

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.

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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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