



## Search for New Drug Candidates and Their Lead Compounds from Tunicates

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (21 March 2022)**

### Message from the Guest Editors

Marine ascidians (tunicates) hold a central role in the natural-product-based drug-discovery processes. With the over one thousands of new compounds isolated in the last 30 years, ascidians have established themselves as a valuable and heterogeneous source of new chemical scaffolds and pharmaceutically potent molecules, including clinically used compounds and preclinical leads. Moreover, the huge chemical diversity originating from the wealth of tunicates' secondary metabolites has raised issues about the origin of these metabolites; it has been demonstrated that some of these compounds are made by symbiotic bacteria and not by the animals themselves. The therapeutic potential of ascidian-derived compounds and the biotechnological findings associated to their symbiotic origin still inspire scientists in the world, also linked to the possibility to use them as inspiration for a countless generation of synthetic drugs.

Thus, we invite marine scientists to submit papers based on natural products from tunicates and tunicate-associated microorganisms as well as synthetic marine-inspired compounds, useful for health and for environmental or biotechnological applications.





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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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