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Olive Bioactives: From Molecules to Human Health

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Message from the Guest Editor

Olive oils, and the effect of their bioactive compounds on human health, have been discussed over the last few years, all over the world; however, this interest is likely to continue for years to come. The health benefits of olive oil have been mainly attributed to the presence of its high content of oleic acid and bioactive phytochemicals, including phenolic compounds, tocopherols, carotenoids and sterols. In addition to olive oil, olive leaves and wastes from the olive oil industry have gained increasing interest as sources of natural bioactive compounds with potential pharmaceutical usage, most of them similar to the ones found in olive oil.

Collective evidence suggests that olive oil components produce beneficial effects in neurovascular and cardiovascular systems through their antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antiatherogenic, anticancer, antimicrobial, and antiviral properties. However, which components, and how do they exert their activities, are not fully known.

This Special Issue aims to identify and review the bioactive compounds found in olives and olive oil that have been demonstrated to have a beneficial effect on human health.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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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