Special Issue

Curcumin

Message from the Guest Editors

Curcumin, commonly classified as a natural occurring polyphenol, is the primary bioactive compound isolated from the dried rhizomes of *Curcuma longa* L. In the past decades, a large number of reports have been published on the beneficial effects of curcumin, and it has repeatedly been claimed that this natural active principle, which is considered safe, could be the lead compound for the development of new therapeutics. The molecular structure of curcumin (CUR) accounts for its pleiotropic set of biological properties, including anti-oxidant, anti-inflammatory, anti-tumor and neuroprotective activity. Many efforts have been devoted to the development of new derivatives, formulations and to understand the molecular mechanisms both in vitro and in vivo. This Special Issue aims to collect the actual knowledge and new trends in all areas dealing with curcumin.

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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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