

Special Issue

Antifungal Discovery of Natural Products

Message from the Guest Editors

Fungal infections are commonly treated with antifungal drugs, mainly belonging to the azoles, polyenes and echinocandins classes. However, most of these synthetic antifungal agents present several disadvantages in terms of toxicity, intensity of side effects, drug interactions, lack of fungicidal efficacy, high costs and inducing of resistance on clinical isolates caused by prolonged therapies. Therefore, the development of more effective alternative treatments with fewer human health disadvantages is crucial. The use of natural products for the control of fungicidal diseases has been considered an interesting alternative to synthetic fungicides, presenting several advantages (lower costs; absence of adverse reactions; easy access; application to several pathologies; less negative impact on individual health; low resistance induction). Therefore, natural products are an excellent source of substances that can be used in the formulation of new antifungal agents, being a natural alternative for antimicrobial therapy, thus avoiding synthetic antifungal therapy which has been excessive in recent years.

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