

University of Groningen

## Chemical Modification of Peptide Antibiotics

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## Stellingen

Behorende bij het proefschrift

### Chemical Modification of Peptide Antibiotics

Reinder de Vries

1. Testing a method for the modification of biomolecules on a small model substrate is an easy way to see whether a reaction will work at all; thorough optimization of the reaction conditions on such a substrate however is often a waste of time and the step towards actual biomolecule modification should be made early in the project (chapter 2).
2. Interdisciplinary collaboration between organic chemists and microbiologists is crucial for the rational design of successful peptide antibiotic conjugates (chapter 3).
3. For an objective peer review of research papers, the review process should be double-blind.
4. A decent theoretical and technical understanding, which goes beyond knowing what buttons to press on the machine, should be required prior to using automated chromatography techniques and should therefore be taught in every organic chemistry degree.
5. While mass spectrometry is the standard analytical technique for the modification of peptides, additional spectroscopy such as NMR should be done for at least one example to demonstrate the chemo- and site-selectivity of the method.
6. Writing the thesis should be planned and finished within the PhD contract.
7. Teaching should be a requirement for every PhD degree, regardless of the type of employment contract.
8. Maintaining a healthy work-life balance and working efficiently are more important factors for being productive than putting in 50-60 hours a week.