

OS04-4 Search for new medicinal seeds from the marine invertebrates

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In 2004, Prialt[®], which is originally isolated from the venom of the cone shell, *Conus magus*, was used for the treatment of chronic pain. In 2007, Yondelis[®], which is a naturally occurring compound found in the ascidian, *Ecteinascidia turbinata*, was used for anti-cancer drug. The race “Drugs from the Sea” started in 1967 is now cross the line or in the homestretch. In the pharmaceutical industries, natural products and natural product-derived molecules remain the major source of innovative drug candidates, nevertheless, natural product drug discovery has been down-scaled or eliminated in favor of high-throughput screening of synthetic compound libraries. Recently, “Census of Marine Life (CoMK)” reported that a total of 33,629 species have been reported to occur in Japanese waters, and there are hot-spot of marine biodiversity. This indicates that marine natural products continue to offer great potential for the discovery of new therapeutics.

In this symposium, we introduce the recent results of searching for new medicinal seeds from marine invertebrates.