

Special Issue

Recent Advances on the Synthesis, Biological Activity of Fungal Metabolites and Their Relation with Absolute Configuration

Message from the Guest Editors

Among natural organisms, fungi are one of the main sources of secondary metabolites with a variety of biological activities. Fungal metabolites have the advantage that they are ecofriendly, frequently lacking toxicity towards humans and animals and decomposing in a brief time. Unfortunately, these useful metabolites are often produced in a very low amount, and a complex process of purification needs to be applied to acquire them in pure form. These quantities are not sufficient for the different steps to test their biological activity and formulations required for their practical application. Thus, the only solution is the development of a convenient, ecofriendly, and simple enantioselective synthetic strategy. This process can only be developed if the bioactive metabolite has preliminarily been assigned with absolute configuration (AC) using different physic methods available today, as AC is strictly related to biological activity. Knowledge of the structure and AC also allows us to carry out chemical modification of the parent compound to modulate its biological activity to increase efficacy and selectivity and facilitate its formulation.

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