



Marine Molecules for the Treatment of Thrombosis

Guest Editor:

Dr. Ramon Novoa Carballal

3B's Research Group –
Biomaterials, Biodegradables
and Biomimetics, University of
Minho, Headquarters of the
European Institute of Excellence
on Tissue Engineering and
Regenerative Medicine, AvePark,
4805-017, Barco, Guimarães,
Portugal

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Message from the Guest Editor

According to the World Health Organization, the formation of thrombi is one of the leading causes of death in modern life. Current antithrombotic treatments suffer from potential secondary effects or increase the health care costs because of a necessary control of the coagulation levels for vitamin K antagonists or of the high production costs for recent synthetic thrombin and factor Xa inhibitors. For these reasons, marine molecules are being screened for anticoagulants. The best known marine anticoagulants are sulphated polysaccharides: fucoidans and carrageenans from algae; fucosylated chondroitin sulphates, sulfated fucans, and galactans from algae, ascidians, sea cucumbers, and urchins; heparins and heparan sulfate hybrids found in molluscs, crustaceans, ascidians, and urchins. However, other less renowned marine molecules present interesting prospects: anticoagulant peptides (from blood-sucking worms and bacteria and sponges), fibrinolytic enzymes (from algae and bacteria), anticoagulant terpenes and sphingosines (from algae and sponges). The aim of this Special Issue is to recapitulate the current knowledge and publish novel articles on marine antithrombotic molecules.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Bill J. Baker

Department of Chemistry,
University of South Florida, 4202
E. Fowler Ave., CHE 205, Tampa,
FL 33620-5250, USA

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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Marine Drugs Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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