Role of Calcium in MS Behavior of Palytoxins

Patrizia Ciminiello, Carmela Dell'Aversano, Emma Dello Iacovo, Ernesto Fattorusso, Martino Forino, Laura Grauso, Luciana Tartaglione

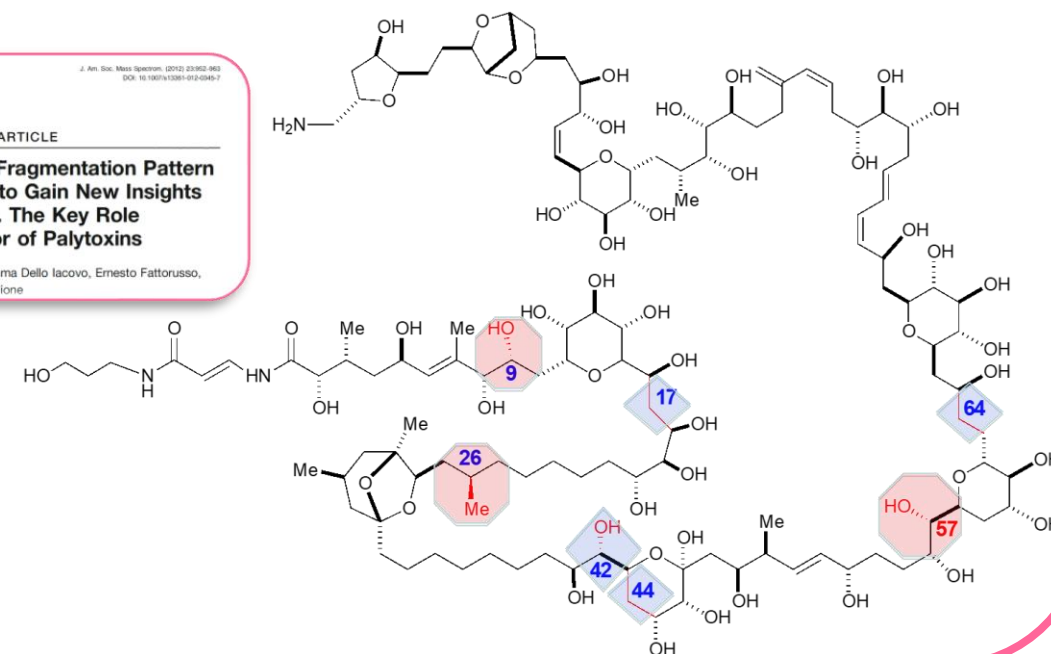
J|A|C|S
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Article

pubs.acs.org/JACS

Isolation and Structure Elucidation of Ovatoxin-a, the Major Toxin Produced by *Ostreopsis ovata*

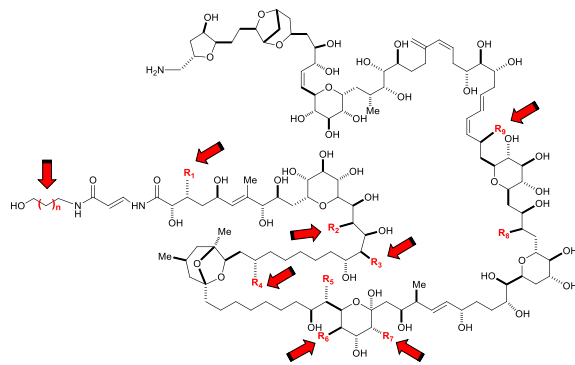
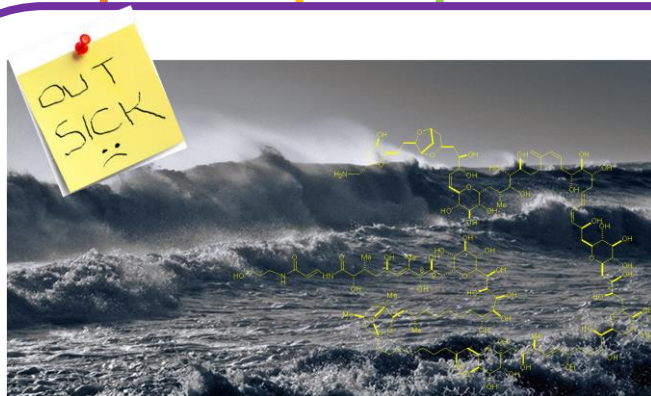
Patrizia Ciminiello, Carmela Dell'Aversano, Emma Dello Iacovo, Ernesto Fattorusso, Martino Forino,* Laura Grauso, and Luciana Tartaglione



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Environmental Science & Technology

Article
pubs.acs.org/est

First Finding of *Ostreopsis cf. ovata* Toxins in Marine Aerosols

Patrizia Ciminiello,¹ Carmela Dell'Aversano,^{2,3} Emma Dello Iacovo,⁴ Ernesto Fattorusso,⁵ Martino Forino,⁶ Luciana Tartaglione,⁷ Gioia Benedettini,⁸ Marzia Onorari,² Fabrizio Serena,² Cecilia Battocchi,⁹ Silvia Casabianca,⁸ and Antonella Penna^{8,1}

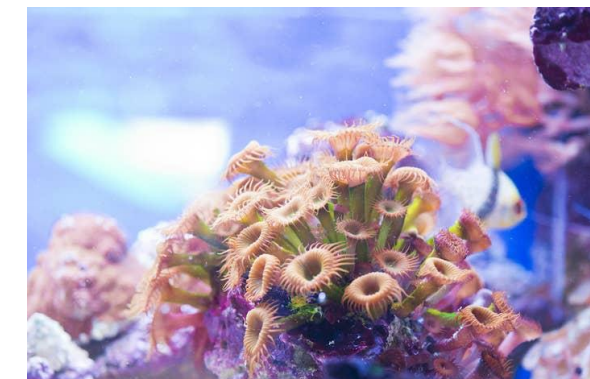
Environmental Science & Technology

Article
pubs.acs.org/est

Determination of Palytoxins in Soft Coral and Seawater from a Home Aquarium. Comparison between *Palythoa*- and *Ostreopsis*-Related Inhalatory Poisonings

Luciana Tartaglione,¹ Carmela Dell'Aversano,^{2,3} Antonia Mazzeo,⁴ Martino Forino,⁵ Andre Wieringa,⁶ and Patrizia Ciminiello¹

	Ostreopsis-related poisonings						Palythoa-related poisonings							
	228	28	100	4	43	57	2	4	1	6	11	3	1	4
n° of cases														
fever (≥38°C)	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Difficulty breathing/dyspnea and/or bronchoconstriction	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cough/dry or mildly productive cough	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Arthralgia/joint pain/myalgia			X		X	X			X	X				X
Weakness and discomfort of the extremities/fatigue/malaise					X	X	X	X	X					X
Headache	X				X	X					X	X		X
Dysguesia/nausea and/or vomiting/diarrhea	X			X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X
Dizziness/lightheadedness/vertigo					X	X	X	X						
Mucous hypersecretion/rhinorrhea	X	X			X	X	X							
Dermatitis/skin irritation/ pruritus/erythema/swelling	X				X	X	X							
Chest Pain					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wheezes		X								X				X
Conjunctivitis/lacrimation/tearing	X	X			X	X								
Mucosal irritation (eye, nose, lip, tongue)/sneezing			X		X	X								
Dry throat/sore throat/ pharyngeal pain/pharyngitis/odynophagia	X				X	X								
Chills/shivering									X	X		X	X	
Numbness/paresthesia/glassy eyes/ speech disturbance/collapse							X	X	X					X
Rhabdomyolysis							X							
Tachycardia							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 ACS News Service Weekly PressPac: Wed Jan 13 13:27:00 EST 2016

Toxins related to 'red tides' found in home aquarium

Risk assessment of ovatoxins **by inhalation**

STEP 2 >

HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION: The second step in risk assessment, this involves defining the nature of the adverse health effects associated with biological, chemical and physical agents which may be present in food. The process should, if possible, involve an understanding of the doses involved and related responses.



