

Marine Origin Agents for Therapy of Neglected Diseases

Guest Editor:

Dr. Luísa Custódio

Centre of Marine Sciences—
CCMAR, University of Algarve,
8005-139 Faro, Portugal

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Message from the Guest Editor

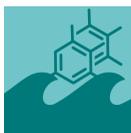
Dear Colleagues,

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) are a group of 17 chronic and disabling infections affecting more than one billion people worldwide, primarily in extreme poor locations. The neglected designation comes from the reduced financial investment into research and development of new drugs, and lack of public awareness in high-income countries.

Notwithstanding the recent partial successes in the struggle to eliminate or even eradicate some NTDs, which have been achieved by WHO strategies of disease monitoring, vector control and preventive chemotherapy, the development of new, safe and affordable drugs remains an urgent need. Researchers have turned their attention to nature during the last decades. Marine organisms, including plants thriving in marine environments (halophytes) have been increasingly been recognised over the past few decades as a source of unique and novel biologically active natural products. This Special Issue aims to unlock the potential of marine organisms as sources of novel molecules to control neglected diseases. We welcome submissions from scientists and academics from across the world.

Dr. Luísa Custódio
Guest Editor





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Bill J. Baker

Department of Chemistry,
University of South Florida, 4202
E. Fowler Ave., CHE 205, Tampa,
FL 33620-5250, USA

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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Marine Drugs Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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