



molecules



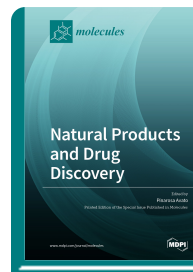
Special Issue Reprint

Natural Products and Drug Discovery

www.mdpi.com/books/reprint/2231

Edited by
Pinarosa Avato

ISBN 978-3-03928-746-8 (Softback)
ISBN 978-3-03928-747-5 (PDF)



Natural products hold a prominent position in the current discovery and development of drugs and have diverse indications for both human and animal health. Plants, in particular, play a leading role as a source of specialized metabolites with medical effects. Other organisms, such as marine and terrestrial animals and microorganisms, produce very important drug candidate molecules. Specialized metabolites from these varied natural sources can be used directly as bioactive compounds or drug precursors. In addition, due to their broad chemical diversity, they can act as drug prototypes and/or be used as pharmacological tools for different targets. Some examples of natural metabolites that have been developed into useful medical drug are cardiotonic digoxin from *Digitalis* sp., antimalarial artemisinin from *Artemisia annua*, anti-cancer taxol from *Taxus* sp., or podophyllotoxin from *Podophyllum peltatum*, which served as a synthetic model for the anti-cancer etoposide. The study of natural products is still attracting great scientific attention and their current importance, as a valuable lead for drug discovery, is undebatable. I cordially invite authors to contribute original articles, as well as survey articles, that give the readers of *Molecules* ****MOLECULES NEEDS TO BE ITALICIZED**** updated and new perspectives on natural products in drug discovery, including but not limited to natural sources, identification and separation of bioactive phytochemicals, standardization, new biological targets, pre-clinical and clinical trials, pharmacological effects/side effects, and bioassays.



Order Your Print Copy
You can order print copies at
www.mdpi.com/books/reprint/2231

MDPI Books offers quality open access book publishing to promote the exchange of ideas and knowledge in a globalized world. MDPI Books encompasses all the benefits of open access – high availability and visibility, as well as wide and rapid dissemination. With MDPI Books, you can complement the digital version of your work with a high quality printed counterpart.



Open Access

Your scholarly work is accessible worldwide without any restrictions. All authors retain the copyright for their work distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License.



Author Focus

Authors and editors profit from MDPI's over two decades of experience in open access publishing, our customized personal support throughout the entire publication process, and competitive processing charges as well as unique contributor discounts on book purchases.



High Quality & Rapid Publication

MDPI ensures a thorough review for all published items and provides a fast publication procedure. State-of-the-art research and time-sensitive topics are released with a minimum amount of delay.



High Visibility

Due to our global network and well-known channel partners, we ensure maximum visibility and broad dissemination. Title information of books is sent to international indexing databases and archives, such as the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB), and the Verzeichnis Lieferbarer Bücher (VLB).



Print on Demand and Multiple Formats

MDPI Books are available for purchase and to read online at any time. Our print-on-demand service offers a sustainable, cost-effective and fast way to publish MDPI Books printed versions.