

Bioinformatics of Marine Natural Products

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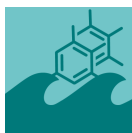
Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Advances in bioinformatics and the increasing availability of sequenced genomes provide more opportunities than ever in the discovery of novel bioactive compounds and biocatalysts from marine organisms. For example, many microorganisms have the potential to produce a far greater number of natural products than have been isolated to date, since most biosynthetic gene clusters are either silent or expressed at very low levels when they are cultured under standard laboratory conditions. The identification of biosynthetic gene and gene clusters through bioinformatics approach and their eventual heterologous expression, will give a great impulse for natural products identification and drug discovery from marine organisms.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

During the past few decades there has been an ever increasing number of novel compounds discovered in the marine environment. This is exemplified by the robust preclinical and clinical pipeline that currently exists for marine natural products. *Marine Drugs* is inviting contributions on new advances in marine biotechnology, pharmacology, chemical ecology, synthetic biology, and genomics approaches related to the discovery of therapeutically relevant marine natural products. Our goal is to share your contribution in a timely fashion and in a manner that will be valued by the scientific community.

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