

Bioactive Natural Products from Marine Organisms and Chinese Medicine



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In the past decade our lab focused on the natural products research both in marine invertebrates and Chinese medicine. For example, novel verticillene diterpenoids were isolated from Soft Corals *Cespitularia* spp., and sponge alkaloid-analog design led to discovery of new antitumor agents. Novel diterpenoids were isolated from endemic *Callicarpa* spp. of Taiwan. Novel triterpenoids and lignans were discovered from species of *Schisandra* and *Kadsura*. Some compounds exhibited interesting antitumor, antiviral, immuno-modulatory, anti-inflammatory activities. We are also interested in the chemistry of functional foods and perfumes.

Biography

Ya-Ching Shen received his Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences from National Taiwan University, Taiwan, in 1987. After two years teaching and research in the same university, he was a visiting scholar in School of Pharmacy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a post-doctor fellow in the Institute of Scripps Oceanography, UCSD, USA. He was appointed as an associate professor in the Institute of Marine Resources, National Sun Yat-sen University in 1992, and promoted to a full professor in 1997. He was invited to be a professor in School of Pharmacy, National Taiwan University in 2006. He taught courses of Pharmacognosy, Medicinal Plants, Natural Products Chemistry, Instrumental Analysis and Chinese Medicine. His research interests are in exploring novel natural products, which may possess anti-tumor, anti-viral, anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and immuno-modulatory activities from marine and terrestrial sources, and SAR studies of natural products.