Intra-peritoneal



Toxicity and pathophysiology of palytoxin congeners after intraperitoneal and aerosol administration in rats

Mark Poli^{a,*}, Patricia Ruiz-Olvera^a, Aysegul Nalca^b, Sara Ruiz^b, Virginia Livingston^b, Ondraya Frick^b, David Dyer^b, Christopher Schellhase^c, Jolynne Raymond^c, David Kulis^d, Donald Anderson^d, Sara McGrath^e, Jonathan Deeds^e

^a Diagnostic Systems Division, US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Fort Detrick, MD, United States
^b Aerobiology Division, US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Fort Detrick, MD, United States
^c Pathology Division, US Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Fort Detrick, MD, United States
^d Biology Department, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA, United States
^e Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, US Food and Drug Administration, College Park, MD, United States



Aerosol

Toxin Prep	Source	LD50 (ug/kg)
50:50 mix	Hawaiian <i>P. tuberculosa</i>	0.92 (0.54 – 1.54)
42-OH-PLTX	Hawaiian <i>P. toxica</i>	1.93 (1.07 – 4.65)
PLTX	Japanese <i>P. tuberculosa</i>	1.81 (1.11 – 3.30)
Ovatoxin-a	<i>Ostreopsis ovata</i> culture	3.26 (2.04 – 5.66)



Toxin Prep	Source	LD50 (ug/kg)
50:50 mix	Hawaiian <i>P. tuberculosa</i>	0.063 (0.053 – 0.078)
42-OH-PLTX	Hawaiian <i>P. toxica</i>	0.045 (0.037 – 0.055)
PLTX	Japanese <i>P. tuberculosa</i>	0.041 (0.032 – 0.052)
Ovatoxin-a	<i>Ostreopsis ovata</i> culture	0.031 (0.025 – 0.039)

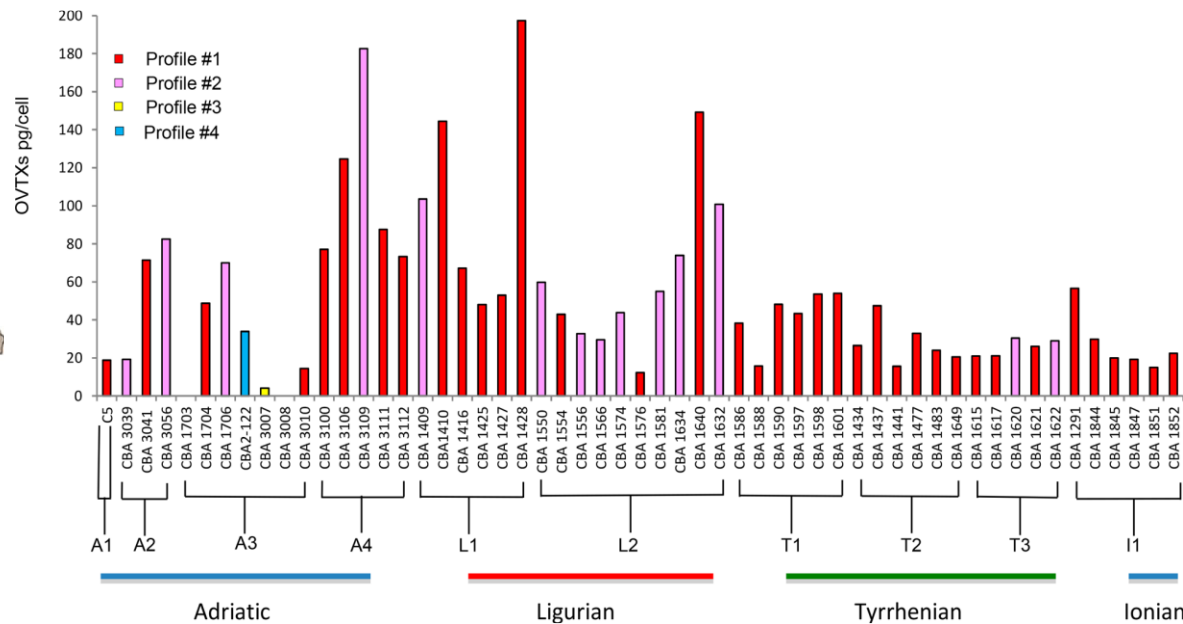
Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 2 >

HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION: The second step in risk assessment, this involves defining the nature of the adverse health effects associated with biological, chemical and physical agents which may be present in food. The process should, if possible, involve an understanding of the doses involved and related responses.



- Profile #1
- Profile #2
- Profile #3
- Profile #4



ENVIRONMENTAL Science & Technology
 Article
 Variability in Toxin Profiles of the Mediterranean *Ostreopsis cf. ovata* and in Structural Features of the Produced Ovatoxins
 Luciana Tartaglione,¹ Emma Dello Iacovo,¹ Antonia Mazzeo,¹ Silvia Casabianca,^{1,2} Patrizia Ciminiello,¹ Antonella Penna,^{2,3} and Carmela Dell'Aversano^{1,2,3}

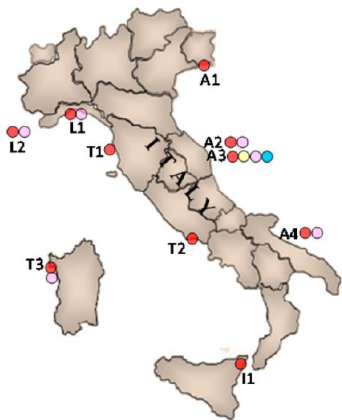
Harmful Algae
 Investigation of toxin profile of Mediterranean and Atlantic strains of *Ostreopsis cf. siamensis* (Dinophyceae) by liquid chromatography–high resolution mass spectrometry
 Patrizia Ciminiello¹, Carmela Dell'Aversano^{1,2}, Emma Dello Iacovo¹, Ernesto Fattorusso⁴, Martino Forino⁵, Luciana Tartaglione¹, Takeshi Yasumoto⁶, Cecilia Battocchi⁵, Mariagrazia Giacobbe⁴, Ana Amorim⁷, Antonella Penna¹

RESEARCH PAPER
 The novel ovatoxin-g and isobaric palytoxin (so far referred to as putative palytoxin) from *Ostreopsis cf. ovata* (NW Mediterranean Sea): structural insights by LC-high resolution MSⁿ
 María García-Alvarez · Luciana Tartaglione · Carmela Dell'Aversano · Olga Carriker · Pablo de la Iglesia · Martino Forino · Jorge Diéguez · Patrizia Ciminiello

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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- Profile #1
- Profile #2
- Profile #3
- Profile #4



		Profile #1	Profile #2	Profile #3	Profile #4
OVTX-a	■	56% ± 10.1	76.8% ± 4.2		23.6%
OVTX-b	■	26.1% ± 7.0		87.8%	17.7%
OVTX-c	■	3.8% ± 1.4		11.3%	2.4%
OVTX-d	■	6.9% ± 2.3	12.4% ± 3.9		2.9%
OVTX-e	■	4.1% ± 2.0	6.3% ± 3.1		2.9%
OVTX-f	■				50.1%
OVTX-g	■	0.6% ± 0.29	0.9% ± 0.5		
isob PLTX	■	0.34% ± 0.18	0.8% ± 0.3		0.29%

Variability in Toxin Profiles of the Mediterranean *Ostreopsis cf. ovata* and in Structural Features of the Produced Ovatoxins
 Luciana Tartaglione,¹ Emma Dello Iacovo,¹ Antonia Mazzeo,¹ Silvia Casabianca,^{1,2} Patrizia Cimmiello,¹ Antonella Penna,^{2,3} and Carmela Dell'Aversano^{1,2,3}

Harmful Algae
 journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/hal

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RESEARCH PAPER

The novel ovatoxin-g and isobaric palytoxin (so far referred to as putative palytoxin) from *Ostreopsis cf. ovata* (NW Mediterranean Sea): structural insights by LC-high resolution MSⁿ

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Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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FEDERICO II

A NEW APPROACH FOR PLTX-LIKE COMPOUNDS DISCOVERY IN OSTREOPSIS CC-DIETASAMPLES

M. Ianni^{1,2}, L. Longhinou¹, V. Mihal¹, E. Poydeli¹, A. Schmitt¹, J. Murray¹, A. Penna¹, A. Tavano¹, T. Hovgaard¹, C. Dell'Aversana^{1,3}

¹ Department of Pharmacy, School of Medicine and Surgery, University of Naples Federico II, via D. Montesano 49, 80131 Naples, Italy;
² INFN-C, National Institute for Nuclear Physics, Palermo, Italy;
³ Institute for the Study and Conservation of the Agreste Environment, University of Palermo, Italy

INTRODUCTION

A wide array of different polyketide (PKT)-like compounds, some of them present only in trace, has been identified amongst different taxa of Ostreopsis sp. As a result, the characterization of the marine toxicophores of these species is still challenging.

