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Marine Glycomics

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Message from the Guest Editors

Marine creatures are rich sources of glycoconjugate-containing glycans and have diversified structures. The advance of genomics has provided a valuable clue for their production and developments. This information will encourage breeding and engineering functional polysaccharides with slime ingredients in algae. These glycans will have the potential for applications to antioxidant, anticancer, and antimicrobial drugs in addition to health supplements and cosmetics. The combination of both biochemical and transcriptome approaches of marine creatures will get the opportunity to discover new activities of proteins such as glycan-relating enzymes and lectins. These proteins will also be introduced to experimental and medical purposes, such as diagnostics and trial studies.

The topic of marine glycomics is also focusing on understanding the physiological properties of marine creatures, such as body defense against pathogens and cancers. In the competitions for natural selection, living creatures have evolved both their glycans and their recognition. They have primitive systems of immunity, and not few of their mechanisms are closely relating to glycans.



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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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