



The Role of Natural Products on Diabetes Mellitus Treatment, 2nd Edition

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Diabetes mellitus (DM) is a metabolic disease characterized by hyperglycemia due to the secretion and/or action of insulin.

Metformin (a biguanide), which is a derivative of galegin, is among the first-line therapies for the treatment of type II DM. This guanidine was isolated from *Galega officinalis* L., a plant that has been used since the Middle Ages by diabetic patients. This fact has aroused interest in the use of medicinal plants and their secondary metabolites as possible drugs in DM treatment. Although it is difficult to find a substitute for insulin among plants, it is possible that molecules can be found that stimulate endogenous insulin biosynthesis and secretion or increase glucose absorption in blood by peripheral tissues, by acting as insulinomimetic or insulin secretagogic agents.

Following on from the above, this second edition of the Special Issue is focused on the study of natural products (characterized extracts and isolated secondary metabolites) in the treatment of diabetes mellitus complications by in vivo and in vitro assays. Clinical trials are also welcome.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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