

Special Issue

Synthesis and Bioanalysis of Steroids and Steroid Biosynthesis Inhibitors

Message from the Guest Editors

Steroids are a versatile and structurally diverse class of molecules widespread in nature. They are known as cell-building material and as signaling molecules. In recent years, our understanding of the role of steroids and steroid biosynthesis enzymes has significantly evolved. Recent studies have shown that steroids have diverse and hitherto unknown physiological functions. They are involved in the pathomechanisms of diseases or play a role in the inflammatory process in humans. Furthermore, the main target of antifungal therapy is the ergosterol biosynthesis or directly ergosterol, and related mechanisms have been found in other pathogenic organisms such as protozoa. Thus, the function of the steroids, the enzymes involved in their biosynthesis, as well as inhibitors of these enzymes as drug candidates are of great interest. Hence, the demand for authentic steroid standards for their use in bioassays and for analytical approaches cannot be met by simply extraction of steroids from natural sources. Consequently, new methods for isolation and total and partial synthesis of steroids are highly demanded.

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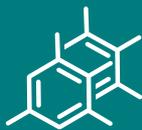


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