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Identification of Bioactive Compounds from Marine Actinobacteria and Fungi

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 April 2022)

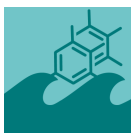
Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Microorganisms are by far the most notable and most prolific source of bioactive compounds and possess, over other producers, such as plants and animals, the advantage of being relatively easy to isolate and cultivate. Among microorganisms, actinobacteria and fungi remain an outstanding source of bioactive compounds with potential application to various fields. It is a matter of fact that the curve of discovery for new bioactive compounds has come to a near-saturation situation due to redundancy in the isolation of both microorganisms and biosynthetic pathways. However, discovery and development from unexplored environments have been proved a successful strategy when pursuing for microbial novelty. Besides a wealth of information about terrestrial actinobacteria and fungi, marine environments, which represent a large part of the Earth's biosphere, still remain mostly unexplored. Marine environments are, therefore, inspiring the search for new bioactive molecules of interest such as nutraceuticals, proteins, and pharmaceuticals for various applications.



mdpi.com/si/86991



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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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