

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Anglo-Croatian Medicinal Symposium on Macrocycles

## Medicinal Chemistry and Beyond-the-Rule-of-Five

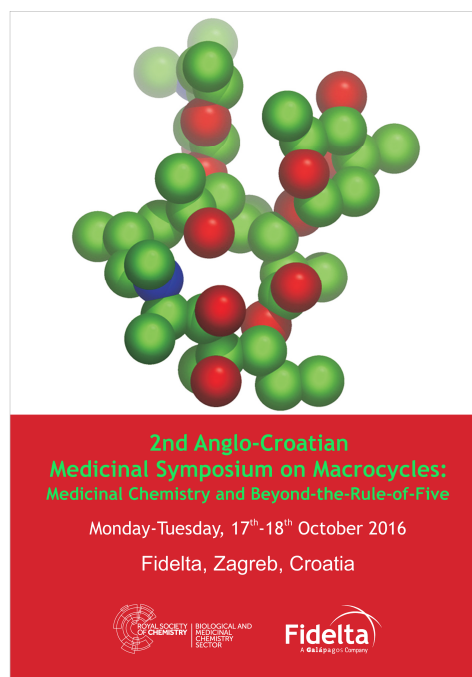
October 17–18, 2016, Fidelta d.o.o., Zagreb, Croatia

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**T**HIS second international symposium was again jointly organized by the Biological and Medicinal Sector of the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) and by the Croatian Chemical Society (CCS), with substantial financial support and sponsorship of Fidelta d.o.o. Galapagos Company, (<http://www.fidelta.eu>). The Croatian Academy of Sciences supported this meeting as the highest national sponsor. Organizing Committee; Gordon Saxty Fidelta), Dave Alker (RSC, Biological and Medicinal Sector), and Vitomir Šunjić (CCS), and was supported by the Conference Secretariat Maggi Churchouse UK, whose experience and meticulous work ensured organization to proceed smoothly

The international character of this meeting is reflected in the line up of 12 speakers from diverse universities and companies. Among them were leaders in various fields of macrocyclic chemistry and biology who presented lectures on the following topics: macrocyclic peptides (M. Shapiro, formerly Eli Lilly and Pfizer, Prof. at University of Maryland), discovery of new macrocyclic antibiotics - Teixobactin (V. Steadman, Selcia), design of non-peptidic macrocycles (B. Over, formerly at AstraZeneca, now an independent scientist), fascinating new ring expansion method (W. Unsworth, University of York), new synthetic anti-tuberculosis agent cyclohexylgriselimycin (E. Fontaine, Sanofi), semi-peptidic macrocycles (E. Marsault, l'Universite de Sherbrooke), stabilized peptides in drug discovery (A. Mason, GlaxoSmithKline), new opportunities for macrocyclic antibiotics (B. Arsić, University of Manchester),



total synthesis of anti-tumour macrolides (K. Hale, Queen's University, Belfast), semi-synthetic natural products with an unexplored mode of action (A. de Blicq, Galapagos), and natural-product derived novel chemical space (B. Decorte, formerly Janssen Pharm. Companies of Johnson & Johnson, and Kodib, LCC).

The meeting was held at the modern research site of Fidelta d.o.o. and PLIVA HRVATSKA d.o.o., Prilaz Baruna Filipovića 29, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia, and *ca.* 100 participants were present. It was opened by the chairmen Gordon Saxty, chairmen from Fidelta, then Vitomir Šunjić addressed the participants in the name of Croatian Chemical Society and Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

The main objective of Fidelta d.o.o. as the principal sponsor and organizer was reached. This research company in Zagreb has confirmed its competitive position and

impact on the research field of new, innovative drugs derived from natural macrocyclic compounds. As in the first symposium, Fidelta has also supported young chemists from academic institutions in Croatia by waiving all their registration fees. This company has emerged in the last decade as one of the leading promoters of research in chemistry and related fields along the complex research path to a new drug entity (NDE), and has also enhanced the international reputation of its team.