APAC DA 2019 Revitalization of drug discovery using natural products by open innovation in Asia

Screening commission system of N²PC and new technology for the development of Natural Products

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Technology Research Association for Next generation natural products chemistry (N²PC)

- Performing drug screenings with World-largest Natural Library (over 270,000)
- Developing Next-generation technique for heterologous expression system



Highly efficient system is required in natural product screening



Technology Research Association for Next generation natural products chemistry (N²PC)

N²PC



Total 9 companies (organization) provide natural library Eisai, OP-BIO factory, Godo Shusei, Shionogi, Meiji Seika Pharma, Microbio Pharma Japan, Daiichi Sankyo RD NOVARE, Kyowa Hakko Kirin, JBIC

N²PC also acts as technology supporting organization in APAC Natural Products Drug Discovery Consortium

	Crude Extracts	Plant	Marine	Isolated natural compounds	Synthetic compounds
In house	49,920	252		~ 1,600	11,040
Company origin (7 companies)	188,800		640	~ 2,000	
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World-largest natural library for drug screenings

Total: 287,360 sample (2018.10)

Technology Research Association for Next generation natural products chemistry (April 15, 2011)

Total 8 companies provide natural library Eisai, OP-BIO factory, Godo Shusei, Shionogi, Meiji Seika Pharma, Microbio Pharma Japan, Daiichi Sankyo RD NOVARE, JBIC







Combination of large natural library and high-throughput random screening system

World-largest natural library

Total: > 280,000 sample

0.1 or 0.2 μL addition

High-throughput and High-content screening system



- *In vitro* assay > 100,000 assay / week
- Cell based assay ~ 100,000 assay / week

High-performance natural product screening









Phenotypic Screening (High Content Screening) by image analyzer



Preparing new sets of assay plates Acoustic Transfer System (ATS-100)





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Ultra sonic

New assay plates





Saving sample consumption !

High-throughput isolation system is required for natural library !



FT-MS

Only limited laboratories can perform

Construction of mass spectral database (CB MS database)

CB library Including ~1,200 compounds isolated from actionomycetes, fungi, and plant in laboratory

Analyzed by UPLC-TOF MS (Acquity UPLC, LCT premier XE, Waters)

UPLC condition

Solvent: 5-100% CH₃CN-0.1% formic acid Measuring time: 7 min/sample





This system also enables to identify the active compounds through random screening/ Usually determine active compounds within two weeks from culture broth

Southeast Asia has rich ocean (marine) resources

Japan is rich in ocean resources, but it is more abundant in Southeast Asia.



We should expand our search for new species of producers of microbial secondary metabolites

Heterologous expression of microbial secondary metabolites



Strategy for the identification of biosynthetic gene cluster of unculturable microorganisms

1. Single cell analysis

Almost all new symbionts (like Entotheonella) are unculturable

Conventional and straight-forward strategy



Heterologous expression with artificial synthetic biosynthetic gene cluster

Derivatization of middle weight molecular natural compounds

Bottleneck of clinical drug development

In clinical drug development, it is necessary to make fine tuning such as improvement of metabolism and metabolism in human

Bottleneck:

It is extremely difficult to derivatize natural products for fine tuning due to their complex structure



Developing new technology for the derivatization of natural products





Platelet aggregation inhibitor, Bronchodilator Target: Trimer G protein Gp/11

> *J. Biol. Chem.*, **279**(46), 47438-47445 (2004). *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.*, **107**(31), 13666-13671 (2010).

YM-254890 (*Chromobacterium* sp.): $R_1 = Me, R_2 = Me, R_3 = Me$

FR900359 (Japanese name: 万両 (Manryo), scientific name: Ardisia crenata): $R_1 = iPr, R_2 = Et, R_3 = Me$ (Produced by Symbiont *Burkholderia* sp.)

Sameuramide (Tunicate, ascidian): $R_1 = iPr, R_2 = Et, R_3 = Et$ Heterologous expression of FR900359 from the plant symbiont



G(α_{q/11}) protein (GPCR) inhibitor *Nat. Commun.*, **6**, 10156 (2015).

FR900359: isolated from *Ardisia crenata* (symbiotic *Burkholderia* sp. produces)

A. Carlier et al., Environmental Microbiology, 18(8), 2507–2522 (2016).



Cannot maintain the strain possessing biosynthetic genes



Ardisia crenata

Biosynthetic gene harboring microorganisms can be observed soon after preparation

Producing FR900359 by applying YM-254890 biosynthetic gene cluster



- FR900359 can be synthesized by exchanging the Thr by Leu in YM-254890
- Hydroxylation enzymes at the position of C-3 in Leu commonly exist in both biosynthetic gene clusters

Changing A domain in YM-254890 biosynthetic gene cluster

Meta-omic characterization of the marine invertebrate microbial consortium that produces the chemotherapeutic natural product ET-743



ET-743 biosynthetic gene was discovered from meta genome sequence data based on the information of saframycin biosynthetic gene





Technology Research Association for Next generation natural products chemistry http://www.natprodchem.jp/



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