

Short Note on Medicinal Chemistry

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EDITORIAL

Medicinal chemistry deals with the look, optimization and development of chemical compounds to be used as drugs. It's inherently a multidisciplinary topic — beginning with the synthesis of potential drugs followed by studies investigating their interactions with biological targets to grasp the medicinal effects of the drug, its metabolism and side-effects.

Natural products are major sources of lead compounds within the discovery of latest drugs for the treatment of infectious diseases, lipid disorders, neurological diseases, cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, immunological, inflammatory and related diseases, and oncologic diseases. Natural compounds have high chemical diversity. They are available from different organisms. The selection of plants, microorganisms, fungi or other organisms for investigation for brand spanning new compounds tend to be supported random screening,

selection of specific taxonomic groups, a chemotaxonomic group of secondary metabolites like alkaloids, database surveillance of a species collection, or ethno medical approach. Several drugs trace their origin to ethnobotanical use. Separation of the active compound is finished using several chromatographic techniques. High liquid chromatography (HPLC) and its coupling with high-throughput screening (HST) assays simplify the purification and isolation of active compounds.

Medicinal chemistry may be a discipline involved within the development, synthesis, and analysis of medicine and other bio-active agents. Medicinal chemistry draws from chemical science, biochemistry, pharmacology, and medicine. "What is medicinal chemistry?" This question still puzzles even the most experienced researchers working in this scientific discipline and generates a lot of discussions amongst those entering as well as those mature in the profession.

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