

Special Issue

Naturally-Occurring Peptides and Proteins as Leads for Drug Discovery and Development

Message from the Guest Editor

The field of endocrinology first emerged with the discovery of secretin, a gut hormone. It was afternoon, 16 January 1902, at University College Hospital, London (United Kingdom). The initial breakthrough was the brisk secretion of pancreatic juice following the irrigation of a denervated loop of small bowel with dilute HCl, accompanied by claims about a chemical messenger released from the acidified intestine to mediate the response. Since this initial report of Bayliss and Starling (*J. Physiol. (Lond)* 28, 325–353, 1902), and subsequent discoveries (i.e., gastrin), the intention has remained the same: to illustrate the importance of the naturally occurring peptides and proteins as leads for drug discovery and development. However, thanks to these advances, long-term approaches could now be determined with precision. New vistas, new naturally occurring peptides, and new breakthroughs might provide novel insights and improve therapy with novel drug discovery and development.

Guest Editor

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Amélia Pilar Rauter

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