Development of Bioactive Marine Natural Products from Thai Natural Sources

○Khanit Suwanborirux

(Dept of Pharmacognocy, Faculty of Pharm. Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)

Interests in marine natural products research have steadily increased because of not only the novelty, the complexity, the difference from terrestrial natural products and the diversity of their chemical structures but also the discovery of their extraordinary biological and pharmacological activities. As drug development has been dramatically evolved, there is no doubt that marine organisms is emerging as major resources for new bioactive compounds serving as biomedical research tools and lead compounds for drug development.

Thailand has more than 2,000-km coastline which is uniquely surrounded by both the Andaman Sea and the South China Sea. The coral reefs in the tropical Thai sea are a rich source of marine organisms. In this presentation, I wish to demonstrate the recent results of our investigation of the bioactive natural products from Thai marine organisms. The discovery, structural modifications, and biological activities of these fascinated lead natural products will be briefly discussed.