AIMS & WORKFLOW

The strength of novel samples was evaluated along the flow. Several countries had the second time the marine conditions. Data was collected for the presence of PKT-like responses in areas of the island. The appropriate extraction method to highlight specific chromatographic signals to mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) analysis, and LC-MS/MS responses to LC-MS/MS compound analysis of both the extracted and the original sample. The workflow is shown in the figure below.

WORKFLOW & RESULTS

LC-MS/MS analysis of the PKT-like compounds in the marine samples (Ostreopsis sp.) was performed. The results are shown in the figure below. The chromatograms show the presence of PKT-like compounds in the marine samples. The results are shown in the figure below.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

LC-MS/MS response method implemented in the presence of PKT-like compounds (Ostreopsis sp.) was performed. The results are shown in the figure below. The chromatograms show the presence of PKT-like compounds in the marine samples. The results are shown in the figure below.

FEDERICO II

UNTARGETED LC-MS/MS ANALYSES ON EXTRACTS FROM OSTREOPSIS CC-DIETAS FROM NHA TRANG BAY (VIETNAM) REVEALED THE PRESENCE OF A NEW PLTX-LIKE COMPOUND

A. Abdallah^{1,2}, L. Longhinou¹, M. Ianni¹, V. Mihal¹, S. Capolupo¹, S. Casabianca¹, A. Penna¹, R. Caporaso¹, A. Penna¹, C. Dell'Aversana^{1,3}

¹ Department of Pharmacy, School of Medicine, University of Naples Federico II, via D. Montesano 49, 80131 Naples, Italy;
² INFN-C, National Institute for Nuclear Physics, Palermo, Italy;
³ Department of Environmental Science, University of Palermo, Italy

INTRODUCTION

Ostreopsis is an endemic distribution from the tropical and subtropical (TAS) seas. The toxicity of Ostreopsis sp. is linked to the presence of different polyketide compounds related to the presence of PKT-like compounds (PKT) in the marine environment.

AIMS OF THE STUDY

The results of LC-MS/MS analyses on the Nhat Trang Bay (Vietnam) were extracted and the obtained data were used to identify LC-MS/MS peaks with the presence of PKT-like compounds.

WORKFLOW & RESULTS

The results of LC-MS/MS analyses on the Nhat Trang Bay (Vietnam) were extracted and the obtained data were used to identify LC-MS/MS peaks with the presence of PKT-like compounds. The results are shown in the figure below.

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

The results of LC-MS/MS analyses on the Nhat Trang Bay (Vietnam) were extracted and the obtained data were used to identify LC-MS/MS peaks with the presence of PKT-like compounds. The results are shown in the figure below.

Brazil, Portugal, **Spain**, France, **Italy**, Croatia, Greece, CIPRO, Lebanon,, Vietnam, Japan, *New Zealand*

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 2 >

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2005

2006

2008

2009-10

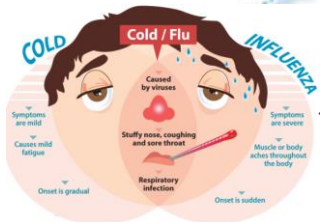
2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

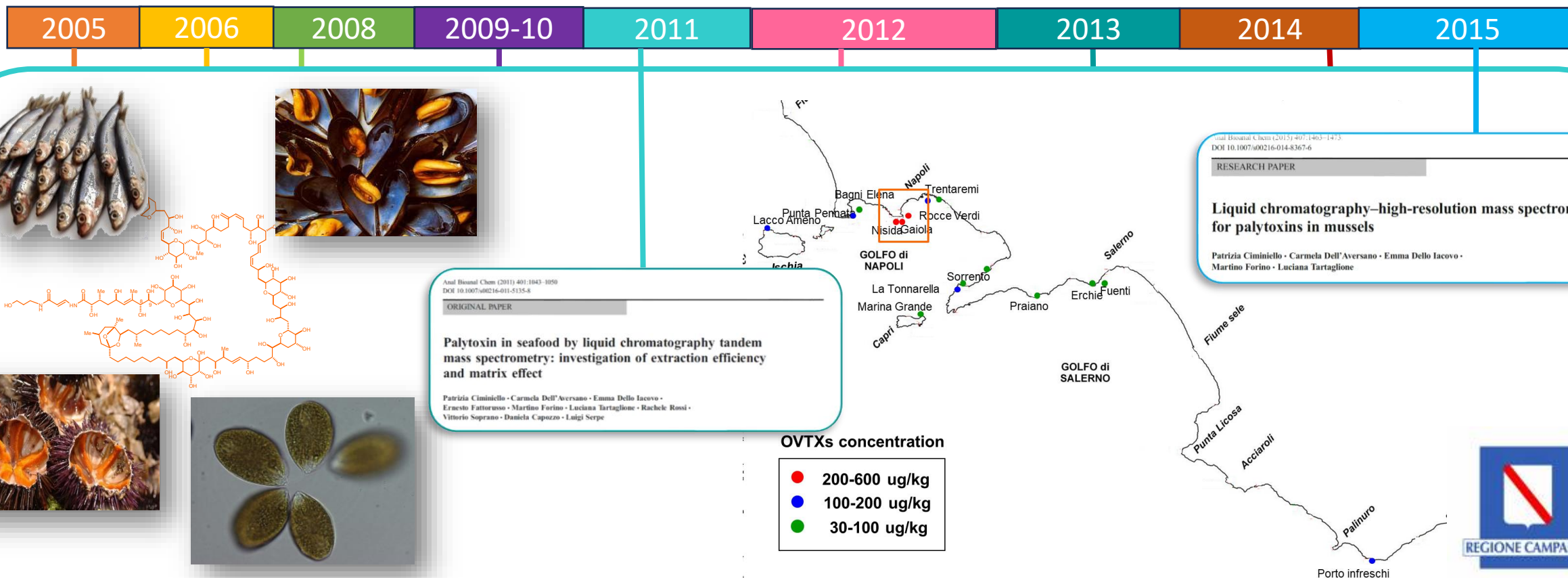


Brazil, Portugal, **Spain**, France, **Italy**, *Croatia*, Greece, **CIPRO**, Lebanon,, *Vietnam*, *Japan*, *New Zealand*

Risk assessment of ovatoxins by ingestion

STEP 3 >

EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT: One of the key steps in risk assessment, this relates to a thorough evaluation of who, or what, has been exposed to a hazard and a quantification of the amounts involved.



Risk assessment of ovatoxins **by ingestion**

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Haff Disease in Salvador, Brazil, 2016-2021: Attack rate and detection of toxin in fish samples collected during outbreaks and disease surveillance

Cristiane Wanderley Cardoso,^a Monaise Madalena Oliveira e Silva,^b Antônio Carlos Bandeira,^c Renan Bispo Silva,^b Ana Paula Pitanga Barbuda Prates,^a Ênio Silva Soares,^a José Jorge Moreno Silva,^a Lázaro José Rodrigues de Souza,^a Mirela Maisa da Silva Souza,^a Marcela Almeida Muhana,^a Rosildete Silva Santos Pires,^a José Fernando Araujo Neto,^c Manuela Sampaio Souza Santos,^c Luiz Laureno Mafra Junior,^a Thiago Pereira Alves,^a Mathias Alberto Schramm,^a and Guilherme Sousa Ribeiro,^{b,f,}*

^aSecretaria Municipal de Saúde de Salvador, Salvador, Brazil

^bInstituto Gonçalo Moniz, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Salvador, Brazil

^cSecretaria de Saúde do Estado da Bahia, Salvador, Brazil

^dCentro de Estudos do Mar, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Pontal do Paraná, Brazil

^eInstituto Federal de Santa Catarina, Campus Itajaí, Itajaí, Brazil

^fFaculdade de Medicina, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Salvador, Brazil

Summary

Background From late 2016 to early 2021, cases of Haff disease, a rare cause of rhabdomyolysis, possibly due to poisoning by palytoxin-like compounds in seafood, were detected in Salvador, Brazil. Surveillance was established to detect additional cases aiming at describing the clinical characteristics of the cases, identifying associated factors, estimating disease attack rate, and investigating the presence of biotoxins and trace metals in selected fish specimens obtained from cases.

