

Special Issue

Natural Products as Sources of New Drugs: In Memory of Professor Kuo-Hsiung Lee (1940–2021)

Message from the Guest Editors

Natural products (NPs) have been very important in drug discovery and still play a critical role. As the need to pursue larger molecules than traditional small-molecule drugs to tackle new and difficult drug targets (such as protein–protein interaction) is increasing, NPs continuously attract a great deal of interest, even though the time-consuming and low-efficiency nature of NP study has not changed over the years. Besides, disobedience of the Rule of Five by many bioactive NPs prompts scientists to rethink how to achieve better pharmacokinetics through novel delivery technology.

Researchers from all disciplines involved in natural-products-based drug discovery and R&D are cordially invited to contribute original papers, short communications, and reviews to this Special Issue. In this Issue, NP, NP-like, and NP-inspired compound based drug discovery, structure optimization, biological evaluation and mechanism of action study, and drug delivery will be accepted for publication, whereas chemical studies (isolation, synthesis, etc.) without bioactivity assessment and biology-oriented works without any chemistry are discouraged.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Weishuo Fang

State Key Laboratory of Bioactive Substances and Functions of Natural Medicines, Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, 2A Nan Wei Road, Beijing 100050, China

Prof. Dr. Yu Zhang

State Key Laboratory of Phytochemistry and Plant Resources in West China, Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Lanhei Road 132, Kunming 650201, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 September 2022)



Molecules

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 8.6
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/96160

Molecules
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
molecules@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
molecules](https://mdpi.com/journal/molecules)





Molecules

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 8.6
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
molecules](https://mdpi.com/journal/molecules)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to molecular chemistry, now in its 30th 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 all major fields of molecular chemistry and multidisciplinary topics bridging chemistry with biology, physics, and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting-edge fields in all of these areas.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Thomas J. Schmidt

Institute of Pharmaceutical Biology and Phytochemistry, University of Münster, Corrensstrasse 48, D-48149 Münster, Germany

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, MEDLINE, PMC, Reaxys, CaPlus / SciFinder, MarInLit, AGRIS, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) / CiteScore - Q1 (Organic Chemistry)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).