DNA protein pharmacology

Domenico Oricchio

September 13, 2021

Abstract

The dna of medicinal plants contain the protein structure to obtain natural drugs from hystorical sources and traditional medicine

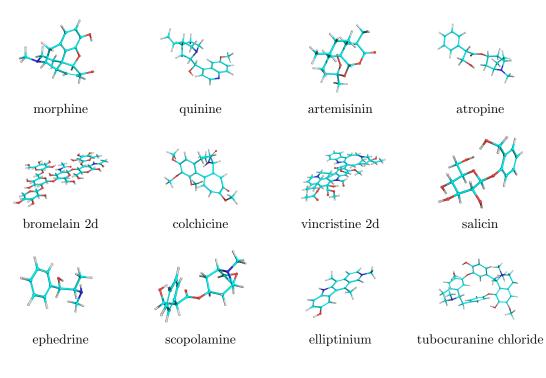
Many ethnicities have explored the preparation of drugs through millennia of attempt, and observation, of the Nature: the evolution by means of the natural selection has explored (over millions of years) the genetic, and protein, space obtaining a variety of protein structures.

I write some example of ancient, and modern, plant-derived drugs:

| drug | drug class | plant |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| morphine | pain medication | papaver somniferum |
| quinine | antimalarial | cinchona tree |
| artemisinin | animalarial | artemisia annua |
| atropine | anticholinergic | deadly nightshade |
| bromelain | anti-inflammatory | ananas comosus |
| colchicine | antigout | colchicum autumnale |
| vincristine | antineoplastic | catharanthus roseus |
| salicin | anti-infiammatory | white willow |
| ephedrine | sympathomimetic | ephedra |
| scopolamine | anticholinergic | solanaceae |
| elliptinium | antineoplastic | aspidosperma subicanum |
| tubocurarine | muscle relaxants | chondrodendron tomentosum |

it is interesting to note the structural variability of Nature's production in the figure (the source are PubChem structure data format files).

It could be possible to associate to each plant (classified by DNA sequencing) the drug-proteins produced by the plant; a database of scientific



articles (from any official scientific source) associated with drugs preparations from the medicinal plant could speed up the search for cures for a particular disease: in general it could be possible to obtain any complex compound of organic chemistry through the construction from scratch of certain genes of the bacterial DNA.

Genetically modified bacteria, or better cyanobacteria (to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere with the production of drugs), could manufacture the drug-protein through the artificial inclusion of the DNA region capable of producing the drug-proteins (bioreactor).

The sequencing of plants (and organism) could potentially allow the conservation of the species (like the Svalbard Global Seed Valt) for future times, when new reproduction processes become avaiable (a scientific Noah's Ark).

Each ethnographic research that collects knowledge of small populations could provide new cures through the sequencing of medicinal plants; each historical research of traditional medicine could provide new cures (if medicinal plants could be identified, from historical sources, before the sequencing)

Each endangered plant could be sequenced in an open database to make it available for research, or reproduction.