Characteristics	Subjects with laboratory-confirmed rhabdomyolysis (N = 43)	Subjects without laboratory-confirmed rhabdomyolysis (N = 22)
	Number/response (%) or median (IQR)	
Demographics		
Age, years	42 (30-62)	42 (32-51)
Female	22/43 (51)	16/22 (73)
Skin color		
White	16/41 (39)	9/20 (45)
Mixed	14/41 (34)	6/19 (32)
Black	11/41 (27)	6/19 (32)
Clinical manifestations		
Muscle pain	43/43 (100)	22/22 (100)
First affected region/ muscle		
Trapezius	22/41 (54)	14/22 (64)
Lower limbs	6/41 (15)	2/22 (9)
Latissimus dorsal	2/41 (5)	0/20 (0)
Upper limbs	2/41 (5)	3/22 (14)
Abdomen	1/41 (2)	1/22 (5)
Others	8/38 (21)	2/22 (9)
Dark urine	20/41 (49)	7/22 (32)
Muscle pain at touch	19/42 (45)	10/22 (46)
Dry mouth	13/42 (31)	8/22 (36)
Arthralgia	12/42 (29)	12/22 (55)
Headache	12/43 (28)	13/22 (59)
Dyspnea	11/42 (26)	7/22 (32)
Fever	5/42 (12)	2/22 (9)
Vomit	5/42 (12)	3/22 (14)
Cough	5/42 (12)	4/22 (18)
Pruritus	4/42 (10)	8/22(36)
Retro-orbital pain	4/42 (10)	4/22 (18)
Diarrhea	4/42 (10)	7/20 (35)
Conjunctivitis	3/42 (7)	3/22 (14)
Adenopathy	3/42 (7)	2/22 (9)
Exanthema	2/42 (5)	7/22 (32)
Disease outcomes		
Number of days of illness	3 (2-5)	3 (2-7)
Search for medical care ^a	42/43 (98)	15/22 (68)
Hospitalization	38/43 (88)	3/20 (15)
Intensive care unit admission	11/43 (26)	0/21 (0)
Dialysis	3/42 (7)	0/22 (0)

Table 1: Demographic and clinical characteristics of suspected Haff disease cases during an outbreak in Salvador, Brazil, according to laboratory confirmation of rhabdomyolysis, 2016-2017 (N=65)

^a One laboratory-confirmed rhabdomyolysis case did not seek for medical care but performed CPK testing.

Risk assessment of ovatoxins by ingestion

STEP 3 >

EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT: One of the key steps in risk assessment, this relates to a thorough evaluation of who, or what, has been exposed to a hazard and a quantification of the amounts involved.



Situação epidemiológica da doença de Haff no Brasil, 2021 e 2022

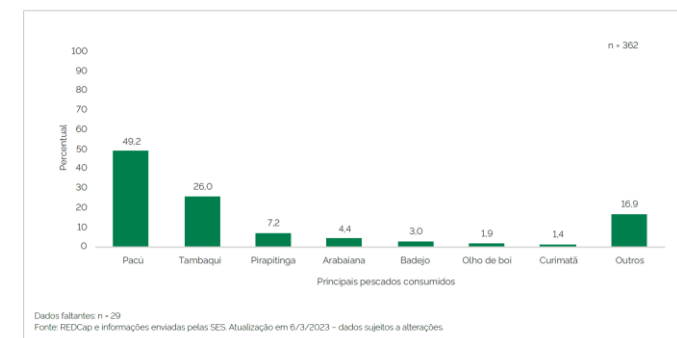


FIGURA 6 Distribuição dos casos compatíveis com a doença de Haff por pescado consumido, Brasil, 2021 a 2022*

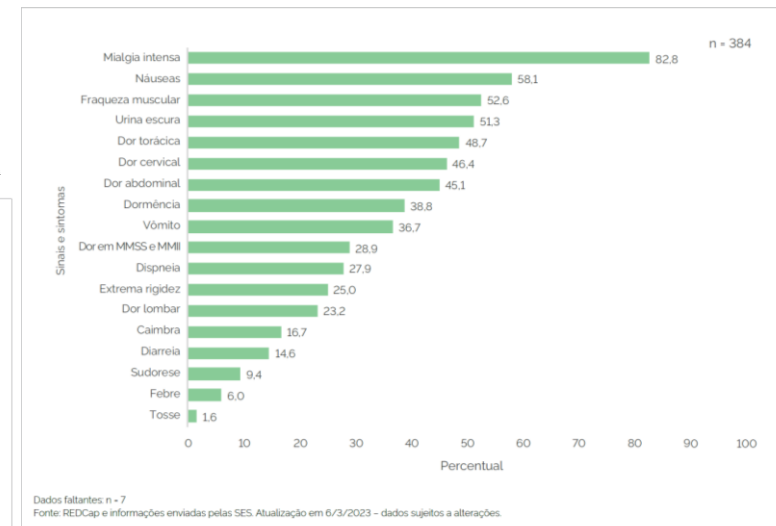


FIGURA 5 Distribuição da frequência dos sinais e sintomas dos casos compatíveis com a doença de Haff, Brasil, 2021 a 2022

Thanks to Rodrigo Barcellos Hoff and collaborators. Advanced Laboratorial Section - SLAV/SC Federal Laboratory of Animal and Plant Health and Inspection - LFDA/RS Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

Risk assessment of ovatoxins **by ingestion**

STEP 2 >

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EFSA Journal 2009; 7(12):1393

SCIENTIFIC OPINION

Scientific Opinion on marine biotoxins in shellfish – Palytoxin group¹

EFSA Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM)^{2,3}

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Parma, Italy

“... Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) methods can be valuable tools for the determination, but *method optimisation and validation* as well as the *development of certified reference materials and standards are necessary*...”



ISOLATION SCHEME



15 mg OVTX-a
OVTX-d/e pPLTX

Starting Material
Crude extract containing ~ 30 mg of OVTX-a

15 mg crude OVTX-a used for MPLC#3

15 mg crude OVTX-a used for MPLC#4
(purification ongoing)

Fr 5
4.8 mg of semi-purified OVTX-a

Fr 6-8
1.1 mg of semi-purified OVTX-a
(purification ongoing)

HPLC step 1
5.5 mg of semi-purified OVTX-a (Recovery 104.6%)

HPLC step 2
2.2 mg of pure OVTX-a (Recovery 61.9%)

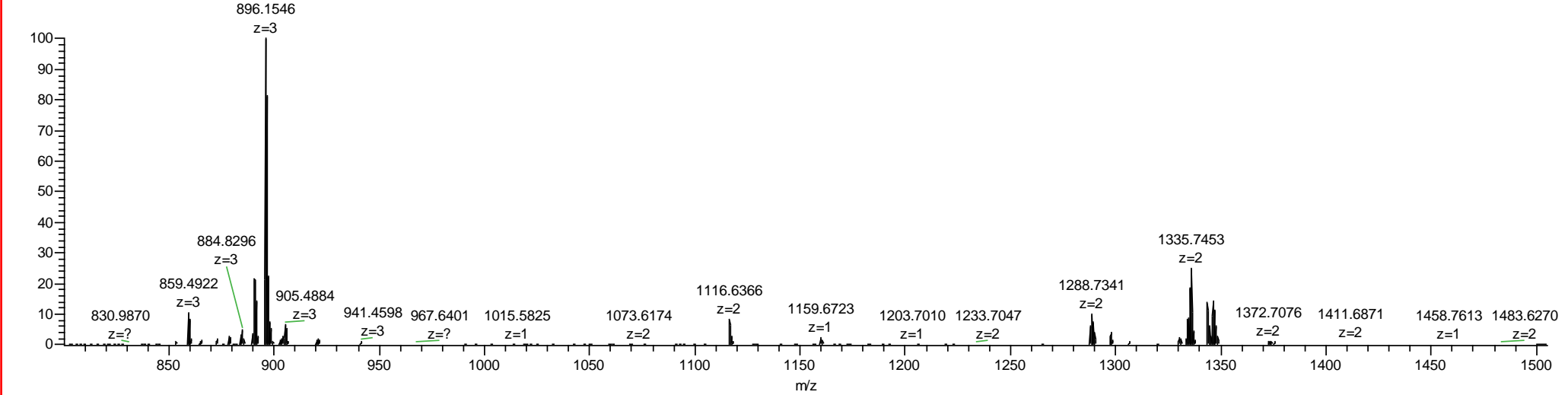
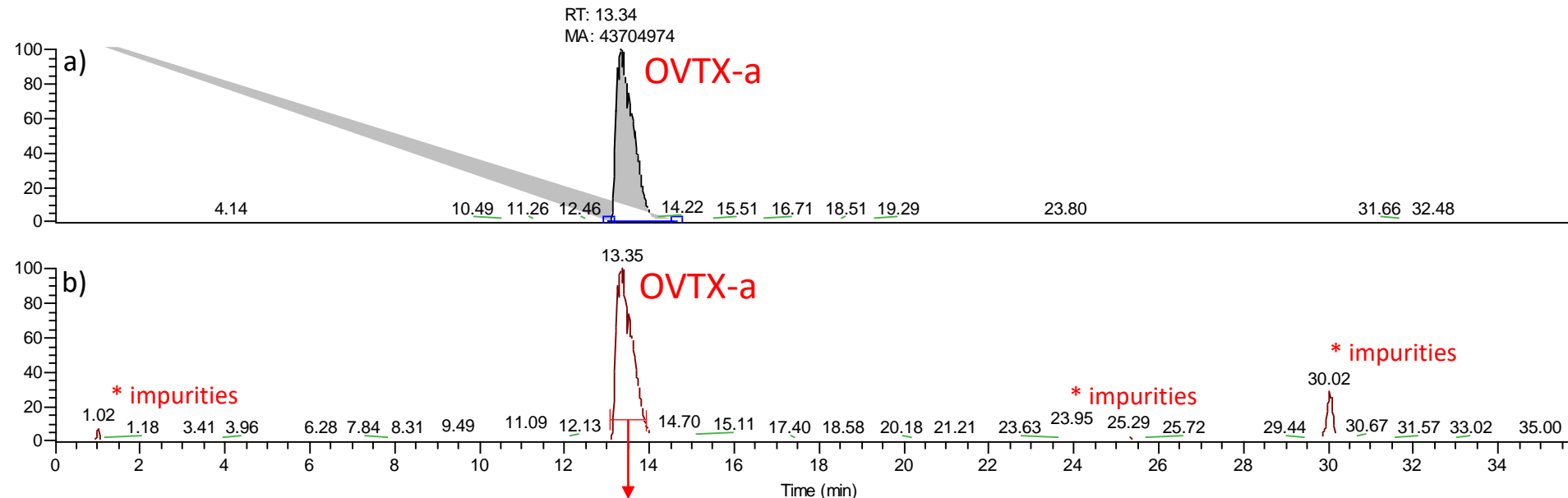
Divided in 8 aliquots => Lyophilization

