

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

Prof. Dr. Predrag Sikiric

Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

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

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We hope to handle your contribution to *Pharmaceuticals* soon.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Amélia Pilar Rauter

Departamento de Química e Bioquímica (DQB) e Centro de Química Estrutural (CQE), Institute of Molecular Sciences, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal

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