



Natural Products and Drug Discovery

Guest Editor:

Prof. Dr. Pinarosa Avato

Dipartimento di Farmacia-
Scienze del Farmaco, Università
degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro Via
Orabona 4, 70125 Bari, Italy

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Message from the Guest Editor

Natural products hold a prominent position in the discovery and development of many drugs used nowadays, with diverse indications for human and animal health. Especially, plants have played a leading role as a source of specialized metabolites with medical effects; other organisms such as marine and terrestrial animals and microorganisms produce very important drug candidate molecules. Specialized metabolites from all these natural sources can be used directly as bioactive compounds, or as drug precursors. Due to their wide chemical diversity they can act as drug prototypes and/or be used as pharmacological tools for different targets. I cordially invite authors to contribute original articles, as well as survey articles, that will give the readers of *Molecules* updated and new perspective about natural products in drug discovery including, but not limited to natural sources, identification and separation of bioactive phytochemicals, standardization, new biological targets, pre-clinical and clinical trials, pharmacological effects/side effects, and bioassays.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Thomas J. Schmidt

Institute of Pharmaceutical
Biology and Phytochemistry,
University of Münster,
Corrensstrasse 48, D-48149
Münster, Germany

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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Molecules Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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