



## Artemisinin—A Truly Exceptional Natural Compound and New Synthetic Bioactive Derivatives

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Artemisinin is “a magic drug” discovered from traditional Chinese medicine. The citation comes from Youyou Tu from the Artemisinin Research Center in Beijing. A synthetic chemist also agrees with “magic”, because the structure of this natural sesquiterpene peroxide combining a cyclic peroxide with a peracetal structure (1,2,4-trioxane) with an acetal and a lactone group that makes the molecules look highly hydrolysis-labile and redox-reactive. Following the discovery of the remarkable anti-Malaria properties of this peroxide, several derivatives with improved pharmacokinetic properties were developed, especially the water-soluble artesunic acid and the reduced compounds dihydroartemisinin (DHA) and the ethers made thereof, artemether and artether.

The present Special Issue intends to collect new synthetic approaches to artemisinin derivatives, conjugates and dyads, peroxidic artemisinin model compounds with similar activity profiles or new peroxides that were synthesized.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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