OVTX-a N°01 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°02 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°03 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°04 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°05 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°06 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°07 in 15 mL size- glass vial	OVTX-a N°08 in 50 mL size-PP tube
177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	177.6 ± 7.8 µg OVTX-a	1243.2 ± 54.6 µg OVTX-a

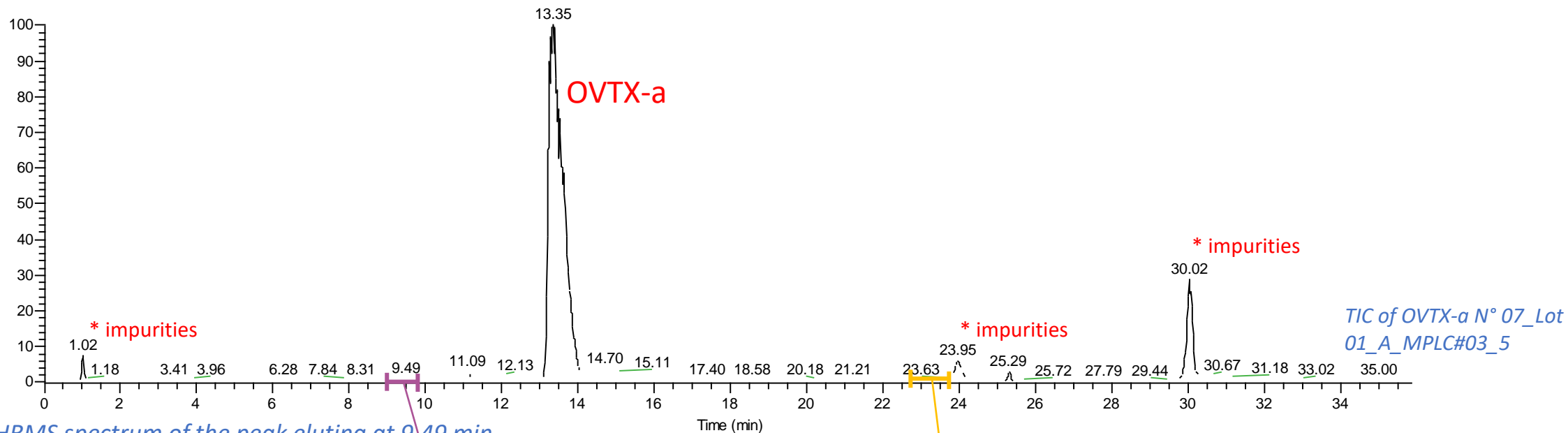
2.5 mg OVTX-a
94% purity
25% Recovery

0.7 mg OVTX-a
50% purity
10% Recovery

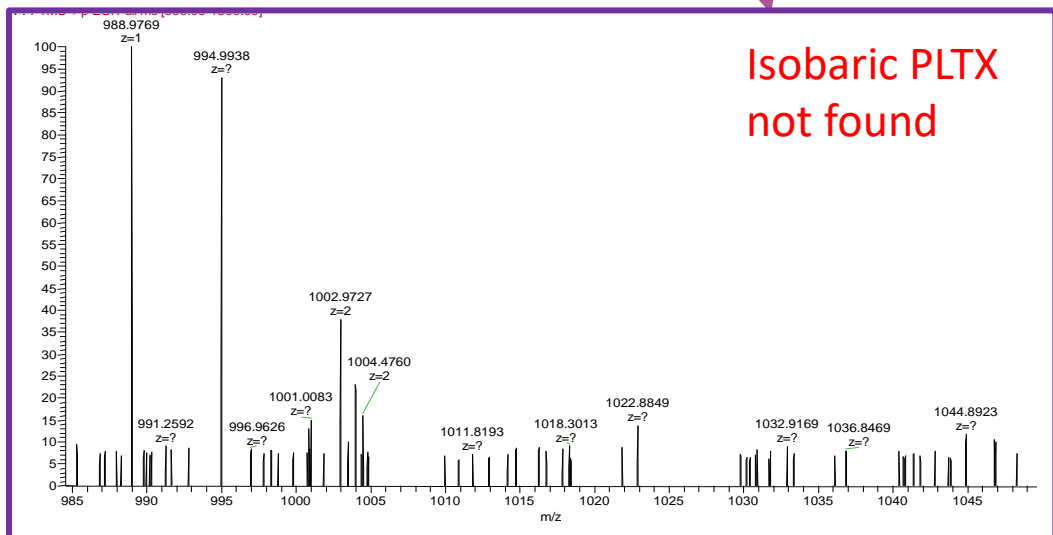
LC-HRMS of QC sample OVTX-a N° 07. Lot 01_A_MPLC#03_5. TIC, XIC and related Full Scan HRMS of OVATOXIN-a



