

Special Issue

Natural Products in Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery

Message from the Guest Editor

Only four drugs of choices are currently available for its therapy: three acetylcholinesterase (AChE) inhibitors (donepezil, rivastigmine and galantamine) and one memantine which is the N-Methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist. This Special Issue was designed to underpin the pivotal role of natural products in drug discovery for human diseases. On this note, one of the existing anti-AD drugs, galantamine, was itself discovered from the common snowdrop plant, *Galanthus nivalis*. In many experimental models, the therapeutic potential of numerous natural products, both crude preparations and isolated compounds, have shown pharmacological efficacy not lower than the existing drugs. This includes effects through unique biological targets (receptors, enzymes, ion channels, etc.) or multiple mechanisms ranging from general antioxidants and antiinflammatory mechanisms, to neuroprotection and neuroregeneration processes. Insights into AD therapy using natural products in the form of original research articles or reviews in all areas of AD pathology, experimental designs and therapeutic approaches are welcome.

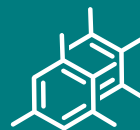
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As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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