Special Issue

Quinonoid Pigments of Echinoderms

Message from the Guest Editors

Diverse quinonoid compounds are widespread in nature and have been found in plants, lichens, fungi and bacteria, as well as in members of the animal kingdom—in particular, in representatives of Echinodermata phylum. Around forty naphthoquinone pigments called spinochromes have been found in echinoderms, mainly in sea urchins, but occasionally in holothuroids, ophiuroids and sea stars. Although the biochemistry of echinoderms quinonoid pigments has been studied for more than 100 years, many questions still remain. Nowadays, with the appearance of advanced, rapid and accurate methodologies, investigations of echinoderms pigments have increased, as is clear from the growth in publications in the last decade. In this Special Issue of *Marine Drugs*, we aim to present the latest research on the quinones of sea urchins. Authors are invited to submit papers detailing their latest discoveries and to settle controversies in existing data on the structures, biosynthesis, distribution, functions, stability, bioactivity and biomedical applications of echinoderm quinonoid metabolites.

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About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

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