Enlargements of the peaks eluting in the nearby of OVTX-a peak : other OVTXs

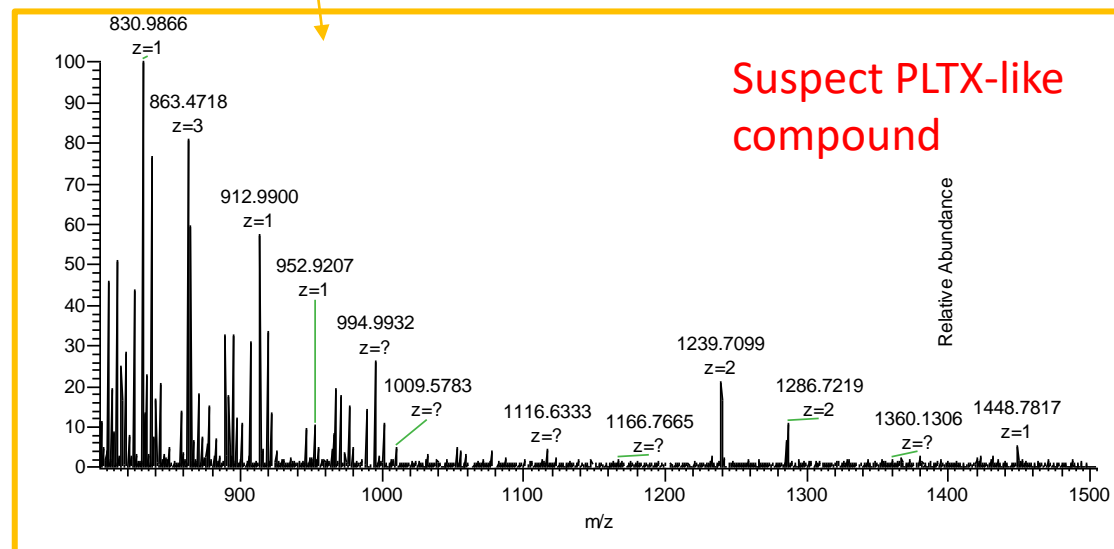


Full scan HRMS spectrum of the peak eluting at 9.49 min



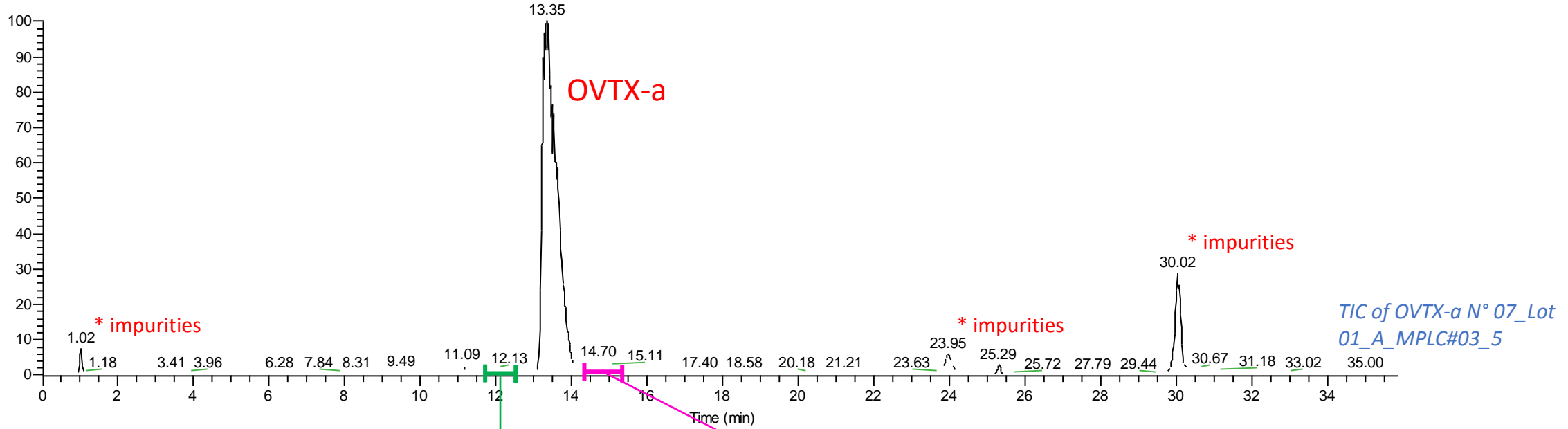
In this Rt region normally elutes Isobaric PLTX, but in the HRMS spectrum associated to this region no ions relevant to isobaric PLTX were detected.

Full scan HRMS spectrum of the peak eluting at 23.23 min

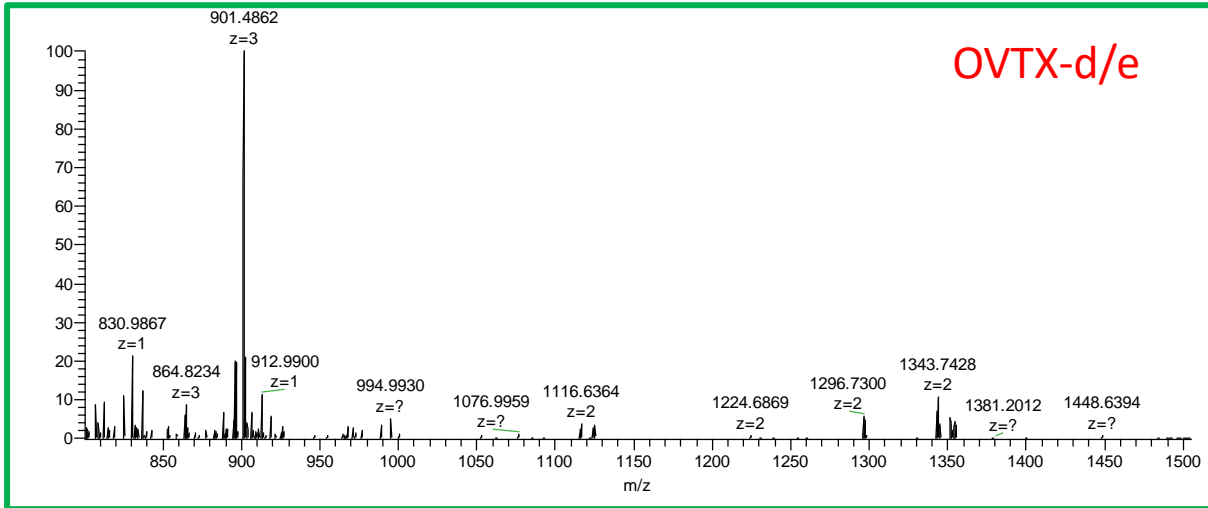


This molecule is a OVTX-like compounds and thus was considered in the assessment of the purity grade

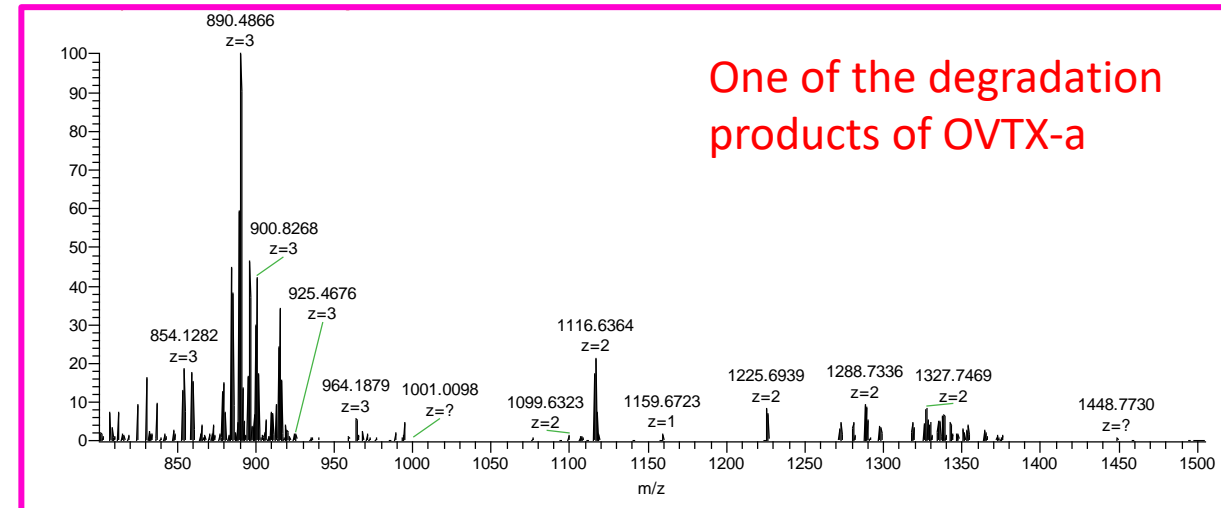
Enlargements of the peaks eluting in the nearby of OVTX-a peak : other OVTXs



