

## Note

### The major capsular polysaccharide of *Cryptococcus neoformans* serotype B

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Twelve years ago the present authors described a study<sup>1</sup> of the title polysaccharide isolated from strain 444 of *Cryptococcus neoformans* serotype B (which at that time was called *Cryptococcus bacillisporus* serotype B). On the basis of methylation analyses of the native polysaccharide and certain chemically modified derivatives, we suggested the structure shown below. The subject was recently reinvestigated by Turner and Cherniak. Using <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR as well as methylation analysis, these authors examined six strains of serotype B. Although their results confirmed our proposed structure, Turner and Cherniak stated<sup>2</sup> that in our paper, “Two conflicting sets of methylation data were unintentionally presented. One set showed Glc<sub>1</sub>pA residues in a (1 → 4) linkage, while the second set of data was consistent with Glc<sub>1</sub>pA in a (1 → 2) linkage.”

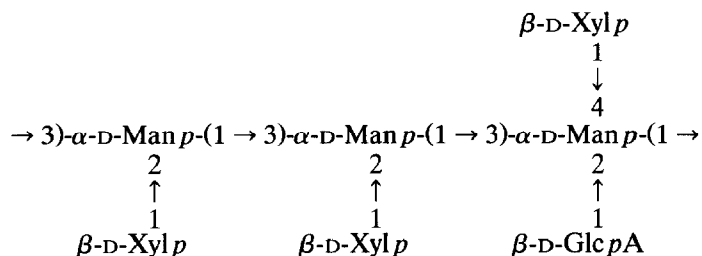
In this Note we wish to put the record straight about the data in our original paper. We believe a careful perusal will reveal only a single set of data, displayed in Table I, p 108 of the paper<sup>1</sup>. Some initial confusion might arise from the placement of the value for the combined molar portions of 4,6-Me<sub>2</sub>-Man and 2,6-Me<sub>2</sub>-Man on the line for the first of these (4,6-Me<sub>2</sub>-Man). However, a footnote to the Table explains that the composition of the peak of these two inseparable compounds could be ascertained from mass spectra, and the actual findings are clearly stated in the text on pp 108–109.

It may also be noted that according to the Abstract of our paper the doubly substituted mannosyl unit of the polysaccharide carries its xylosyl group on O-2 and its glucosyluronic group at O-4. This is unfortunate, but attention to the text of the paper, illustrated by the structural formula, will quickly show the reader that the statement in the Abstract is a typographical error.

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The reader is alerted to the fact that a similar typographical error occurs in the penultimate paragraph of the paper by Turner and Cherniak<sup>2</sup>.



#### REFERENCES

- 1 A.K. Bhattacharjee, K.J. Kwon-Chung, and C.P.J. Glaudemans, *Carbohydr. Res.*, 82 (1980) 103–111.
- 2 S.H. Turner and R. Cherniak, *Carbohydr. Res.*, 211 (1991) 103–116.