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## Terpenoids for medicine

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### Citation

Fischedick, J. (2013, March 13). *Terpenoids for medicine*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/20608>

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**Title:** Terpenoids for medicine

**Issue Date:** 2013-03-13

Stellingen

Justin Fischedick

1. Vaporizing is a promising administration technique for the volatile terpenoids of aromatic plants (this thesis).
2. *Cannabis sativa* varieties can be chemically discriminated based on terpenoid and cannabinoid profiles and when grown under controlled environmental conditions the profile can be reproducible (this thesis).
3. The lack of selective biological activity of sesquiterpene lactones containing the reactive  $\alpha$ -methylene- $\gamma$ -lactone makes drug development with this group of natural products difficult (this thesis).
4. Phenolic diterpenoids from *Salvia* and *Rosmarinus* species are promising lead compounds for drug development against neurodegenerative disease (this thesis).
5. Understanding the mechanisms by which herbal drugs containing multiple active ingredients treat disease not only will help with their acceptance in modern medicine but also inspire the development of a new generation of pharmaceuticals based on multiple active ingredients. (Gertsch, J. *Planta Med.* **2011**, *77*, 1086–1098) (Wagner, H.; Ulrich-Merzenich, G. *Phytomedicine* **2009**, *16*, 97–110)
6. Multivariate data analysis tools currently being employed in the field of systems biology will always be limited at making scientifically valid conclusions based on the principle that correlation does not necessarily imply causation.
7. Psychoactive drugs are among the best tools science has to study the human mind. Understanding their mechanism of action has proven to and will continue to be an effective approach in developing drugs to treat mental illness.
8. In order for metabolic engineering to reach its full potential as an industrial source of fine chemicals a better understanding of both gene regulation and biosynthesis of natural products is necessary.
9. The so called war on drugs hinders the ability of scientists to study useful compounds.
10. The trend by leading nations to give up basic individual freedoms and violate human rights in the name of national security has set a dangerous precedent for the future of democracy.
11. An inspiring scientific education for younger generations is one way to reduce religious fundamentalism's negative influence on society.
12. One solution to the global financial crisis would be to make a long term investment in the science and technology necessary to build a more sustainable human civilization.