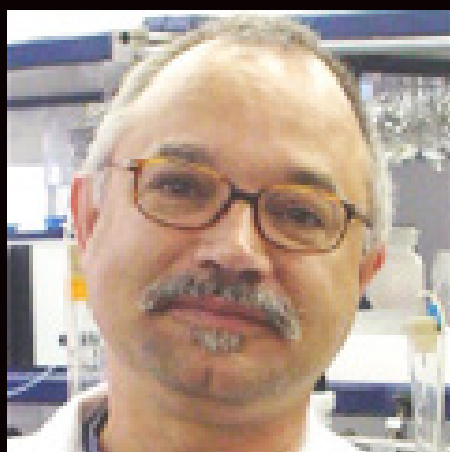


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# VENOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR DRUG DISCOVERY - BIOACTIVE VENOM MOLECULES



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Every ecosystem on Earth supporting life contains venomous organisms belonging to taxonomic groups distributed among all major phyla. Venom represents both convergent and divergent adaptive traits in the struggle for life. Venom toxins have been tailored by Natural Selection over eons of biological evolution to target molecules that are essential to sustain the life of the prey. The function of a number of such molecules is also disregulated in certain human pathologies. This circumstance makes venoms representing a huge and essentially unexplored reservoir of potential drug-gable toxins synthesised by the more than 100,000 species of venomous creatures that inhabit our planet. Venoms must thus be regarded as "oceans of opportunities" for the pharmaceutical industry, and venomics a discovery science.

HOST: **Frederico Almada (MARE-ISPA)**

**18 JANEIRO 2016**

**12H30**

**SALA DE ATOS**

**ENTRADA LIVRE**



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