

Marine Bioactive Compounds with Potential Applications on Targets of CNS Associated with Neurodegenerative Disorders

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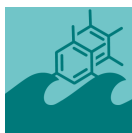
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Message from the Guest Editor

Marine organisms are interesting sources of never-ending original bioactive compounds fueled by the emergence and on-going evolution of biosynthetic pathways in secondary metabolism and metabolic transformations in hosting organisms. Marine bioactive compounds with potential applications on sensitive targets related to neurodegenerative disorders are the subject of this SI. The pharmacological R&D for neurodegenerative diseases is highly developed, but the pharmacopeia is scarce given the multifactorial etiology of these neurodegenerative disorders. That is, of the four FDA-approved front-line drugs for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease in 2017, three are acetylcholinesterase inhibitors, one inhibits NMDA receptors, and two act on $\alpha 7$ nicotinic acetylcholine receptors. This SI will cover small alkaloids, polyketides to large peptides that even if not crossing the blood–brain barrier under normal conditions may constitute an alternative given their high affinities and easier bioengineering.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

During the past few decades there has been an ever increasing number of novel compounds discovered in the marine environment. This is exemplified by the robust preclinical and clinical pipeline that currently exists for marine natural products. *Marine Drugs* is inviting contributions on new advances in marine biotechnology, pharmacology, chemical ecology, synthetic biology, and genomics approaches related to the discovery of therapeutically relevant marine natural products. Our goal is to share your contribution in a timely fashion and in a manner that will be valued by the scientific community.

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