Full scan HRMS spectrum of the peak eluting at 12.13 min



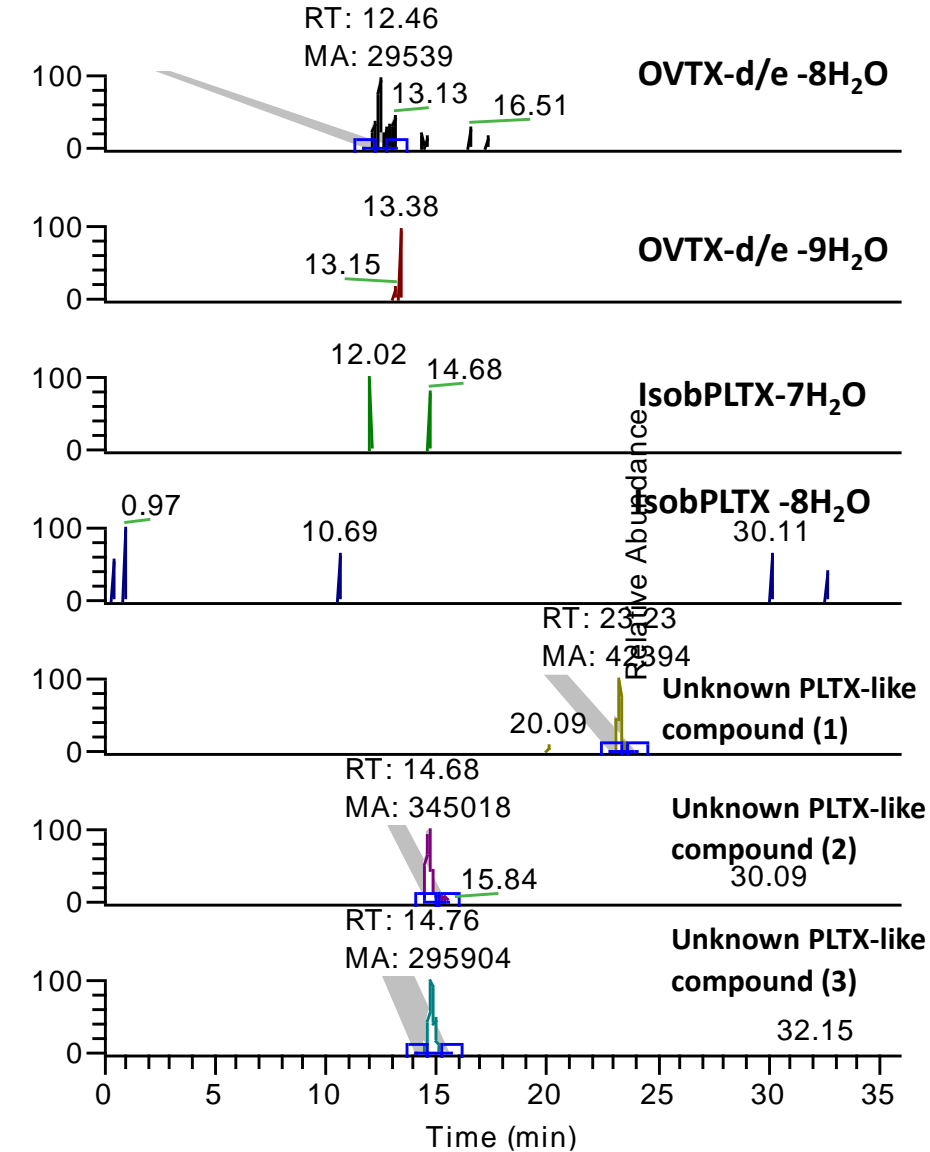
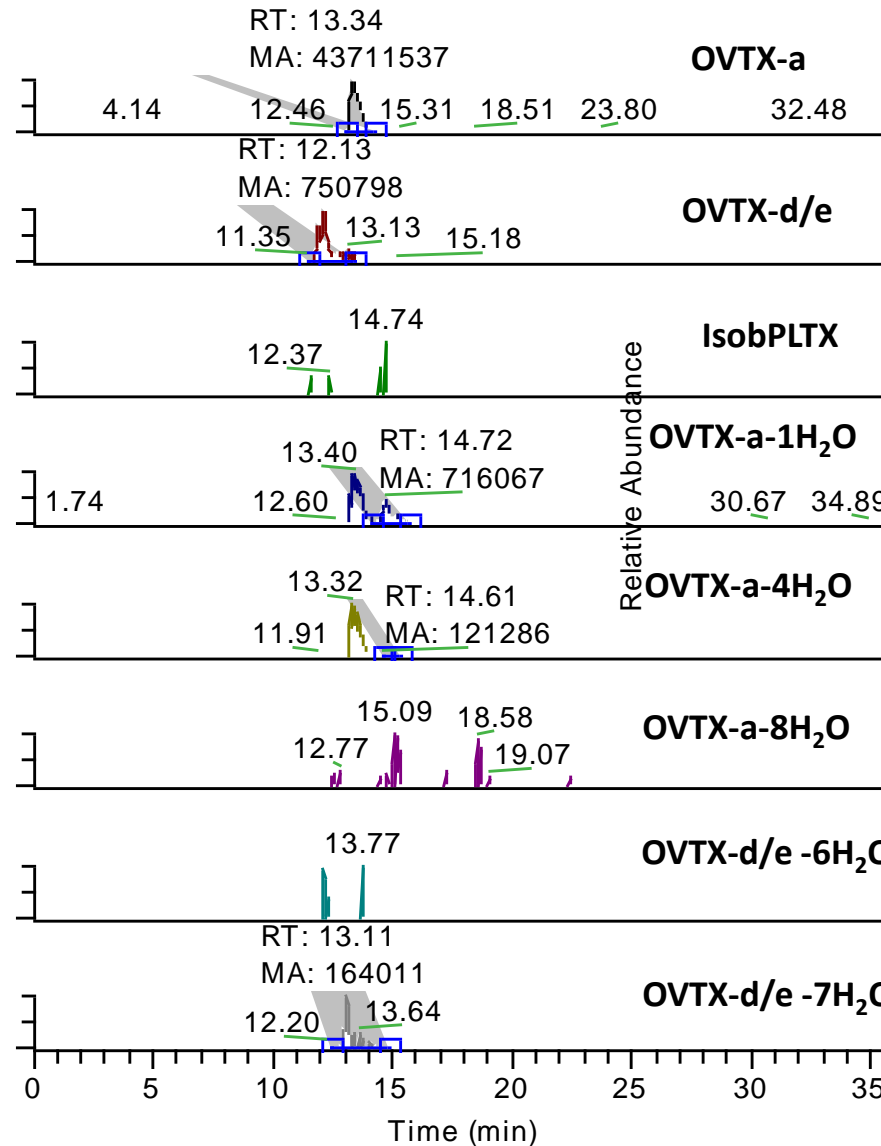
Full scan HRMS spectrum of the peak eluting at 14.70 min



These molecules (OVTX d/e and degradation products) are PLTX-like compounds and thus were considered in the assessment of the purity grade

Extracted ion chromatograms (XIC) of OVTX-a and other PLTX-like compounds with their degradation products including the new suspected PLTX-like compounds

m/z	Toxins	%	Rt, min
895.8195	OVTX-a	94.3	13.34
901.1511	OVTX-d/e	1.9	12.13
906.4828	isobaric PLTX	nd	nd
889.8158	OVTX-a -H ₂ O	1.8	14.72
859.1576	OVTX-a -4H ₂ O	0.3	14.61
847.7913	OVTX-a -8 H ₂ O	nd	nd
865.1288	OVTX-d/e -6 H ₂ O	nd	nd
859.1245	OVTX-d/e -7 H ₂ O	0.3	13.11
853.1210	OVTX-d/e -8 H ₂ O	nd	nd
847.1177	OVTX-d/e -9 H ₂ O	nd	nd
864.4587	Isob PLTX -7 H ₂ O	nd	nd
858.4531	Isob PLTX -8 H ₂ O	nd	nd
863.1378	Unknown PLTX-like compound (1)	0.1	23.23
900.4922	Unknown PLTX-like compound (2)	0.7	14.68
915.1671	Unknown PLTX-like compound (3)	0.6	14.76



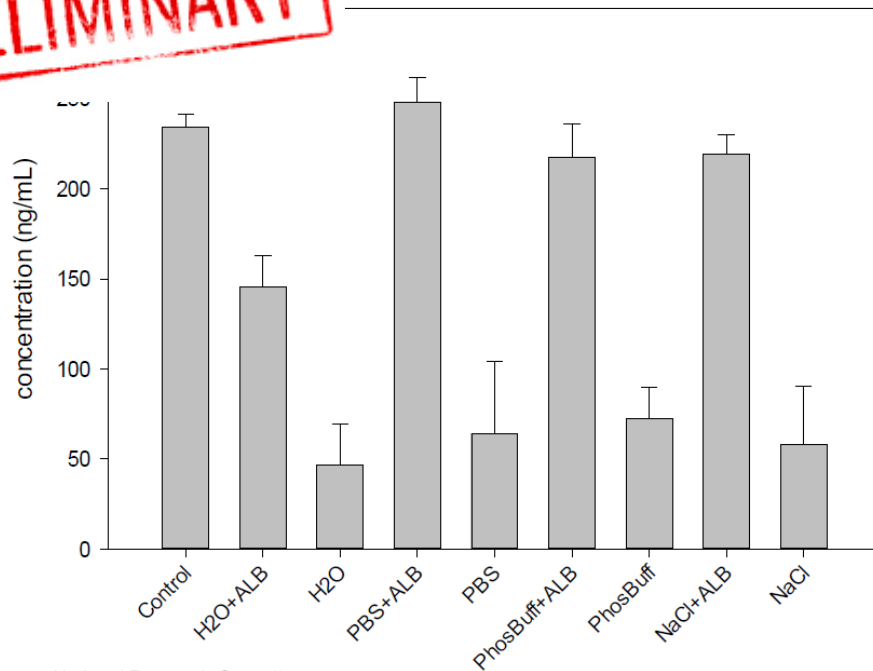
Based on the new suspect PLTX-like compounds the purity grade of OVTX-a samples was re-calculated and resulted to be 94%

