Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Marine environments are a huge source of natural products. Among these, carbohydrates occupy a preeminent position, due to their potential applications as antitumors, anticoagulants, antivirals, and immunomodulants. Many polysaccharides, produced by algae, crustaceans, bacteria, cyanobacteria, actinobacteria, and fungi, are of commercial interest, and many of them are already used in the food industry. These comprise alginates, carrageenans, fucoidans, chitin, xanthan, gellan, and pullulan. Current investigation is also focused on isolation, structural characterization and determination of the properties of new oligosaccharides and polysaccharides from seawater to be used as bio-based nanomaterials. Moreover, chemical or enzymatic modification of marine oligo- and polysaccharides in order to discover new biophysical and biochemical features, is a topic of increasing interest nowadays. As Guest Editor of this Special Issue of Marine Drugs, I invite you to provide recent advances in all the aspects of marine polysaccharides and oligosaccharides.

Prof. Maria Michela Corsaro
Guest Editor

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