



Macrocycles: Recent Advances in Synthesis, Reactivity, and Medicinal Chemistry

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Abstract

Introduction: A cyclic compound is common motif in natural product structures. Cyclic peptides, a vast subset of natural products, display a wide variety of biological activities. Owing to their size, cyclic peptides are particularly attractive scaffolds for interrogating challenging biomolecular interactions, such as those at protein–protein interfaces.

Methods and Results:

This review takes an overview of the literature for the synthesis of peptide and nonpeptide macrocycles, concentrating on advances in the last five years up to the end of 2017. These methods are clustered by strategies for preparation and further derivatization of preformed macrocycle-containing building blocks. Examples of the use of macrocycles in medicinal chemistry are reported, including a collation of macrocycle derivatives appearing in recent patents for medicinal chemistry applications.



Scheme 1: Structure of the Complex of Human Programmed Death 1, PD-1, and Its Ligand PD-L1

Conclusions:

This review aims to provide an overview of the extensive recent studies involving macrocycles in synthesis and medicinal chemistry and to highlight the continuing challenges.

Key words: Macrocycle; Peptide; Human Programmed Death 1; biomolecular

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