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

STEP 2 >

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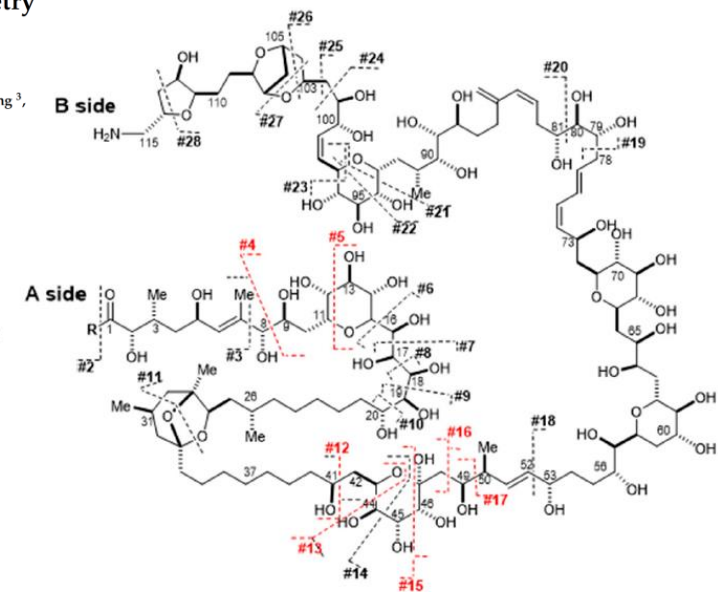
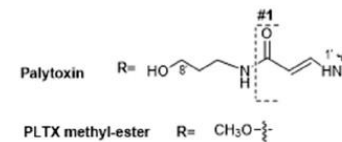
PRELIMINARY



Article

Toward Isolation of Palytoxins: Liquid Chromatography Coupled to Low- or High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry for the Study on the Impact of Drying Techniques, Solvents and Materials

Antonia Mazzeo¹, Michela Varra¹, Luciana Tartaglione^{1,2,*}, Patrizia Ciminiello¹, Zita Zendong³, Philipp Hess³ and Carmela Dell'Aversano^{1,2}



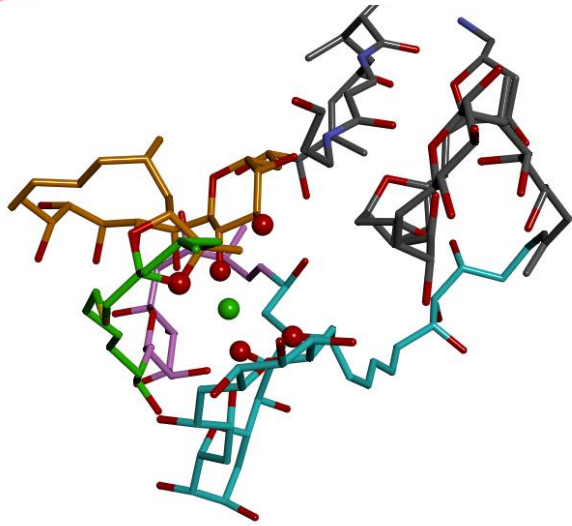
Tentative Mechanism of formation of the PLTX methyl ester

Risk assessment of ovatoxins

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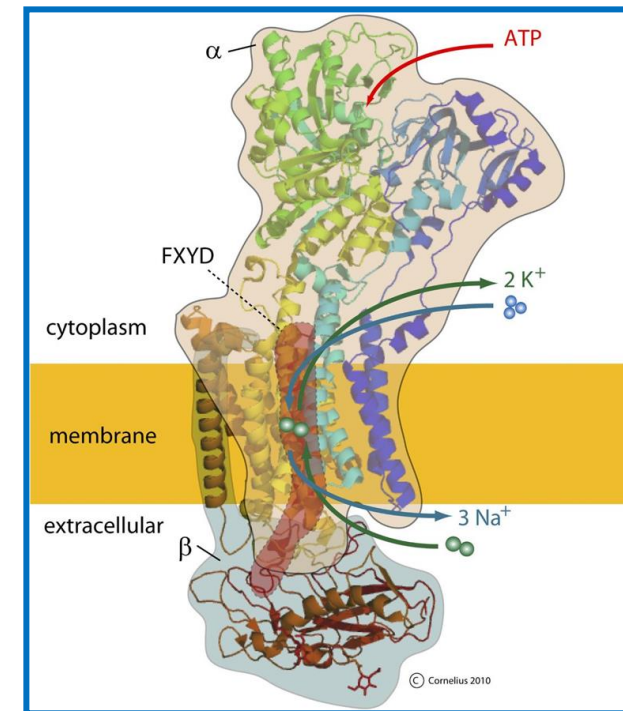
PRELIMINARY



In-silico studies demonstrated that PLTX adopts a folded conformation characterized by several turns that is able to bind calcium ions.

On-going studies are investigating how the peculiar shape and charge distribution on the calculated PLTX structure are related to its ability to

- adapt to different chemical environment and bind other metal ions,
- change the function of Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase into that of an ion channel and to form itself ion channels on cell membranes.



Summing up

Isolation of mg amounts of well characterized OVTX-a is paving the way:

- To measure dose/response relationship by oral exposure
- To prepare Certified Reference Material
- To validate analytical methods for reliable detection and accurate quantification of OVTXs in seafood and in the environment
- To calculate the extent to which *Ostreopsis ovata* and ovatoxins produce seafood contamination and/or environmental sufferings

STEP 4 >

RISK CHARACTERIZATION: The final stage of risk assessment, in which the likelihood that a particular substance will cause harm is calculated in the light of the nature of the hazard and the extent to which people, animals, plants and/or the environment are exposed to it.



Funding

USAMRIID Service Contract W81XWH20C0135

"Isolation and Purification of Ovatoxin-a from O. ovata cell pellets over one 12-months base period and two 12-months option periods" (12M+ 12M 9/2020-9/2022)

Catalyst New Zealand Project 21-CAW-002-CSG

"Developing capability to identify and monitor marine toxins produced by Ostreopsis species in microalgal cultures and seafood" (24M, 2/2022-2/2024)

HORIZON-MSCA-2021-SE-01-01 BlueShellfish

"Solutions to prevent and mitigate the impacts of HABs in Aquaculture and Fisheries, in the context of global Warming" (48 M since 01/2023)

NBFC - Mapping and monitoring actions to preserve marine ecosystem biodiversity and functioning

"New early warning systems, LC-HRMS methods and databases for the comprehensive determination of marine and freshwater toxins in the environment and in the trophic chain"(48 M since 09/2022)



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI
FEDERICO II



Dipartimento di
Farmacia

International Agreements with

- A. Turner, Cefas, UK*
- P. McCarron, NRC Canada*
- D. Bodi, BfR Germany*
- T. Harwood, Cawthron Institute, New Zealand*
- P. Hess, Ifremer, France*
- A. Hjskia, NCSR Demokritos, Greece*
- B. E. Janssen, EWAG, Switzerland*

Cooperation Agreements with

- A, Penna, Univ. Urbino*
- A. Tubaro, Univ. Trieste*



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The MarBioTox team

Analytical Chemistry / Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology

Development and validation of targeted and untargeted LC- tandem MS and/or HRMS methods for the identification, structural characterization and quantification of marine and freshwater toxins in environmental, food and biological matrices. Isolation and LC-MS based purification of natural toxins from aquatic sources

Keywords:



LC-HRMS, LC-MS/MS, Solid Phase Adsorption Toxin Tracking (SPATT), Biosensors



Harmful algal bloom (HAB), *Ostreopsis*, *Ciguatera Fish Poisoning* (CFP)



Emerging toxins (palytoxins, ciguatoxins, cyanotoxins, etc) and pollutants (drugs, plastics)